

## How to Live a Holy Life – Part 2

### Ephesians 4:17-5:4

- I. Introduction –
- II. Review -
- III. Living a Holy Life – Ephesians 4:20-5:4

20But you did not learn Christ in this way, 21if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, 22that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, 23and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of God* has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

25Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE *of you* WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another. 26BE ANGRY, AND *yet* DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27and do not give the devil an opportunity. 28He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. 29Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such *a word* as is good for edification according to the need *of the moment*, so that it will give grace to those who hear. 30Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. 1Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; 2and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

3But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; 4and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

#### IV. 6 Common Errors of Ephesians 4:20-32

- a. Transformation and holiness occurs in \_\_\_\_\_, when in fact transformation occurs within the \_\_\_\_\_. 4:17, 20-25
- b. Laying aside the old self and putting on the new self is \_\_\_\_\_ something we continually do, but is something we decisively \_\_\_\_\_ at conversion. 4:22-24; Colossians 3:8-10
- c. As new creatures in Christ we've put off \_\_\_\_\_, not just lying in general. 4:25; Romans 1:24, 25; Genesis 3:1-7
- d. We are to speak truth \_\_\_\_\_ your neighbor, not \_\_\_\_\_ your neighbor. 4:25

e. There is not a \_\_\_\_\_ emotion of anger that can lead to righteous or sinful anger, but rather there is a righteous anger and a sinful anger. Christians are commanded to have righteous anger. 4:26, 27, 31

i. Exemplified by Jesus (Mark 3:5; John 2)

ii. Needed by the church in culture – John RW Stott –

I go further and say that there is a great need in the contemporary world for more Christian anger. We human beings compromise with sin in a way in which God never does. In the face of blatant evil we should be indignant not tolerant, angry not apathetic. If God hates sin, his people should hate it too. If evil arouses his anger, it should arouse ours also. 'Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, who forsake thy law.'<sup>7</sup> What other reaction can wickedness be expected to provoke in those who love God?

iii. Something we need to act on (4:27, Psalm 4:4, Eph 6:4)

f. As believers we grow so accustomed to the \_\_\_\_\_ that we forget He is absolutely Holy. 4:29, 30; 5:18,19; Matthew 12:33-37

i. Words are to:

1. Build up others

2. To be timely – Pr. 25:11, 15:23; 24:26

3. Give grace – Luke 4:22

g. (Because Thanksgiving is this week...) Instead of joking about \_\_\_\_\_ we should thank God for \_\_\_\_\_. 5:1-4