



## **“A Different Walk”**

*The Church’s Conduct*

Ephesians 4:17-24

*The New Man is :*

### **I. Different** - “walk not as other Gentiles walk” (vs. 17-19)

*Choosing not to be :*

**A. Superficial** – “vanity of their mind”

**B. Simple** – “the ignorance that is in them”

**C. Selfish** – “uncleanness with greediness”

### **II. Devoted** – “ye have not so learned Christ ” (vs. 20-21)

*Choosing who to:*

**A. Belong to** – “ye have heard Him” are saved

**B. Become** - “[ye] have been taught by Him” being saved

**C. Believe** - “the truth is in Jesus” Will be saved

### **III. Decisive** - “ And that ye” (vs. 22-24)

*Choosing to :*

**A. Refuse** – “the old man...deceitful lusts”

**B. Renew** – “be renewed in the spirit of your mind”

**C. Revise** – “put on the new man...in righteousness”

## Sentence Sermon:

**“The Church is the place for people who have shunned vanity and embraced virtue as we have learned Christ.”**

## Additional Verses

### *Old Man*

- **Romans 6:6**
- **Colossians 3:9**

### *Hard Heart*

- **Exodus 7:22; 8:15, 32; 9:12**
- **Mark 6:52; 8:17**
- **Hebrews 3:13**
- **John 12:40**

- **I Thessalonians 4:1-12**
- **Romans 1:21-22**
- **II Timothy 3:1-4**
- **Galatians 5:16-24; 2:20**
- **Colossians 2:6**
- **Proverbs 1:10-19**

## Questions to Ponder:

- 1. What is a good description of how other Gentiles walk? How does I Thessalonians 4:5 describe it?
- 2. How does the description of being “past feeling” explain some things in our country today?
- 3. Why is the “truth is in Jesus” hard for some?
- 4. Who is doing the corrupting in verse 22?
- 5. How does chapter 2 and verse 10 shed light on verse 24 in our text?

## INTRO:

### Interplay with Suit Jackets

#### \* What is wrong with what I am wearing

- Inappropriate
- Ugly
- Don't like it

#### \* We are today wearing the Old Man or the New Man

- God is calling us to take off the old man and put on the new man....live differently now that we are saved.

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## Exegesis:

Emphasize the reality of “taking off” and “putting on” does not take a long time but is a willful act.

### V. 17

- This I Say therefore = Based on wanting the church to grow up and mature...Paul says let me show you the way (also connects to verse 1)
- And testify in the Lord = Explain what happened in my spiritual journey and growth...This is spoken from my experience and by authority from the Lord
- That you henceforth = from now on ...
- Walk not = live every day and every decision and every challenge and every opportunity
- As other Gentiles walk = Gentile = Unsaved
  - I Thessalonians 4:4-5
- Vanity of their mind =

### ➤ V. 18

- Having the understanding darkened = Romans 1:21 ...Acting stupid reflects decayed and darkened capacity. Common sense becoming less common.
- Being alienated from the life of God = no contact with God and therefore not clear on what He says or desires...does not know about God because they have not met Jesus who makes God known.

- (because) Through the ignorance = not knowing much about something ( result or effect of a darkened mind)
  - That is in them = ( participle of a substantive verb expressing a deep seated and indwelling character of their ignorance). not knowing the truth and not experiencing freedom
- Because of the blindness of their heart = hard hearted because God's love has not entered there

#### V. 19

- Who being past feeling = lit. "to cease to feel pain" = apathetic ...possibly an indictment of them searing their conscience.
- Have given themselves = complete surrender...
  - They give themselves up to evil
  - God gives them up to its power
- over unto lasciviousness= Mark 7:22 – violence, audacity, lawless, spiteful treatment
- To work = used of a trade...They went into business and developed skills.
- all uncleanness with greediness = selfish pursuit of pleasure ...covetousness or eager grasping for more and more uncleanness...number 1 reason for divorce
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#### V. 20

- But = Strong transition of contrast
- Ye have not so learned Christ = not about Christ but knowing Him intimately ...understanding what Jesus is all about...these things are not the Lord's way (cp with **Colossians 2:6** – “*As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him*”
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#### V. 21

- If so be = a small if ...more like since you
- Ye have heard Him = implying that you did...Him is emphatic meaning “Was it Him you have heard?”
  - Did you not hear HIM?
- Ye have been taught by Him = “in Him” In your fellowship with and in Him...walking in the light
- As the truth = Since the truth
- Is in Jesus = Not just that Jesus has the truth but He is the truth personified (Is connected to v. 20 – you have not so learned Christ)...NOTE: Switch from Christ = messiah to JESUS = the God/Man or Historic Jesus so....Our life of Christianity consists in a believing fellowship with the historic Jesus.

## V. 22

- That ye put off = connects what we know of Jesus and have been taught...now we act upon Biblical Truth in refusing some old ways
- The former conversation of = old way of life
- The old man = who we are without Jesus...before being born again....
- Which is corrupt = lit. “which is being corrupted”...waxing corrupt
- According to the deceitful lusts = lit “lusts of deceit” Deceit is personified

- After God = Cp. Eph. 2:10 = His workmanship
- Created in righteousness = in Christ Jesus
- And true holiness = unto Good Works
- Because and in the Sphere of TRUTH vs. DECEIT (v. 22 – old man).

## V. 23

- And = added instruction ...put off old man and
- Be renewed = a change for the better
- In the spirit of your mind = not change your mind...not simply change your thinking...but change your who way of approaching situations and subjects...
  - From WWJD and HWJD
  - To What Has God taught me about these situations and what has He given me to deal with it?

## V. 24

- And = added instruction ...put off old man and
- Ye put on = an act of the will and change of life
- The new man = in quality not necessarily in time...”better” replacement ...from threadbare to not much wear.
- New man which:

***17-19 Putting the World behind us***

***20-21 Living according to what we have learned***

***22-24 Putting off the old and on the new***