

CHRIST *the* CHURCH COSMOS
TAKE OFF & PUT ON
#Ephesians

EPHESIANS 4:17-32

¹⁷So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; ¹⁹and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. ²⁰But you did not learn Christ in this way, ²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, ²²**that, in reference to your former manner of life, you took off the old self (like a set of old clothes,) which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, ²³and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and you put on the new self (like a set of new clothes,) which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.** ²⁵Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not give the devil an opportunity. ²⁸He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he

must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need. ²⁹Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³²Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

It matters how we live.

Wear your new clothes well.

RENEWAL: In what ways have you struggled to put aside your old clothes (thinking, emotions, relationships, outlook, desires)? Have you worn your “new clothes” long enough to be comfortable in the fit, design and purpose of them? In other words, does living for Christ come more natural to you today than former days? Explain. Why does it matter, how we live? How do you explain this to a nonbeliever? Do you struggle more with put aside (surrender) or putting on (submission) to a renewed spirit of mind? How can we help in changing our mindset from individualism to community benefit? What can we do to help one another in wearing our new clothes well?



Today's message:
Neil Tomba

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