

Ephesians 4:17-24

17 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. 20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!— 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, 22 to put off your old self,[a] which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Context: Paul's writings give us a clear contrast of what we were (not saved) to what we are (saved). There should be a tremendous change at salvation. Death to life is very drastic.

Chapter 1-3 the newness of our transformation

Chapter 4-6 – How we should now walk (live)

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

- How did the gentiles walk? 1 Thes 4:3-5 For this is the will of God, your sanctification:[b] that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body[c] in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God;

18 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:

- Alienated – 1 Corth, 2:14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

- Romans 1:21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.
- James 4: 4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

- Aselgeia: (lasciviousness) - outrageous conduct, conduct shocking to public decency, filthy – often referring to sexual sins no shame (like animals)
- Romans 1:26-32 26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; 27 and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. 28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. 29 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

20 But ye have not so learned Christ;

- Phil 2: Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus:

- 1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.
- We know the truth of the Bible – Creation, Jesus life, our purpose, judgment, etc.

22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

- 1 Thessalonians 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind.

- Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

- 2 Corth 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Application:

- If you are still having pleasure in your sin, you need to question your salvation
- If you are truly saved, you are not of this world!
- 1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- Are you convicted? (daily repentance)