

# Fleeing Our Former Lives

Ephesians 4:17–19

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So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

**Ephesians 4:17–19**

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Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

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- I. Change from an ungodly way of thinking (vv. 17–18).

# Change from an ungodly way of thinking

So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,

**Ephesians 4:17**

# Change from an ungodly way of thinking

For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 5:20**

# Change from an ungodly way of thinking

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

**Matthew 16:24–26**

# Change from an ungodly way of thinking

It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

**1 Corinthians 5:1**



# Change from an ungodly way of thinking

For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

**1 Thessalonians 4:3–5**

# Change from an ungodly way of thinking

But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

**Ephesians 4:20–24**

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**Ephesians 4:20–24**

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- I. Change from an ungodly way of thinking (vv. 17–18).
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# From theological ignorance

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

**Ephesians 2:1–3**

# From theological ignorance

Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “Uncircumcision” by the so-called “Circumcision,” which is performed in the flesh by human hands — remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

**Ephesians 2:11–13**



# From theological ignorance

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

**Isaiah 5:20**

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- I. Change from an ungodly way of thinking (vv. 17–18).
  - A. From purposeless thinking (v. 17)**
  - B. From darkened reasoning (v. 18a)**
  - C. From theological ignorance (v. 18b)**
  - D. From recalcitrant resistance (v. 18c)**

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- II. Change from an immoral way of living (v. 19).
  - A. From sinful indifference (v. 19a)**

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- II. Change from an immoral way of living (v. 19).
  - A. From sinful indifference (v. 19a)**
  - B. From limitless lusts (v. 19b)**

# From limitless lusts

Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another.

**Ephesians 4:25**

# From limitless lusts

BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.

**Ephesians 4:26-27**

# From limitless lusts

He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.

**Ephesians 4:28**

# From limitless lusts

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

**Ephesians 4:29**



# From limitless lusts

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

**Ephesians 4:30–31**

# From limitless lusts

But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

**Ephesians 5:3**

# From limitless lusts

and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

**Ephesians 5:4**

# From limitless lusts

For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;

**Ephesians 5:5–11**

# From limitless lusts

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

**Ephesians 5:18**

# From limitless lusts

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,

**Ephesians 5:15**

# From limitless lusts

For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries.

**1 Peter 4:3**

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