

## “The New Man”

12/05/2021 – 01/16/2022

*“This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their hearts; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.” Ephesians 4:17-19 (Read also in AMPC)*

This portion of chapter 4 starts off a continuation of verses 1-3 in the same chapter... (this – therefore) referring to what follows

“Testify in the Lord” – (*Marturomai* -> Mar – too’ – rom – ahee)

Solemnly declare...in the word, “in the Lord,” – Paul here is seen “identifying himself with Christ and giving the exhortation as one identifying and agreeing with Christ Himself.

“Walk” – (*Peripateo* -> per-ee-pat-eh’-o)

- To tread all around, that is walk at large
- To conduct one’s self, order one’s behavior

“Vanity” – (*Mataiotes* -> mat-ah-yot’-ace)

- That which is in vain, aimless, result-less, futile, moral depravity (Rom. 1:21)

“Of their mind” – (Soul) mind, will, imagination, emotions, and intellect

This describes the walk of the heathen or godless world – A walk moving within the limits of intellectual and moral “resultlessness,” given over to things devoid of worth and reality – (my truth)

In other words:

“This, therefore, I am saying and solemnly declaring in the Lord, that no longer are you to order your behavior as the Gentiles or godless order their behavior in the fertility or vanity of their mind.” (Wuest Translation)

“Having their understanding darkened”

“Understanding” – *Dianoia* -> the mind as the faculty of moral understanding, feeling and desiring (deep thought and disposition by exercise)

- Thus...being those who have been permanently blinded with respect to the mind (Romans 1:18-24)
- By sin (to miss the mark), transgression (to miss the mark on purpose), and iniquity (fighting for your right to miss the mark on purpose)

“Darkened” – *Skotizo* -> To obscure (literally or figuratively)

- To darken or blind the mind.
- The perfect tense of this word speaks of a process completed in past time having present results.
- Paul uses the perfect tense here to show the finished and permanent result of the blinding of the mind by sin.

Notice the progression of sin in Psalm 1:

- 1) Walk in the council of the ungodly – (*Rasha*) morally wrong, bad person
- 2) Stand in the way of sinners – (*Chatta*) – criminal, guilty criminal
- 3) Sit in the seat of the scornful – (*Lutz*) make mouths, scoff, mock

*Lutz* (Loots) – To make mouths at, i.e., to scoff, (hence to pronounce a foreign language) to interpret, to make mockery, to mock by – imitating his voice in sport.

- A frivolous and impudent person, who despises scoffingly, the most sacred precepts of religion, piety and morals
- To use the power of your words...in reverse
  - Job 16:20
  - Psalm 119:51
  - Proverbs 1:22, 9:7, 14:9, 15:12, 19:28, 22:10

“Alienated from the Life of God”

“Alienated” – *Apallotrio* – “To be estranged” used of those who have estranged themselves from God. To estrange away that is (passively and figuratively) to be a non-participant. Also, to shut out from one’s fellowship and intimacy. (Don’t know the life (lifestyle) or language)

The Life of God - *Zōē* (John 10:10) – Jesus says, “I come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”



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- The words “they might have” are from the Greek tense that means...to have and continually possess!

The life of God or that which Jesus offers is “*zoe*,” which suggests a life that is filled with vitality. The word “abundantly” is from the Greek word “*perissos*” which means to be above, beyond what is regular; extraordinary, or even exceeding. (Excessive, surplusage)

This is not just abundance; it is super-abundance.

“...But I came that they might have, keep, and constantly retain a vitality, gusto, vigor, and zest for living that springs up from deep down inside. I came that they might embrace this unrivaled, unequaled, matchless, incomparable, richly loaded and overflowing life to the ultimate maximum!” John 10:10b

The life of God is that life that God has in Himself and that He imparts and desires willingly to impart to anyone willing to accept it.

Grace is the intrinsic quality of God...Hesed!

“Ignorance that is in them”

“Ignorance” – “*Agnoia*” This is not a term merely of intellect.

- It denotes an ignorance of divine things, a want of knowledge that is inexcusable and involves moral blindness. (Acts 3:17, 17:30, 1 Peter 1:14)
- It is further defined here not simply as “their ignorance,” but as an ignorance ‘being in them.’

In other words, ignorance is the cause of alienation, but is not to be construed as “darkened understanding,” since ignorance is the effect and not the cause. The cause is that men are “born in sin and shaped in iniquity,” walking in darkness not knowing what they are stumbling over.

