

HTPC— Fall, 2017 Sunday School

Ephesians: The Beauty of Christ and His Blood-Bought Bride

Week 5 : The Totality of the Christian’s “Before” and “After” (4:17-5:14)

I. Introduction— Context of Paul’s Contrast

- A. Church unity (4:1-16), which itself was triggered by larger section on nature of church (2:11-3:21)
- B. “Gentiles” (4:17; cf. 2:1-3, 11-12)
- C. Key word— “walk” (4:17; 5:2,8 and 15; cf. 2:2,10)
- D. So, this very, very, very practical section in Paul’s letter ties together previous threads: church (Jews and Gentiles), individual salvation and ethical implications of our conversion as we live together as the church of Christ.

II. A General Outline of Our “Before” and “After”

- A. “Before” (4:17-19)

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- B. “After” (4:20-24)

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III. The (Very Specific) Results of Our “After” (4:25-5:14)

- A. Falsehood (4:25)
- B. Anger (4:26-27)
- C. Stealing (4:28)
- D. Speech (4:29-31)

E. Forgiveness (4:32-5:2)

F. Sexual immorality, impurity and covetousness (5:3-6)

1. A cluster of concerns

2. A warning

1. Wrath

2. Deception

G. Full circle considerations (5:7-14)

1. Unconverted Gentiles

2. Our “before” and “after” and consequent “walk”

a. Fruit

b. Discernment

c. Exposing works of darkness (vv. 11-14)

IV. Conclusion— Isn't This Stuff Awesome?! Gospel.