

Put On The New Self

June 23, 2019

Ephesians 4:17-24 ESV

17 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility (*mataiotēs - devoid of truth and appropriateness, perverse, depravity*) **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 (*pōrōsis - the covering with a callus, stubbornness, stupidity*) **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** (*apotithēmi - to put off, lay aside, cast off, put away*) **your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,**

23 **and to be renewed** (*ananeoō - to make new again, renovate, reform again*) **in the spirit of your minds,**

24 **and to put on** (*endyō - to sink into clothing, clothe oneself, endue, put on*) **the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.**

- *The renewing of your mind by the Word of God will create and replicate in you the very likeness of God, in true righteousness and holiness!*

2 Peter 1:3-4 ESV

3 *His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,*

4 *by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.*

PUT OFF YOUR OLD SELF

- *The daily choice to die to self, surrender self-will and forsake all sin*
- *We are powerless and incapable of executing this choice, yet the choice must still be made*

Matthew 3:1-3 ESV

1 *In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,*

2 *"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

3 *For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"*

Matthew 3:8 ESV

8 *Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.*

Acts 3:19-20 ESV

19 *Repent* (*metanoō - change one's mind, to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins*) *therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,*

20 that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus...

Matthew 16:24 ESV

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Romans 7:18 ESV

18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

BE RENEWED IN THE SPIRIT OF YOUR MIND

- Only the Word of God can create in us the life and capability to obey and live holy lives
- Self-will and self-discipline only hinder and thwart the life and working of God's Word in us

Romans 10:1-4 ESV

1 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.

2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.

3 For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

"The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven't yet come to the end of themselves. We're still trying to give orders, and interfering with God's work within us. "

— A.W. Tozer

Galatians 5:4-6 ESV

4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.

- With most Christians, one of the biggest problems is that we wander back into the law after we are saved by grace. Having begun in the Spirit we think we have to finish the work in the flesh and try to manufacture our own righteousness by the law with self-imposed rules and disciplines. It is nothing more than flimsy behavior modification.

5 For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

- There is a righteousness of justification and there is a righteousness of sanctification. In verse 5, Paul is talking about the righteousness of sanctification.
- The righteousness of justification is immediate and imputed. The righteousness of sanctification is a life-long process.

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

- Transformation of our heart and life occurs only by faith working through love.
- The faith to believe that God alone is able and is actively at work to make His changes in me.

- *This faith works by the love to abide in relationship with God and surrender to His work in His time in His way.*

Problems with self-righteousness:

- *it is a feeble and frail facade of behavior modification that can be easily overcome because it is not true character change forged in the holy fire of God's sanctification*
- *focuses only on the appearance of things but never attacks the root so evil is still in control in the heart*
- *gives a false sense of superiority making one arrogant and judgemental towards others*

“Let us beware of tinkering with our inner life. God must do everything for us. Our part is to yield and trust.”

— [A.W. Tozer](#), *The Pursuit of God*, “Removing the Self-Life Veil”

Romans 12:1-2 ESV

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed (metamorphoō - to change into another form, transfigure, transform) 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.

Hebrews 4:12 ESV

12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ESV

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh.

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

James 1:21 ESV

21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted (emphytos - inborn) word, which is able to save (sōzō - save, make whole, heal) your souls.

Isaiah 55:10-11 ESV

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

John 17:16-17 ESV

16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify (hagiazō - to make holy, to separate from profane things and dedicate to God) them in the truth; your word is truth.

PUT ON THE NEW SELF

James 1:18 ESV

18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.