“Because of the Blindness of Their Heart”

“Blindness” – “*Porosis*” – From *poros*, hard skin, or induration

- Hardness – literally “the covering with a callous.
- Mark 3:5; Romans 11:25; Mark 8:17

The Gentiles (unbelievers) were alienated from God through their culpable moral and spiritual ignorance and through the hardening of their hearts.

Callous – showing or having an insensitive and cruel disregard for others

Ephesians 4:19 –

“Who being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.””

“Who” – (Who are of such a nature that)

“Being past feeling” – *Apalgeo* – To cease to feel pain or grief

- To become callous, insensible to pain, apathetic.
- It expresses the condition of moral insensibility and deadness that supervenes when the heart has ceased to be sensible to the stimuli of the conscience.

“Has given themselves over” – *Paradidomi*

- To give into the hands (of another)
- To deliver to one something to keep, use, take care of, manage
- To deliver up on to custody, to be judged, condemned, punished, scourged, tormented, put to death

“Lewdness/lasciviousness” – “*Aselgei’a*” – wanton lawless, insolence

The “*aselgeia*” person is one who acknowledges no restraints, who dares whatsoever his caprice and wanton childish behavior suggests. (Wantonness – a complete surrender to self)

Uncleanness – “*Akatharsia*” (ak-ath-ar-see’-ah) – impurity (the quality) physically or morally: uncleanness; the impurity of, lustful, luxurious, profligate

Spendthrift – Someone who is extravagant and recklessly wasteful with money, often to a point where the spending climbs well beyond his/her means.

- Spendthrift derives from an obsolete sense of the word “thrift” to mean prosperity rather than frugality. So, a spendthrift is one who has spent their prosperity.

Greediness – *Pleonexia* (pleh-on-ex-ee’-ah) – greedy desire to have more, covetousness, avarice, i.e. (by implication) fraudulency, extortion

Greed – An uncontrolled longing for increase in the acquisition or use of material gain; or social value, such as status, or power.

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### **Seven Deadly Sins** (Enumerated by Pope Gregory 1 and St. Thomas Aquinas)

- 1) Pride (vainglory) – thinking oneself more highly, superiority
- 2) Greed (covetousness)
- 3) Lust (Inordinate or illicit sexual desire)
- 4) Envy (Desire to have that which belongs to another)
- 5) Gluttony (Including excessive drinking)
- 6) Wrath (Uncontrolled anger) vengeful
- 7) Sloth (Spiritual apathy and inactivity)

### **Seven Things That God Hates** (Prov. 6:16-19)

- 1) A Proud look (haughty eyes)
- 2) A lying tongue
- 3) Hands that shed innocent blood
- 4) A heart that devises wicked plans/schemes
- 5) Feet that are swift to rush to evil
- 6) A false witness who speaks lies
- 7) One who sows discord among the brethren (one who stirs up conflict)

vs. 20 – “But you have not so learned Christ, If...indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus...that you:”

- Put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts...
- Be renewed in the spirit of your mind
- Put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness

### **Correlation:**

- The Feast of Passover / Unleavened Bread (Death of the Old Man)
- The Feast of Pentecost (Receiving the New Spirit)
- The Feast of Tabernacles (Resting in the Complete/Mature Man)

“But as for you (emphatic -> in contradiction to the Gentiles yet unsaved), You did not learn Christ in this way.” (An aorist tense, marking a specific time)

- Aorist – simply state that an action has happened in the past
- The time conversion with the intent of knowing Him continually

(Not the doctrine of Christ or learn to know Christ) But Christ is the subject of His own message!

But Christ is the subject of His own message!

It is and always has been knowing Him as a person and as Truth not just knowing about Him, but knowing Him as our inheritance!

“That we may know what is the riches of “the glory of our inheritance in the saints His inheritance in the saints! (Eph. 1)

vs. 23 – “Be renewed in the spirit of your mind.”

This statement is in direct relation with what Jesus preached and introduced to those about Him and to the world... “Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven (God) is at hand” or “Repent, for I’ve got the kingdom! Matt. 4:17

Repent – The word “repent” used by John the Baptist (Matt. 3:2), Jesus (Mat. 4:17) and Peter (Acts 2:38) is the word “**metanoeo**.”

