

Bill Connors / General

Ephesians / Holy Spirit; Forgiveness / Ephesians 4:30–32

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)

Mark to share

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.

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.

v30

Negative: "And don't grieve God's Holy Spirit."

We can lie to the Holy Spirit:

Acts 5:3-4 CSB

³ "Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the proceeds of the land? ⁴ Wasn't it yours while you possessed it? And after it was sold, wasn't it at your disposal? Why is it that you planned this thing in your heart? You have not lied to people but to God."

We can resist the Holy Spirit:

Acts 7:51 CSB

⁵¹ "You stiff-necked people with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are always resisting the Holy Spirit. As your ancestors did, you do also.

We can stifle the Holy Spirit:

1 Thessalonians 5:19 CSB

¹⁹ Don't stifle the Spirit.

Reason: "You were sealed by Him for the day of redemption."

Ephesians 1:13-14 CSB

¹³ In him you also were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed. ¹⁴ The Holy Spirit is the down payment of our inheritance, until the redemption of the possession, to the praise of his glory.

2 Corinthians 1:22 CSB

²² He has also put his seal on us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a down payment.

- › Does this verse feel out of place, when compared with the rest of the pericope? Why or why not?

v31-32

Negative: "Let all bitterness, anger and wrath, shouting and slander be removed from you, along with all malice."

Colossians 3:8 CSB

⁸ But now, put away all the following: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth.

Positive: "And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another..."

Colossians 3:12–13 CSB

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and dearly loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and forgiving one another if anyone has a grievance against another. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you are also to forgive.

Reason: "just as God also forgave you in Christ."

Matthew 18:21–22 CSB

²¹ Then Peter approached him and asked, "Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? As many as seven times?" ²² "I tell you, not as many as seven," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven.