

Jesus Christ Our Life & the New Man (Eph 4: 20-24)

- Vs 17-32 pagan life & Christian life contrasted & sins that grieve the Holy Spirit
- ch 1-3 Ephesians sets before the Christian the substance of the glorious Gospel
- Chapter 4 onwards speaks of the practical implications of this glorious Gospel
- Vs 1-3 is a call to live lives worthy of our holy calling: unity of the Spirit
- Vs 4,5 the work of the triune God in saving us and making us His own people
- Vs 6-16 God gave gifts for the purpose of maturing us into Christ our head
- Vs 17-19 'Paul testifies – God has delivered his people from the path of darkness

I. Jesus Christ, The Way the Truth and the Life

Paul's contrast "you have not so learned Christ" Christ revealed is truth revealed

- "if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him" Christ is life
- Note Paul moves from Christ to the "truth as it is revealed in Jesus"
- Jesus Christ, the Son of Man is the second Adam, the man of truth
FF Bruce: *It was His earthly humiliation, not in His heavenly glory that He said: "I AM ...the truth (Jhn 14:6). Therefore to learn Him, to be "taught in Him" is to be lead into all truth*
- Matthew 11:27,28 to learn Christ, to be taught in Him is to be restored to our God-ordained humanity.

II. Putting off the Old Man and Putting on the New Man (vs21-24)

- Learning Christ means: vs 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.
- 'Old man' synonymous for Paul to mean: first Adam – man of flesh (Rom 6:6)
- Being crucified with Christ, we are to reckon our self dead to sin
- Legally we died to sin in Christ & when Christ was raised up we were raised up
- By faith in Christ we are freed from the power of sin, sin's power over us is guilt
- In Christ's death, God's holy law was satisfied (Rom 8:3,4)
- Our putting off is not by works but by grace through faith in Christ (Eph 2:4-10)
²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness"
- United to Jesus we're new creations, by faith in Him we are become what we are