## "PUT OFF & PUT ON"

## (Ephesians 4 17 - 5:2)

(v17) "I say, therefore ... " - what I'm about to say is based on what I just said.

## 1. (v17) "you should no longer walk as the Gentiles walk"

"in the futility of their mind" - their thinking will accomplish toward salvation.

"their understanding darkened" - ever described someone as being "in the dark"? Their thought-process was "Don't educate me or 'shed any light' about God.

"alienated from the life of God" - (Isaiah 59:2)

"because of the ignorance that is in them" - (Romans 1:21-23)
"because of the blindness of their heart" - will not "see" the light of the gospel.

(v19) "who, being past feeling" - these are among the saddest words of the Bible.

(John 6:66-68) "went back and walked no more with Him" (Acts 24:25) "when I have a convenient time I will call you" (Acts 26:28) "you almost persuade me ... "

"have given themselves over to lewdness" - gross; obscene; indecent; fleshly.

"to work all uncleanness" - do all the dirty deeds; nasty; filthy.

"with greediness" - give me more, more, more; actions go unchecked; indulge.

- 2. (v20) "But you have not so learned Christ" the brethren have been taught differently.

  (1 Corinthians 11:1) "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ"
  - (v22) "that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man ... "

An illustration of laying off an old garment, that another and better one be put on

"which grows corrupt" - that "former conduct" is not good or of eternal value.

"according to the deceitful lusts" - (Hebrews 3:12-13) "the deceitfulness of sin"

They are "deceitful" because they promise happiness and deliver misery. (1 John 2:15-17) "lust ... is not of the Father but is of the world"

(v24) "and that you put on the new man" - there is a new garment to wear.

"the new man" - this will be a different look than "former conduct."

(1 Peter 2:21) "you should follow His steps" and (1 John 2:6)

"which was created according to God" - it's God's blue-print for us to follow.

3. (25) "Therefore" - because you have "put on the new man," do this!

"putting away lying" - all the different ways of presenting a lie.

"each one of you speak truth with his neighbor"

Meaning, (Matthew 5:16) "Let your light shine before men ..."

(v26) "Be angry" - opportunities will be presented.

"and do not sin" - don't allow the opportunity to cause you to sin in anger.

"(v27) "nor give place to the devil" - (2 Corinthians 2:11) (1 Peter 5:8-9)

(v28) "Let him that stole" - yes, that described our "former conduct."

"steal no more" - this will be the result of being "the new man."

"Rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good" - honest work

"that he may have something" - (1 Timothy 5:8)

"something to give to him who has need" - a worthy cause.

- (v29) "Let no corrupt word ..." foul mouth; words that injure another; lewd. "But what is good ... necessary edification ... impart grace ..."
- (v30) "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God"

There are at least 7 sins against the Spirit: (Mark 3:29) "blasphemes against" (Acts 5:3) "lie to the Holy Spirit" (Acts 7:51) "resist the Holy Spirit" (Galatians 5:16-17) "flesh lusts against the Spirit" (Ephesians 4:30 "grieve" (1 Thessalonians 5:19) "quench the Spirit" (Hebrews 10:28-29) "insult"

(v31) "Let all ... be put away from you" - "all;" can't pick 'n choose.

"bitterness" - retains angry feelings; anger that festers; boils.
"wrath, anger" - smoldering bitterness that will kindle into flame.
"clamor" - one who wants every one to hear his grievance.
"evil speaking" - when anger exposes itself in verbal abuse and insults.
"with all malice" - evil-mindedness that will reveal itself in bad behavior.

## (v32) "And be ... " - let it happen!

"kind to one another" - good-hearted; considerate; benevolent; humane.
"tender-hearted" - warm-hearted; soft-hearted; compassionate; sympathetic.
"forgiving one another" - (Matthew 18:21-22) "Then Peter came to Him and said, How often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him?
Up to seven times? Jesus said ... seventy times seven."

"even as God in Christ has forgiven you" - it looks like that!

(5:1) "Therefore be imitators of God" - that's a high standard.

"as dear children" - let's copy that actions of our heavenly Father.

(v2) "And walk in love" - a daily exercise in seeking the best for one another.

"as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us" - grace

T doesn't get any better than that.

(John 15:13) "Greater love has no man than this, Than to lay down oe's life for his friends."