**R1016 Rumination for July 14 2024**

The **T**heme: **Let Us Grow Up**[berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: ***Grow up*** *into Him in all things, ﻿which is ﻿the Head, even Christ:* Eph. 4:14-16

The **T**hots:

1. **The Perils to True Spiritual Growth. Eph. 4:14**

*That we henceforth* *be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about* *with every wind of doctrine,*

*by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness,* *whereby they lie in wait to deceive;*

1. The **C**onditionof those still **C**hildren spiritually – *henceforth be no more* ***C****hildren.*
2. Paul had to feed them with **M**ilk - *I have fed you with ﻿****M****ilk, and not with* ***M****eat: ﻿*

*for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.* I Cor. 3:2

1. They were spiritually not **M**ature – *For when ﻿for the time ye ought to be teachers,*

*ye have need that one teach you again which be ﻿the first ﻿principles of ﻿the oracles of God;*

*and ﻿are become such as have need of ﻿****M****ilk, and not of strong* ***M****eat.*

1. Their **M**ark: *Every one that useth* ***M****ilk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.* Heb. 5:12, 13
2. Their **M**ake-up – they are like new-born babes still needing **M**ilk. I Pet. 2:2

*As newborn babes, desire the ﻿sincere ﻿milk ﻿of the word, that ﻿ye may grow thereby.*

1. Their **C**haracterisation: Eph. 4:14
2. They were **C**hildren – *be no more children* See #1 above.
3. They were not **C**onsistent – *tossed to and fro*
4. They were ***C****arried about with every wind of doctrine –* Lit.***C****hasing after its own tail.*

Cp. *Be not ﻿****C****arried about with divers and strange ﻿doctrines.* Heb. 13:9

1. Yea, they were *being deceived***(**by the false teachers’) ***C****unning* ***C****raftiness* Eph. 4:14
2. **THE Precautions to Ensure Spiritual Growth – *Be ye not Children of Disobedience.* Eph. 5:3-11**
3. You are **S**aints, **S**tay away from these **S**ins: Eph. 5:3, 4a

*Fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you,*

*as becometh saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient:*

1. You [are now] ***L****ight in the* ***L****ord:* *walk as children of* ***L****ight:* 5:8

*For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye* ***L****ight in the* ***L****ord: walk as children of* ***L****ight:*

1. You now bear the ***F****ruit of the Spirit…in all goodness and righteousness and truth;*

*Proving what is acceptable unto the* ***L****ord.*

*And have no* ***F****ellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them* 5:9

1. Positively: *Be ye therefore followers of God,* ***as dear children****;*
2. *And ﻿walk in* ***L****ove, ﻿as Christ also hath* ***L****oved us, and ﻿hath given Himself for us ﻿an offering*

*and a sacrifice to God for ﻿a* ***S****weetsmelling* ***S****avour.* 5:1, 2

1. Give Thanks: *but rather giving of thanks.* 5:4b-5

*For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater,*

*hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.*

1. Negatively:
2. ***Let no man*** *deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God*

*upon the children of disobedience.* 5:6

1. ***Be not*** *ye therefore partakers with them.*

*For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:* 5:7, 8

*(For the fruit of the Spirit is* *in all goodness and righteousness and truth)*

*Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.* 5:9, 10

1. *And* ***have no fellowship*** *with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.* 511
2. **The Progress of True Spiritual Growth.** **Eph. 4:15**
3. The **O**bject in **L**ife – *grow up into Him in all things*
4. The **O**bjective in **L**iving – *speaking the truth in* ***L****ove*
5. The **O**rdered **L**ine of **L**eadership *–* **O**bey *the Head, even Christ*

Cf. *I would have you know, that ﻿the head of every man is Christ…﻿the head of Christ is God.* I Cor. 11:3

 *…even as ﻿﻿Christ is the head of the church: and He is the Saviour of ﻿the body.* Eph. 5:23

*And when ﻿all things shall be subdued unto Him, then ﻿shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him*

*that put all things under Him,* ***that God may be all in all.*** I Cor. 11:28

1. **The Promotion of True Spiritual Growth. Eph. 4:16**
2. The **C**ompactness – *from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted* 4:16a
3. The **C**onstituents – *by that which* *every joint supplieth,* 4:16b
4. The **C**ooperation – *according to the effectual working in the measure of every part…* 4:16c
5. The **C**onsummation *– maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in* ***L****ove.* 4:16d

As the **C**hurch, Let us today Grow more and more to be like **C**hrist as we **R**emember Him Who **L**oved us

and gave His life for us on the **C**ross, and **R**evere Him as our Head in **L**ife and **L**ove.

**Points To Ponder: *Christ is the Head of All, or Not at All.***