

SESSION 18
EPHESIANS 4.22-25

Overarching Themes in Ephesians: "The letter dwells profoundly on the Person of Jesus Christ and The Church." RP Martin

Context: Paul's reflection upon the Gentiles alienated from God because of their hardness of heart, a resistance that is characterized by culpable ignorance of God and a refusal to submit to God producing a futility of mind that catastrophically disfigures behavior unto depravity.

Learning Targets For Enduring Understanding From This Session:
To understand the practical reality of living with a Spirit filled heart and a renewed mind that resonates with the presence of Jesus Christ.

V 22 What is the Old Nature?

How does Paul characterize the status of the Old Nature and its influence on behavior?

What is the foundation of the Old Nature?

What is the avenue that Paul identifies through which corruption comes into the human soul? Gen 3.6 1Jn 2.15-17

What then in reality is the command that Paul is issuing and is it really possible to fulfill it? Jn 8. 31-36

V 23 What do you think is the "spirit of the mind"?

What is the command Paul is issuing in this verse?

Renew = To surrender afresh to the indwelling Holy Spirit bringing the fullness of Christ into your present experience. Renewal is a present condition brought about by experiencing the Presence of Christ. Renewal came originally at conversion but it is as well a continuous process that is the engine of sanctification. God has been with you in the past, He will meet you in the future, but His Presence with you in the fullness of Christ is in the present and Christ's Presence within you defines your having a renewed mind.

V 24 What is the New Nature? 2Cor 5.17 Col 1.27

What does “created after the likeness of God” mean? Gen 1. 26-27

“The new birth and the Spirit’s control restore the image of God that had been broken by sin, and so give back to man, the sinner, what he lost in Adam - righteousness which is a right standing before God, and holiness, the condition of the soul demanded by the truth of God for fellowship.” RP Martin

V 25 What is the “Therefore” there for?

In Vs 25-32 Paul presents the outworking of the New Nature in specific areas of conduct. What practical issue does Paul first address in V 25 and why do you think he begins with this issue?

What rationale does Paul give for the importance of speaking truth?