

Ephesians 4:17-24

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 4:17 We cannot accomplish the work of Jesus by continuing to live the way the world lives.
- 2) 4:17-19 Four characteristics of pagans:
 - Futility of the Mind: The pagan becomes his own ultimate authority, following his own thinking to its ultimate outcome of futility.
 - Ignorant of God's Truth: Ignorance and sin are inseparable.
 - Spiritually/Morally Callused: When people continue in sin and reject God, they become insensitive about moral/spiritual things.
 - Depraved in Mind: Those who are mentally blind become morally callused. They lose any sensitivity to what is right or wrong. Consequently, they give themselves over to the pursuit of fleshly pleasure.
- 3) 4:20 You cannot come to faith in Jesus without changing your thinking.
- 4) 4:20-21 Coming to Christ is the result of learning of Him, just as it is also the beginning of learning.
- 5) A person who makes a profession of Christ but makes no effort to break his worldly, sinful habits has reason to doubt his salvation (James 4:4, 1 John 2:4).
- 6) 4:22 Salvation is not the addition of a new self to an old. In Christ, the old self no longer exists (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- 7) 4:23-24 Christ did not save us in order that we may live any way that we choose. He saved us to live godly lives, and thus to live in a way that is radically different from our lifestyle as unbelievers.

- 8) If the renewing of our minds is so vital to our Christian lives, how is it done? The Bible is not a book of formulas. Focus your attention on one key element...the Word of God.

GREEK WORDS

- Martyromai (mar-too'-rom-ahee)—to be adduced as a witness :- take to record, testify
- Ethnos (eth'-nos)—a race (of the same habit); specially a foreign (non-Jewish) one (by implication pagan) :- heathen, nation, people
- Mataiotēs (mat-ah-yot'-ace)—[futility] - empty, (literal) profitless :-vain [Morally empty]
- Pōrōsis—hardness; carries the idea of being rock-hard. Used by physicians to describe calcification forming around broken bones, becoming harder than bone.

TODAY'S SONGS

“Stronger” words and music by Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan
© 2007 Hillsong Music Publishing

“Blessed Assurance” words and music by Fanny Jane Crosby and Phoebe Palmer
Knapp
Public Domain

“Revelation Song” words and music by Jennie Lee Riddle
© 2004 Gateway Create Publishing

“The Stand” words and music by Joel Houston
© 2005 Hillsong Music Publishing