



Sunday, September 1, 2019

MAKE A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

I. The **WEALTH** of the Believer (1:1-3:21)

II. The **WALK** of the Believer (4:1-6:9)

- A. Walk **WORTHY** (4:1)
- B. Walk in **UNITY** (4:2-6)
- C. Walk in **DIVERSITY** (4:7-10)
- D. Walk in **MATURITY** (4:11-16)
- E. Walk in **PURITY** (4:17-24)

Paul now moves from the topic of MATURITY to PURITY. He uses the illustration of the CHANGING OF CLOTHING to describe the visible change that is to be seen in the believer's life. He is to have a new kind of wardrobe. When we “*put on*” Christ, in salvation, we receive a NEW SPIRITUAL IDENTITY and with new responsibilities. We must live in light of our new identity (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:17).

1. The **CONDITION** of the **OLD** Man (4:17-19)

Paul tells us that the **CONDITION OF THE OLD MAN IS ROOTED IN HIS THINKING**. His thinking defines his living.

2. The **CHANGE** of the **NEW** Man (4:20-24)

To “*learn Christ*,” being “*taught by Him*” brings continued change in our sanctification. In these next three verses, Paul lays out for us the roadmap of growth and victory in our Christian lives. It is a **LIFE OF REPENTANCE** that leads to a **LIFE OF REFLECTING CHRIST**.

- a. DEVELOPING CHRISTLIKENESS through REPENTANCE from SIN (4:22a)
- b. DEVELOPING CHRISTLIKENESS through RESTRAINING our FLESH (4:22b)

In order to effectively RESTRAIN our flesh and help our REPENTANCE from sin be long-lasting we must learn to diligently RENEW our minds with the TRANSFORMING and STABILIZING truths of God's Word.

- c. DEVELOPING CHRISTLIKENESS through RENEWING our MIND (4:23)

Introduction: Biblical repentance is not only a TURNING FROM SIN but also a TURNING TO TRUTH. It is a turning from a walk which dishonors God to a walk which bring honor to God.

"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;" (Eph 4:23) – The Greek word translated "renewed" carries the idea of the process of RENOVATION.

Isaiah 59:1-2 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear: **2** But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *His* face from you, that **He** will not hear.

Galatians 5:16 *This* I say then, "Walk in the **Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

i. The TEACHER of RENEWAL—Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 3:18)

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the **Spirit** of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural [*unregenerate*] man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness [*meaningless*] unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned [*understood*].

ii. The TRANSFORMATION of RENEWAL (Romans 12:2)

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed [*changed into something useful*] by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

This RENEWAL PROCESS is a REPLACEMENT PROCESS. The old mind needs to

be replaced with a new mind—the old thought must be replaced with new thoughts.

iii. The TRUTH of RENEWAL—the Knowledge of God (Col. 3:10)

Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge [of God] after [according to / based upon] the image of Him that created him [so as to reflect that same image (cf. 2Co 3:18)]:

Colossians 3:16 Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly [*abundantly*] in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

iv. The TIME of RENEWAL (1 Timothy 4:15-16)

1 Timothy 4:15-16 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting [*developing Christlikeness*] may appear to all. **16** Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, ...

v. The TENACITY of RENEWAL (James 1:21-25)



Our WORTHY WALK is explained by WALKING IN PURITY. Our new life in Christ is to be marked by change. It is a PURPOSEFUL PROCESS which includes the DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTLIKENESS which is also characterized by RENEWING the mind with the Word of truth. This TRANSFORMATION comes with TENACITY as diligent effort is made to spend TIME meditating upon the TRUTH aided by the TEACHING of the Holy Spirit.

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (***Put OFF SIN***)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (***Renew your mind***)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (***Put ON CHRIST***)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must I demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will I most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!