

Directional Devo
Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 4:17-22
4/7/16

vv.17-19 *This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, 18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; 19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.*

In lieu of the aforementioned that we as Christians should be growing in our faith, speaking the truth in love, understanding that we are each a unique part of the body of Christ, we should not be walking *as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind* because they are *alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart*, and therefore are *past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness*.

Notice he warns them not to walk as Gentiles (the unsaved) who walk *in the futility of their mind*.

Literally this means that as unbelievers they are unproductive as far as spiritual and moral issues are concerned.

Why? – Because their rational is perverted and they are incapable of making a spiritual decision or one that pleases God.

1 Cor 2:14 *the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

Cf. Rom 1:20-21

vv.20-21 *But you have not so learned Christ, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:*

Instead he says, Jesus did not teach us to live that way.

There seems to be a slight question as to whether or not they really know Christ in that he says *if indeed you have heard of him*.

Cf. 1 Joh 1:5-6; 2:3-6

Joh 14:21 *He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."*

Notice also that he says that *the truth is in Jesus*.

There is no truth outside of Christ.

Joh 14:6 *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

v.22 *that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,*

We're to put off the way of life that our flesh ("old man") wants us to lead.

Gal 2:20 *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

2 Cor 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*