

New Clothes for a New Life

Ephesians 4:25-32

Introduction

I The True Christian Is To "Put Off" Lying

- A. The "old man" thinks nothing of _____
- B. The "new man" speaks the _____ - Col 3:8-10

II The True Christian Is To "Put Off" Anger

- A. The "old man" gets _____
Anger = To _____ with fear or rage
- B. The "new man" may get angry, but he does not _____
 - 1. There is a place for anger - Mk 3:5; Jn 2:13-17
 - 2. The dangers we need to avoid:
 - a. Allowing it to _____ - Ps 4:4; Eph 4:26
 - b. Allowing it to _____ us - Eph 4:27

III The True Christian Is To "Put Off" Stealing

- A. The "old man" is willing to _____ - 1 Cor 6:9-10
Klepton = Klepto _____
- B. The "new man" _____ and helps others in need
Work = Strenuous work that produces _____
1 Thess 4:11-12; II Thess 3:10-12

IV The True Christian Is To "Put Off" Unwholesome Talk

- A. The "old man" says what he _____ - Jam 3:9-10
Unwholesome = _____ that produces rotteness
- B. The "new man" _____ up - Eph 4:15-16; Phil 4:8
 - 1. Why be concerned about unwholesome speech?
 - a. It _____ the Holy Spirit

V The True Christian Is To "Put Off" Ungodliness

- A. The "old man" is full of _____
 - 1. Bitterness - 1 Cor 13:5
 - 2. Rage - Col. 3:8

- 3. Anger - Col. 3:8
- 4. Brawling - Col. 3:8
- 5. Slander - Col. 3:8
- 6. Every form of malice - Col. 3:8
- B. The "new man" is full of _____
 - 1. Kind - Eph 2:7
 - 2. Compassionate - Col 3:12
 - 3. Forgiving - Col 3:13; Matt 18:23-35

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. Do you have a favorite piece of old clothing you just can't give up? What is it and why do you keep it? What parallels can you think of between physical clothing and our spiritual lives?
2. Statistics indicate that the average person lies approximately 5 times a day. What kind of things do people lie about? Are some lies acceptable? Why/why not? What impact does lying have on us? On our relationships? On the body of Christ?
3. We all get angry at times. Why is the majority of our anger ungodly? How does anger provide an open door for Satan? What should be our biblical response to personal offense?
4. The number one financial drain on the average business today is employee theft. Why is stealing wrong? Do you steal? What does Paul say in verse 28 that we should do instead?
5. Read Eph 4:29. What do think qualifies as unwholesome talk? Why is it prohibited by Paul [Eph 4:12-13]. In the latter part of the verse, Paul lays out three criteria for acceptable speech. What are they? How can you apply this concept this week?
6. In verse 31 Paul tells us to get rid of ungodliness and put on kindness, compassion and forgiveness. Ask God to give you a "new change of clothes" in order that you might demonstrate the agape love of God this week.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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