

10 – MOVE BEYOND THE OLD MAN (EPHESIANS 4:17-24)

I. The Imperative (Ephesians 4:17)

- Paul moves beyond the issue of the gifts given to the church to the issue of how we live.
- The phrase “I testify in the Lord” stresses that what he is about to share is a command.
- He is telling his readers to no longer walk or live as the rest of the Gentiles do.

II. The Downward Spiral of the Old Life (Ephesians 4:17-19)

A. The Futility of the Mind (Ephesians 4:17)

- We are told to not live in the futility of the mind.
- Futility of the mind refers to the natural tendency to live according to our natural thinking.
- Humanity operates by natural thinking which is futile.

B. Darkened Understanding (Ephesians 4:18)

- Those, who live according to futile thinking, have their understanding darkened.

C. Alienation From God (Ephesians 4:18)

- Paul points out that unbelievers are alienated from the life of God.

D. Ignorance (Ephesians 4:18)

- Paul states that unbelievers are ignorant of truth.

E. Hardness of the Heart (Ephesians 4:18)

- Paul also stresses that they are blind or hardened in their hearts toward God.

F. Insensitive (Ephesians 4:19)

- Paul points out that unbelievers are insensitive concerning their sins.

G. Given Over To Their Desires (Ephesians 4:19)

- He concludes his discussion by pointing out that unbelievers are given over to their desires.

SCRIPTURE Romans 1:18-32

III. The New Life (Ephesians 4:20-21)

A Sure Foundation: The Letter To The Ephesians

A. A Different Path (Ephesians 4:20)

- Paul points out that they have not learned to live that way in Christ.

B. The Call of Christ (Ephesians 4:21)

- Paul stresses that they learned of and responded to the truth of Jesus Christ.

IV. The Imperative Expanded (Ephesians 4:22-24)

A. Put Off The Old Life (Ephesians 4:22)

- Paul is calling us to put off our old way of living as unbelievers.
- That old life was growing corrupt in accordance with our deceitful lusts.

B. Be Renewed (Ephesians 4:23)

- Paul calls us to be renewed in the spirit of our minds.

SCRIPTURE Romans 12:2

SCRIPTURE Colossians 3:10

C. Put On the New Man (Ephesians 4:24)

- Paul tells us to put on the new man or the new life.
- This new life was created to be like God in righteousness and holiness.