

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 05 Sep Eph 1:1-14 God’s Plan is Eternal
- 2) 12 Sep Eph 1:15-23 God’s Plan Involves Power
- 3) 19 Sept Eph 2:1-10 God’s Power Changes People
- 4) 26 Sep Eph 2:11-22... God’s Power Changes Relationships
- 5) 03 Oct Eph 3:1-13 God’s Power Comes by Grace
- 6) 10 Oct Eph 3:14-21 God’s Power Provides Strength
- 7) 17 Oct Eph 4:1-16 Being in Step
- 8) 24 Oct Eph 4:17-32 Being Different
- 9) 31 Oct Eph 5:1-14 Being Pure
- 10) 07 Nov Eph 5:15-21 Being Careful
- 11) 14 Nov Eph 5:22-33 Being Married
- 12) 21 Nov Eph 6:1-9 Being Respectful
- 13) 28 Nov Eph 6:10-24 Being Prepared

INTRODUCTION

- 1st Century Ephesus was a very pagan and immoral city
- Christians living there were probably constantly challenged to return to their previous self-indulging lifestyles
- Paul challenged the Ephesian Christians in this part of Chapter 4 to live exemplary / holy / separated lives

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The God-given emotion of Anger is so intense it was meant for short term usage • Anger should alert us to something dreadfully wrong and to take biblical action to fix it quickly • Long term Anger is not biblical and it can cause bitterness, wrath, and even health problems
4:27-32	<p>Stop Bad Habits, Start Good Habits (cont)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v27 – stop playing into the devils hands • v28 – Stop stealing, start working, start giving • v29 – Stop bad language, start encouraging – Say the right thing, the right way, at the right time • v30 – Do not grieve the Holy Spirit (with the wrong habits above) • v31 – Stop being mean to people and family • v32 – Start being kind to people and family; and start forgiving, which prevents bitterness

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- If you want to astound everyone that knows you change bad habits for some good habits and people will notice quickly

SUPPORTING PASSAGES:

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...

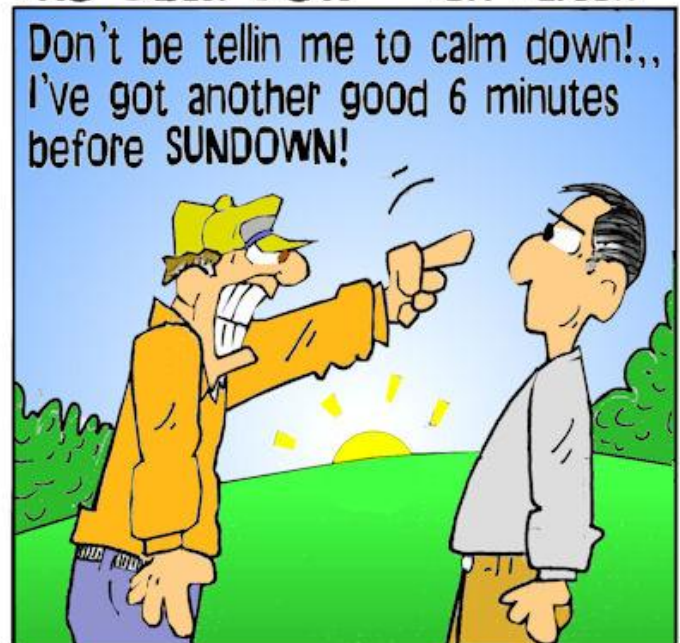
2Cor 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new

2Col 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day

NEXT WEEK: Ephesians 5:1-14. If you don’t stand for something you will fall for anything – so imitate God

Passage	Comments
Eph 4:17-19	<p>Those going to Hell go willingly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians should be different from the world since we no longer “walk” as the Gentiles walk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What does this walking difference look like? • v17. What does ‘futility of the mind’ mean? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Possibly aimless pursuits, immoral pursuits, time-wasting pursuits of no eternal value • Those going to Hell have some common traits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ They don’t want to understand heavenly things ♦ They “excluded” themselves from God ♦ They have imbedded ‘willful’ ignorance ♦ They have “hardness of heart” ♦ They have become callous ♦ They have given themselves to promiscuity ♦ They chase greedily after immorality (80% of internet traffic is porn related - \$50B/year)
4:20-24	<p>Old Things are Past Away...so Put on the New</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv20-22. Paul reminded them of their past – there is nothing there worth going back to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their past was based on corruption and deceit • v23. Instead, Paul commanded them to be renewed in the spirit of your mind ... cf Rom 12:2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What does this phrase mean? ♦ What do we need to think on or not think on? ♦ What actions do we need to do or not do? ♦ What do we need to say or not say? ♦ What is the “spirit of your mind” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The real you – your temperament, your demeanor, your attitude, your heart / nature ♦ This renewing process doesn’t happen automatically, nor is it instantaneous ♦ It is a daily ongoing discipline process • v24. Put on the NEW self – which is righteous and holy and truthful How? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ God does make us “new creatures” ...2Cor 5:17 But He expects us to willfully want to change ♦ “Think on these things...” Phil 4:8
4:25-26	<p>Stop Bad Habits, Start Good Habits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v25 – stop Lying and start telling the Truth • v26 – Be angry enough to fight sin, but don’t sin

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



Don't let the sun go down on your anger! **Ep 4:26**