



EPHESIANS 4:17-24



“Put On So You Can Put Off”



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, 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.



INTRO:

- Conversion is a crisis that leads to a process
- This process is about the changes in our fundamental orientation and our Core/Central operating system or platform in our nature.
- Simply put it's the DNA of what guides and empowers our thoughts and actions
- It's the core of what controls us
- Paul is saying our life is to be commensurate with what Christ has given us "in Him".



THE POINT: “Put Off Old Self and Put On New Self”

Eph. 4:22 to put off your old self, 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.

Romans 6:6-12-“We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.”



What is the “Old self”?

Definition:

The nature and disposition of someone who has not experienced salvation from sin, death, and hell, through Jesus.

- By nature we mean the core of who you are that is the pattern for how you act.
- By Salvation we mean the changed life that comes by grace through faith in the work of Jesus (sinless life, death on the cross, burial, and bodily resurrection)
- By experience we mean that His blood washes away all our sin and thus God declares us right with Him giving us His own righteousness and Holy Spirit to ensure we have the power we need to live according to this new nature.
- This happens by faith with no merit from us.



Description:

A Former Way of life –

“no longer walk as the Gentiles do” (v. 17)

“which belongs to your former manner of life” (v.22)

A Futile Way of life-

“darkened in their understanding” (v. 18)

“alienated from the life of God” (v.18)

“ignorance (that) is in them” (v.18)

“hardness of heart” (v.18)

“callous” (v.19)

“corrupt” (v.22)

A Foolish Way of life-

“given themselves up to sensuality” (v. 19)

“greedy to practice every kind of impurity” (v. 19)

“deceitful desires” (v. 22)



What is the “new self”?

Definition:

The nature and disposition given to us when we experience salvation by His grace and faith. We are “born again” with a new more powerful center/core that is the new force for being and doing what we could not do before in the eyes of God and man.

Colossians 3:9-11 “Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. 11 Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.



Description: What becomes “new”:

Our Disposition is new/changed:

Return of the nature to the original design of God

Our Orientation

What you gravitate toward is now God not just sin. To sin is to defy this new gravity and it’s pull/power over us.

Our Core

His righteousness and power are now the central operating system/platform

Our Pattern

We sense God is to govern as well as empower our actions

Our Desires

Our primary inclinations are from God and are for God

Our Position

New position-“seated with Christ in the heavenlies”

Our Status

God’s declaration that you are righteous
Christ Righteousness imputed to you



Our Capacity

You are “made alive”

taken from spiritual death to supernatural life through what Jesus called being “born again” (new birth)

You can now choose not to sin

Our Empowerment

You now have the indwelling Holy Spirit

A more dominate power than before



How Do I Do This “Putting Off and Putting On”?

The concept is a blueprint. In God’s power, we have to in God’s power do the construction of conforming to the blueprint.

The Scripture shows us what it looks like, God gives the materials and strength for it to happen, we choose to conform



1. Direct the truth to dominate your thinking. To dominate truth must permeate!

Romans 12:2-“ Do not be conformed to this world, [3] but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Think right-Leads to renewal-Renewal leads to walking right



**2. Don't elevate the old self just because you can't eliminate it!
Even though the old nature is not eliminated it is not to be elevated. We
elevate it by choosing not to submit to the truth of the Word.**

Galatians 2:20-"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."



3. Discern the difference between acting with the new self and not reacting with the old self.

4. Decisively surrender to the Holy Spirit and respond to the new operating system and not the old.

Galatians 5:16-“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh”.

