

The Old Man And The New Man (Part 3)

Ephesians 4:17-32

1

Summary: The Old Man (The life of the unconverted Gentile)

"Do not walk as other Gentiles" Verse 17

1. Men so petrified; hardened, that they are not aware, nor do they care that they are sinning.
2. Men so dominated by sin that shame is lost.
3. Men so helpless before their lustful desires that they would destroy anything to satisfy those desires.

2

Specific Changes In The New Man

Verses 26-27

"Neither give place to the devil."

Anger gives opportunity for the devil to work.

- *"Resist the devil"* James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8ff
- Evil thoughts, words, bitterness, attitudes, etc.

3

Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 28 Work ethic.

Don't steal. *kleptæ*

Work. Genesis 2:15; 3:17, 19; cf. 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12; 1 Timothy 5:10; Acts 20:33-35

That you may *"give to him that hath need."*
cf. Luke 10:30 (the good Samaritan ...) Galatians 2:10

4

Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 29 Speech

"No corrupt (rotten) speech ..."

- a. James 1:19; James 3:5-10.
- b. Matthew 12:35,36; Romans 3:13,14; Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 4:5-6
- c. Proverbs 18:21, *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."*

5

More Than Profession

- *Matthew 12:34-37 "... for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."*
- *"35 The good man out of his good treasure bringeth forth good things: and the evil man out of his evil treasure bringeth forth evil things."*

6

More Than Profession

- *Matthew 12:34-37* "36 And I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.
- 37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

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- *"The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver" (Proverbs 10:20).*
- *"Set a watch, O Jehovah, before my mouth; Keep the door of my lips" (Psalms 141:3).*
- *"Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles" (Proverbs 21:23).*
- *"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in network of silver" (Proverbs 25:11).*

8

- *"In the multitude of words there wanteth not transgression; but he that refraineth his lips doeth wisely" (Proverbs 10:19).*
- *"He that guardeth his mouth keepeth his life; but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction" (Proverbs 13:3).*
- *"Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? There is more hope of a fool than of him" (Proverbs 29:20).*

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- *"A soft answer turneth away wrath; but a grievous word stirreth up anger" (Proverbs 15:1).*

10

Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 29 Speech

- Euphemisms, *Ephesians 4:29*
 - "the substitution of a mild, indirect, or vague expression for one thought to be offensively blunt or harsh" (Webster's)

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Verse 29 Speech – Euphemisms

- Gee; Geez (Jesus)
- Gosh; Golly (God)
- Lordy (Oh, Lord)
- Heck (h_ll)
- Blue blazes (slang for h_ll)
- Darn; Dang (to curse, da_n)
- Shoot (sh_t)
- Dog gone (God da_n)

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Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 29 Speech

"Good for edifying ... may give grace"

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in network of silver," Proverbs 25:11.

- The tongue used wisely is a great blessing to others. It is likened to *"choice silver,"* Proverbs 10:20; it is *"health,"* Proverbs 12:18; it is called *"a tree of life,"* Proverbs 15:4; it is called *"a precious Jewel,"* Proverbs 20:15

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Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 30 *"Grieve not the Holy Spirit"*

Anytime we disobey the revelation of the Holy Spirit cf. Isaiah 63:10

Discuss: Foul words versus Words revealed by the Holy Spirit that edify.

14

Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 31 Put away ...

"Bitterness" – Resentment, refusing reconciliation. *"exasperate, i. e. render angry, indignant; passive, to be embittered, irritated."* (Thayer, Colossians 3:19)

"Wrath" – *thumos*: one step from bitterness, boiling, exasperation in the heart.

"anger" – *orge*: Seething that may break out in words or action.

"Clamor" – *Krauge*: imitating the raven's cry, *"to cry,"* denotes *"an outcry,"* (Vine's) to shout ...

15

Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 31 Put away ...

"Railing" (ASV) Evil speaking, *blasfemia*

"universally, slander, detraction, speech injurious to another's good name: Matthew 12:31" (Thayer)

"Malice" *kakias*, *"malignity, malice, ill-will, desire to injure: Romans 1:29"* (Thayer)

cf. 1 Peter 2:2 All to be put away ...

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Specific Changes In The New Man

Verse 32 Contrast with the above.

"Kindness" – gracious, considerate of others feelings.

"Tenderhearted" – Compassionate, sympathy and empathy. Philippians 2:4; Matthew 9:36; Hebrews 4:15

"Forgiving" – To grant pardon, *"As God in Christ forgave you."*

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