

Out with the Old, In with the New!

Ephesians 4:17-32

October 11, 2020

Big Idea

The futile “way of the Gentiles” (unconnected to God)
The original intent and the default position after the fall
The new creation, the new self, the new heart
The analogy of the new engine
Connected, started, driven, and maintained
Thinking right
Decisive choice
The cycles

The Importance of the Mind

Futility of their minds: v.17
Darkened in their understanding, ignorance in them: v. 18
Not the way you learned Christ: v.20
Taught in him as the truth is in Jesus: v. 21
Be renewed in the spirit of your minds: v.23
Put away falsehood, speak truth: v.25
As a person thinks, so he is: Proverbs 23:7
The emotional flow chart: thinking leads feeling
Transformed by the renewing of our minds: Romans 12:2

The Importance of Choice

Choice is not choice until the action is engaged
The phenomenon of apparent choice (often disguised by words)
Put off as lay aside the old self: say no to its practices
Put on as clothe oneself: say yes to its practices
These have a measurable achievable quality to it

The Converted Thief as All of Us (verse 28)

Stealing as the way of the old self (me first, short cut, end justifies means, trespassing)
Labor with honest work: the way of the spiritual life: discipline
With the goal of being able to give away
The reversal of the self-focused life to the other-focused life
We are the sum of a thousand choices

20 Characteristics of the Old Self: futile minds, darkened understanding, alienated from life in God, ignorant, hard-hearted, callous, sensual, greedy for impurity, corrupt, deceitful desires, falsehoods, thievery, corrupting talk, grieving the Holy Spirit, bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander, malice.

12 Characteristics of the New Self: righteousness, holiness, speaking truth to neighbor, anger under control, hardworking, generous, encouraging talk, congruent with the Holy Spirit, kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another.