

# L106 | Ephesians | "Walk Not As Other Gentiles Walk" | Eph. 4:17-24

## I. Intro/Review:

- Growing up into Christ - the Head
  - Speaking the truth in love - know the truth, then speak it in love (sincerity)
  - The Body edifying itself in love
    - By the measure of the fulness of Christ supplied to one another

## II. Preview:

- Paul's Conclusion
- How Other Gentiles Walk - A Spiritual Diagnosis of the World

## III. Sermon:

**This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,  
{Ephesians 4:17}**

- **"This I say therefore"**
  1. In view of Eph. 1 prayer
  2. In view of Eph. 3 prayer
  3. In view of Eph. 4 the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ from Christ at the Father's right hand
- **"and testify in the Lord,"**
  - To call to witness before God and for Christ
- **"that ye henceforth"**
  1. Prayer
  2. Christ at the right hand of God over all enemies (the Head)
  3. The Faith and the Knowledge of the Son of God to fill us
    - a. Provide discernment against deception
    - b. Equips unto the perfect and measure of fulness
  4. Grow up into Him in all things
  5. Opportunity with the faith to engage in the increase of the body itself
- **"walk not as other Gentiles walk"**
  - Review
    1. Eph. 4:14 - To and fro, carried about with every wind of doctrine, sleight of men, craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive
    2. Eph. 3:10 - ultimately run by the principalities and powers in heavenly places against Christ
    3. Eph. 2:12 - time past, without Christ, aliens from the commonwealth of Israel
      - 2:1-3 - dead in trespasses and sins; walked according to the course of this world, prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind

**"in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness."  
{Ephesians 4:18-19}**

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- The breakdown of the Gentiles walk (contrast - Col. 1:9-10)

1. The Inner Man

1) "in the vanity of their mind"

1. "having the understanding darkened, because of the blindness of their heart:"
2. "being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them,"

2) "who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness"

2. The Outer Man

1) "to work"

1. "all uncleanness"
  2. "with greediness"
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1. The Inner Man

1) **"in the vanity of their mind"**

- **"vanity"** - a word used to describe something that cannot bring about its intended purpose
  - That which is devoid of truth
  - The original "vanity" - Rom. 1:21 - not only they became, but were the perpetrators of vanity
- Contrast to "the Head"
- Contrast to the One where "the eternal purpose" rests
- Contrast seen in Eph. 2:1-3 to Eph. 2:4-6
- Something in "their mind"
  - "thoughts"
  - "imagination"
  - Romans 1:21 - glorified Him not as God
  - Romans 1:25 - changed the truth of God into a lie
  - Romans 1:28 - did not like to retain God in their knowledge...reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient

- John 3:16-21

1. **"having the understanding darkened, because of the blindness of their heart:"**

- **"having the understanding darkened"**

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- **"because of the blindness of their heart:"**

- Their heart without light walks in darkness
- The heart will still function and begin to value and have affections without God
- Matt. 22:37 - to be used to love God with
- John 3:16-21 - they love darkness

2. **"being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them,"**

- **"being alienated"**

- **"from the life of God"**

- **"through the ignorance that is in them"**

- "ignorance" darkness the understanding and blinds the heart and thus gives no light to the heart to love what it is supposed to love

2) **"who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness"**

- **"being past feeling"**

- To cease to feel pain or grief - Eph. 4:30
- To bear troubles
- To become callous, apathetic
  - To show a lack of interest or concern
  - Unresponsive
  - Void of feeling; not susceptible of deep emotion; passionless

- **"have given themselves over"**

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- **"unto lasciviousness"**

- Mar. 7:22 - "...lasciviousness..."
- Rom. 13:13 - "...in chambering and **wantonness**..."
- 2 Cor. 12:21 - "...lasciviousness..."
- Gal. 5:19 - "...fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness..."
- **1 Pet. 4:3** - "...when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine..."
- 2 Pet. 2:7 - "...Lot, vexed with the filthy **conversation** of the wicked:"
- 2 Pet. 2:18 - "...they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much **wantonness**..."
- Jud. 1:4 - "...turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ."
  - Titus 1:16 - "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny Him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate."
  - 2 Cor. 13:5 - "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith: prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?"

2. The Outer Man

1) "to work"

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1. "all uncleanness"
2. "with greediness"

**IV. Conclusion:**