

Major Themes in Ephesians 1:3-14

UNION WITH CHRIST (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13)

RICHES/INHERITANCE (3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14)

GLORY (3, 6, 12, 14)

ELECTION (4)

LOVE (4, 6)

DIVINE WILL/PLAN (4, 5, 9, 10, 11)

ADOPTION (5)

PREDESTINATION (5, 11)

GRACE (6, 7)

REDEMPTION (7, 14)

RECONCILIATION (7, 10)

WISDOM (8)

UNDERSTANDING (8)

MYSTERY (9)

SALVATION (13)

FAITH/BELIEF (13)

HOLY SPIRIT (13, 14)

Ephesians 4:25–32 CSB

²⁵ Therefore, putting away lying, **speak the truth, each one to his neighbor**, because we are members of one another. ²⁶ **Be angry and do not sin.** Don't let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and don't give the devil an opportunity. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal. Instead, he is to do honest work with his own hands, so that he has something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ No foul language should come from your mouth, but only what is good for building up someone in need, so that it gives grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And don't grieve God's Holy Spirit. You were sealed by him for

the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness, anger and wrath, shouting and slander be removed from you, along with all malice. ³² And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

Ephesians 4:1–3 CSB

¹ Therefore I, the prisoner in the Lord, urge you to walk worthy of the calling you have received, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:22–24 CSB

²² to take off your former way of life, the old self that is corrupted by deceitful desires, ²³ to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, the one created according to God's likeness in righteousness and purity of the truth.

Nearly every instruction in this pericope is formatted as:

1: A "negative" behavior that needs to be stopped or controlled;

2: A "positive" behavior that should replace the negative one;

3: A theological reason for taking the positive path.

v25

Negative: "Putting away lying..."

Proverbs 12:22 CSB

²² Lying lips are detestable to the LORD, but faithful people are his delight.

Positive: "speak the truth, each one to his neighbor..."

Zechariah 8:16 CSB

¹⁶ These are the things you must do: Speak truth to one another; make true and sound decisions within your city gates.

Reason: "because we are members of one another."

v26-27

Negative: "Be angry and do not sin."

Psalms 4:4 CSB

⁴ Be angry and do not sin; reflect in your heart while on your bed and be silent. *Selah*

James 1:19–20 CSB

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, understand this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger, ²⁰ for human anger does not accomplish God's righteousness.

Positive: "Don't let the sun go down on your anger..."

Reason: "and don't give the devil an opportunity."

v28

Negative: "Let the thief no longer steal."

Exodus 20:15 CSB

¹⁵ Do not steal.

Positive: "Instead, he is to do honest work with his own hands..."

Reason: "so that he has something to share with anyone in need."