

EPHESIANS 4:25-32

LESSON 29

For Christ's Sake

1. Ephesians 4:25 – Wherefore...

- a. “wherefore” – You just put on the new man; which is not a new look, but Christ in you
- b. When your life is no longer yours, but Christ's, you have put on the new man – Gal 2:20
- c. People turn away from church because of the lies they tell. God hates it.
- d. A lie can be told in silence, with a smile, or by actions (hypocrisy) – 1Ti 4:2

2. Ephesians 4:26-27 – Anger, Sin, and the Devil

- a. Anger ~def. A strong feeling of being upset/annoyed by wrong, bad, injury unto wrath
- b. Wrath is the punishment due to someone who has been wronged/injured/angered
- c. God gets angry, but he is slow to anger, slow to wrath, longsuffering – Ja 1:19, Ecc 7:19
- d. Jesus was angry but with a cause – Matt 5:22, Mark 3:4-5, Matt 23:27, John 2:15
- e. “sin not” – Good general advice, but also in judgment – which is not easy to do – 1Co 6:7
- f. Moses smote the rock and was punished for it – Num 20:10-13, Ps 106:30-33
- g. Put away all anger that concerns your old man, the new man is Christ in you.
- h. 4:27 – We should know Satan's devices – 2 Cor 2:10-11 “in the person of Christ”
 - i. The Devil is the accuser of the brethren – day and night – Rev 12:10

3. Ephesians 4:28-29 – Work to Give (Grace)

- a. 4:28 – An entire lesson on economics, honest labor, money, giving - 1 Th 4:11; 2Th 3:12
 - i. “steal no more” – forgiveness, moving past the past, a stopping of the activity
 - ii. “let him labour” – Work is God's will here as in 1 Tim 5:8, 6:18; 2Cor 9:12-15
 - iii. This is different than “sell all” and the “raven” this is the ant – Lk 12:24 v Pro 6:6
- b. The motivation for our walk - 2 Cor 5:14-15 – is not to take but to give for Christ's sake
- c. 4:29 – Everything oriented around what is given for Christ's sake toward others (not us)
- d. “grace unto the hearers” – Grace is not niceness, but work for someone else (not I)
- e. “speech always with grace” – Col 4:6 speaks to edifying not charm – 1Co 14:12

4. Ephesians 4:30 – Grieving the Holy Spirit

- a. Grieve ~def – to afflict with sadness or displeasure
- b. 4:30 – Why is he grieved? 1 Cor 3:16; 1 Cor 6:19-20 – because he sealed you – Eph 1:13
- c. The day of redemption is found here → Eph 1:14, Rom 8:23, 1 Cor 15:54

5. Ephesians 4:31-32 – A Change of Heart for Christ's Sake

- a. 4:31 – These are symptoms of lack of charity – and describes every political news outlet
- b. All are symptoms of the heart – we are to be tenderhearted – Job 23:16, Ps 22:14, Isa 6:5
- c. “for Christ's sake” – it wasn't because you asked, or b/c your special – Col 2:13, Ac 26:18
- d. “hath forgiven you” – it is done, and is different than Matt 6:14-15 or 1 John 1:9
- e. When we put on the new man – we do all for Christ's sake – us being in His body.
- f. The chapter ends as does every one in Ephesians with Christ.