

EPHESIANS 4:17-32

Earlier, in this chapter Paul is instructing them to “walk worthy of the calling with which you were called” (Eph. 4:1). In the rest of this letter, Paul gives details about the worthy walk, which displays the unity of believers in Christ. In Eph. 4:1–10, Paul reminds the church of their common faith and of their individual giftedness. In Eph. 4:11–16 Paul writes that God has gifted the church with leaders who will work to equip believers and to edify the Body of Christ. Paul taught that God has gifted the church with men whose task it is to aid believers in their sanctification. As he moves to address specific topics in the rest of chapters, Paul reminds his readers about their identity in Jesus, even labeling each new believer as a “new man” (Eph. 4:24).

1 Corinthians 12:12-18 : For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³ For ^[a]by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ For the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵ If the foot says, “Because I am not a hand, I am not *a part* of the body,” it is not for this reason ^[b]any the less *a part* of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear says, “Because I am not an eye, I am not *a part* of the body,” it is not for this reason ^[c]any the less *a part* of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. ¹⁹ If they were all one member, where would the body be? ²⁰ But now there are many members, but one body.

These verses can apply to the “unsaved” as well as “Carnal Christians”

¹⁷ This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles Walk, in the vanity (futility) of their mind, ¹⁸ Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

¹⁹ Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

1. Intellectually deceived
2. Spiritually alienated
3. Morally corrupt

Walk

Ephesians 4:1- Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to **walk** in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,

1 Peter 4:1-3- Therefore, since Christ has ^[a]suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has ^[b]suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ² so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. ³ For the time already past is sufficient *for you* to have carried out the

desire of the Gentiles, ^[c]having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and ^[d]abominable idolatries.

Colossians 3:6-8- For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come “upon the sons of disobedience”, ⁷ and “in them you also once walked, when you were living ^[a]in them”. ⁸ But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 – Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

2 Corinthians 4:4 – The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Romans 1:21-23 – For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

Galatians 4:8 – Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods.

John 3:19-21 – This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Futility of their mind- vacuum of the soul not founded in Christ– “something will fill the void”

Carnal believers

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. ² I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, ³ for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking ^[a]like mere men?

Romans 6:15- What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be

²⁰ But ye have not so learned Christ; ²¹ If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; ²³ And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; ²⁴ And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Luke 11:33 No one, after lighting a lamp, puts it away in a cellar nor under a basket, but on the lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.

Matthew 9:16-17 But no one puts ^[k]a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for ^[u]the patch pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear results. ¹⁷ Nor do *people* put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out and the wineskins are ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved."

Romans 6:6- Knowing this, that our old ^[a]self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be ^[b]done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;

Titus 2:11-12 – For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.

Romans 12:2 – Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Psalms 51:10 –Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Titus 3:5 – He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Verses 25-32

...Continued in [Next Week's Meeting](#) By Steve McIntyre