

Day 6

Prayer: Start by praying to God to help in your transformation.

Scripture:

“You were taught to leave your old self. This means that you must stop living the evil way you lived before. That old self gets worse and worse, because people are fooled by the evil they want to do. You must be made new in your hearts and in your thinking. Be that new person who was made to be like God, truly good and pleasing to him.”

Ephesians 4:22-24 ERV

EXPLANATION:

Paul did not have any doubt about the teaching they had received. Instead, he is preparing to remind them of Christ's teachings and the life they should live after accepting the Gospel (v.21). The old Gentile way of living should be cast aside like a worn out garment. The old man was sin dominated as described by Paul (v.22). The mind should then be Spirit directed through the truth (4:23; **Romans 12:1-2**). In place of the cast away lifestyle, the Christian will put on the new man. But, to put on the new man, one must be in Christ, which can only be accomplished in baptism (2 **Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 3:26-27**).

In place of pursuing lusts, the new man lives in accord with God's will and strives to keep himself pure (v.24). The old nature would not hesitate to lie if it would help him/her fill one of his uncontrolled desires. The new nature always tells the truth, especially to his brethren because we are all members of the same body (v.25; **Colossians 3:9-11**).

The old man would allow anger to run wild and the devil to gain control of him. The new man gets angry but keeps it under control so that he does not involve himself in sin. The means of by which it can be accomplished is by not allowing anger to remain past the end of one day. Resentments tend to build and fester into a putrefying sore. The devil is an enemy to every Christian. He must not be allowed to have a toe-hold in our lives through anger harbored in the heart (4:26-27; **Colossians 3:8**).

The old man would steal to acquire wealth and the things his heart desired. The new man would work to earn money to purchase the things necessary to provide for his own needs. Additionally, he would use what God gave him to help those in need. In other words, a Christian will work so others can benefit from his prosperity (v.28). The old man would tell suggestive stories and allow foul language to be an integral part of his vocabulary. The new man uses his speech to teach saint and sinner alike the ways of the Lord. Those who will heed his instructions will thus have access to God's glorious grace (v.29; **Colossians 3:8; 4:6; Matthew 12:36-37**).

Meditate:

Questions to ponder upon: Are you striving from not going back to your old mentality? Are you striving from not doing or living as you did? Have you been fooled by your own heart? Have you surrender your mind to God? Are you striving to become the person God wants you to be?

Prayer: Finish with a prayer asking God for wisdom to surrender all to Him.

Transformation