Sunday, September 12, 2021

Called to Maturity, Pt. 2

Ephesians 4:17-24

David H. McKinley

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… until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to **mature** manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.
—Ephesians 4:13

[17]Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. [18]They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. [19]They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. [20]But that is not the way you learned Christ!—[21]assuming that you have heard about Him and were taught in Him, as the truth is in Jesus, [22]to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, [23]and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, [24]and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.
—Ephesians 4:17-24

[1]The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. [2]The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. [3]They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.
—Psalm 14:1-3

The Christian life is a call to a new and different mindset.

1. _____ the _____ Self

• The Old Self is _____ With _____

• The Old Self is _____ Toward _____

"Lost people proclaim lies as truth, immorality as morality, high sounding nonsense as science, and philosophical speculation as religion." —John B. Phillips

If you can destroy the vulnerable life of a baby and justify it in the name of freedom, you can accommodate every other form of injury and call it equality.

Notes:

• The Old Self is a Chosen _____

[21]And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" [22]When Jesus perceived their thoughts, He answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts? [23]Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? [24]But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins…" —Luke 5:21-24a

2. _____ the _____ Self

• A Profession of _____

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
—2 Corinthians 5:17

• A Pursuit of _____

… but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance.
—Acts 26:20

• A Practice of _____

Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. —Romans 6:13

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WARREN
A WAY OF LIFE

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