

## Lesson #4

### Relationship Problems – Sources & Solutions

#### Eph 4:22-24 Transformation 3 steps: Take off – Renewal – Put on

Eph 4 – Worthy walk: vs 1-16 – works of service – building up the body; v 17-19 – walk of the unbeliever – destroys the body; vs 20-32 – walk of the believer – love in the body

Vs 17 – meketi – no longer: indicates that up to this time, bel's were living like unbel's.

Vs 17 – vanity of the mind – mataiotes – worthless, empty, w/out value

- Worthless mind filled with worthless thinking  
Vs 18-19 – description – darkened motivation, alienated from God because of ignorance and hardened heart, loss of all feeling, given themselves over to sensuality, all impurity and greed.
- Vs 17-19 describes the old man belief/behavior system that we are to take off vs 22
- We are to no longer live this way – Paul makes this clear in the Lord

Vs 20 – you did not learn Christ this way

Vs 21 – indeed (1cc) you have heard and were taught the truth in Jesus.

Vs 22-24 – 3 infinitives/purpose explaining how we no longer live like an unbel

- Vs 22 – take off – *apotithemi* – AMInf –to lay down, remove, let go, get rid of – to take off like clothing – taking off old dirty clothes. – used for laying aside our old man beliefs-behavior
- Acts 7:58 – laid their clothes at Saul's feet – death of Stephen; Rom 13:12 – lay aside works of darkness & put on the armor of light; Heb 12:1 – lay aside every weight – wrong beliefs and priorities; Jms 1:21 – lay aside wrong behaviors & receive the implanted word
  - Aorist – point in time – every time the old man belief & behaviors surface
  - Middle – participate in the action – work with GHS in the transformation process
  - Infinitive – purpose – the purpose of the teaching – to be transformed.
    - The belief system is built by faith – both old and new – content of faith
    - We put on ideas by believing them
    - We take off ideas by rejecting them – refusing to believe them anymore
- Vs 22 – corrupted by deceitful desire – desire à deception à destruction
  - The corruption in question is described in vs 17-19 – vanity of the mind
  - The old man is driven by desires that deceive us into believing wrong things
  - Desire fulfillment is never the key to happiness – devil's deception
- Vs 23 – renewed – *ananeo* – PPIInf – to renovate, make new – continuous action – spirit of your mind – *pneuma* = content of thinking in your mind
  - Renewing the mind is accomplished by putting new thoughts in your mind
  - The new thoughts are the absolute truths of the word of God
  - Renewal is the 1<sup>st</sup> stages of the faith cycle – learning and believing
- Vs 24 – Put on – *enduo* – AMInf lit. to put on clothing; fig. To adopt, to practice, to make something a rule of life. Literal usage: Mt 6:25 – “take no thought for what you will eat, drink or put on...” Mt 27:28 *They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,*

## Figurative usage:

Rom 13:14 Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. To adopt God's thinking and use it as a way of life.

- Vs 24 – created according to God – *ktizo* – *bara* – creative act of God – new creation; *kata* – norms – pattern, standards; *theos* - God
  - The new man is a creative act of GHS – regeneration, indwelling, filling
  - The new man as he forms through renewal is patterned after God's image
  - The new man is the full restoration of the image of God in the believer.

Vs 24 – in +R and Holiness – righteous and holy believing, thinking, feeling, behaving Heb 12:11 – God's training produces the peaceful fruit of +R – same process as in vs24 – from the truth – abl source *aletheia* – truth

- The new man is +R and holy like God from whom he has the pattern
- The source of becoming like God: renewal through the truth of God

### 1. **The old man and new man are both positional and practical**

Positional – Col 3:9-10 – Aor Ptc – having taken off – having put on

Practical – Eph 4:22-24; Rom 12:2; Heb 12:1

### 2. **Positional implications**

Old man – slavery to OSN – separated from God – inability to process spiritual things

New man – freedom from OSN – connected to God – able to process spiritual things

### 3. **Transformation requires 3 steps for completion**

Take off old man – renew the mind – put on the new man

Stop being conformed – renew the mind – be transformed

- **Take off the old man** – built by beliefs – torn down by withdrawing belief

OM is human attempt to understand and negotiate the devil's world w/out God

OM is man's attempt to meet God given needs when man is separated from God

OM is man's beliefs, expectations and strategies to find happiness w/out God

Old beliefs – self concepts, God concepts, others concepts – w/out word of God

Old beliefs must be identified and purposely rejected – use volition to withdraw faith

Committed to total honesty with self – thoughts, feelings, strategies, behaviors

Committed to eliminate all strategies of self-deception and self-justification

Committed to eliminate all human defense systems & manipulation strategies

Verbal – inner dialogue; Visual – images – become aware of your own thinking

- **Renewal** – providing new ideas for your mind to circulate – truth

Truth about God and His plan – salvation, security, spirituality - eternity

Angelic Conflict and our role in it – suffering, adversity, blessing, happiness

Truth about self – sinful, helpless, worthless, weak, needy for God's love

Truth about others – equally sinful and lost, equally saved and loved

- **Put on the new man** – embrace the truth as a way of thinking and living

Application phase of the faith cycle – using and depending on God's word

Having rejected the lie, we embrace the truth and surrender to God's will

Committed to walking in the Spirit and in the truth – every category of truth

Theological truth, truth revealed through nature, truthfulness – God, self others