This word means a change of mind, repentance or conversion. It meant first and foremost a change of mind.

Metanoeo – Is the call to turn or change one’s attitudes and ways. It demands a complete, radical, and total change. It is a decision to completely change or to entirely turn around in the way one is thinking, believing, and /or living.

- Meta (in the context) – A turn or change
- Nous – mind, intellect, will, frame of thinking, opinion or general view of life

Putting the two words into one compound word (meta & nous) to form metanoeo, it depicts: A decision to completely change the way one thinks, lives and behaves.

Portrays a turn, a change, a change of direction, a new course, and a completely altered view of life and behavior.

*Metamelomai* – Is used in the gospels to describe remorse, guilt and regret. However, such sorrow should not be confused with repentance, for there are many people who go or undergo through a flood of regret and sorrow for something they have done, yet they do not change.



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### **REVIEW: 01/09/2022 & 01/16/2022**

Personal change and mind transformation – Not remorse, regret, and sorrow – are the true proof of true repentance.

Thus, repentance is the “birth canal” that lead you to the Kingdom of God.

Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of God is at Hand.” (Old English for “has arrived!”)

Matthew 6:10 – “Thy kingdom come, they will ... be done on / in earth ...as it is in heaven.”

### **\*\* *The Kingdom Comes ... Just like it came!***

See Luke 1:26-38

Ephesians 1:6

“Highly favored/accepted – Charitoo – to grace, i.e., indue with special honor – make accepted, be highly favored

Biblical Usage:

- To make graceful, charming, lovely, agreeable
- To pursue with grace, compass with favor
- To honor with blessings

Charitoo – (From Charisma) – properly, highly-favored because of the receptiveness of God’s grace

Psalm 18:26; Psalm 11:25 (AMPC); Psalm 33:18 (NASB), Psalm 147:11 (Aramaic Bible in P. English)

Luke 1:31-33 – **“The Seed!”**

Mark 4:26-29

Luke 1:35 – **“The Setting/environment”** (Compare Gen. 1:1-2)

Gabriel encourages Mary by telling her that Elizabeth, her relative, has also conceived in her old age; and actually, is six (6) months pregnant.

### **The Revelation:**

“For with God nothing will be impossible” (Luke 1:37)

The angel Gabriel explains it this way:

For – “Hoti” → Because

With – “Para” → Near or along side

God – “Theos” → The very exceeding supreme God

Nothing – “No Rhema” → No Spoken Word/utterance

Shall – “Pas” → Each, every, any, the whole, everyone, all things, everything collectively

Be impossible – “Adunateo” → To be unable, not to have strength, or power, or ability, to be weak

➤ Dunamis:

- Universally, “inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature (Luke 1:17; Acts 4:7)
- Specifically, the power of performing miracles (Acts 6:8, 2:22)
- Moral power and excellence of soul and demonstration (1 Cor 4:18-20)
- The power and influence which belongs to riches (pecuniary ability) (Deut. 8:17, Ruth 4:11)

➤ In the Greek, “A” in front of a word means “not or no/the opposite”

***\*\*No freshly spoken Word of God will ever come to you that does not contain, in it, its own ability to perform itself or exert the innate power to bring itself to pass!***

James 1:21

“Wherefore, lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”

The Rhema word, or the logos word will do you no good if it is not planted in your heart.

- Matt 13, Mark 4, Luke 8
- “The Kingdom of God is as if a man plants a seed in the ground”
- “Thus, the Kingdom of God is directly tied to the words of your mouth”

## Principles of the Kingdom of God

- 1) Expect His Kindness (Because of Jesus alone) – John 16:7-12
- 2) Receive the implanted Word (seed) – James 1:21
- 3) Verbally agree and validate it with your words (Agreement) – Amen!





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The Gentiles get a hint!

- Matthew 8:5-14
- Mark 7:24ff

We as believers can glean from their experience, but we don't identify with them. Because:

1) The centurion considered himself “unworthy”

“As many as received Him, to them gave He the power (right) to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.” John 1:12

“For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons and daughters by which we cry out, “Abba Father!”

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God.

And if children, then heirs, - heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, so that we may also be glorified with Him.” (Rom. 8:15-17)

2) The Syro-Phoenician settles for “crumbs”

“Psalm 23:5 – Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies...”

- Psalm 104:14-15
- 2 Corinthians 1:20
- 2 Peter 1:2-4

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