

EPHESIANS 4:17-20

LESSON 27

Now You Know, Walk Not in Ignorance

1. Ephesians 4:13-16 – It Starts With Knowing

- a. Faith is receiving knowledge of the truth – Heb 11:1, Rom 10:17
- b. 4:13 - We come together knowing Christ, fully equipped in the form of His Body
- c. 4:14 – No more children – grounded in doctrine – unmoved by Acts 20:30, 2 Cor 2:17, Rom 16:18, Phil 3:18-19, 2 Pet 2:18 describes the allure – the flesh (sin & religion)
- d. 4:15 – We grow up in Christ (not in sin, nor the law) by speaking truth in love (charity)
- e. 4:16 – A summary of the worthy walk – which starts with a changed mind from Christ.
 - i. 1 Cor 2:16 - “we have the mind of Christ”... but – 1 Cor 3:1-3
 - ii. It effectually works in us that believe – 1 Thess 2:13

2. Ephesians 4:17-19 – Walk Not in Vanity and Ignorance

- a. Ephesians 4 - Walk worthy; walk as one; walk in knowledge of the truth; walk in edification of each other; walk not in vanity and ignorance; walk in Christ.
- b. 4:17 – “*henceforth walk not*” – Can you be a Christian and <some lifestyle>
- c. You have changed, your mind has changed, you should put off some things – Phm 6
 - i. “*vanity of their mind*” – It is not a law problem, but a mind and soul problem.
 - ii. Vanity = having no substance; Faith = the substance of hope – 2 Tim 2:15
- d. 4:18 – “*understanding darkened*” – The unsaved are blind – Ro 1:21, 2Co 4:3-4, Rev 3:17
 - i. “*alienated from the life of God*” – The life of God comes from the word of God!
- e. 4:19 – The consequence of their ignorance → They are seared/ hardened - 1 Tim 4:1-2
 - i. They will do anything to get wealth, power, pleasure, happiness...
 - ii. The end justifies the means – the only end for wrong means is death – Ro 6:21

3. Ephesians 4:20-24 – Walk How You Learned Christ

- a. 4:20 – You learn first, then what you learn affects how you walk – 1 Cor 15:33
 - i. How did we learn Christ? Not acc. to the flesh → 2 Cor 5:16-17
- b. 4:21 – Christ our Head teaches us, we hear instruction from him – Eph 1:1-3, Rom 5-8
- c. 4:22 – Put off the old man → Eph 2:3; this can’t happen until you learn something first.
- d. 4:23 – Renew your mind → This is like Romans 12 which requires Rom 1-11
- e. 4:24 – Put on the new man → Which has already been created – the body of Christ.
 - i. You as the new creature – member of Christ – is what matters – Gal 6:15-16