

Series Title: “The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians”
“*The Practice of Believers-Chapter 5*” Part 1

“Our New Life Causes Us to Act in a New Way”

Date: November 19, 2017

Message by: Pastor Taylor

A. **Review**

- Last Sunday, we finished chapter four of Ephesians.
- Today, we will begin chapter five.

B. Today, we want to see **what** the Scriptures forbids, **how** we can avoid doing these things and **why** we need to avoid doing these things.

- **Ephesians 5:1-14**

C. **What** does the Scriptures forbid in verses 3 and 4?

1. **IMMORALITY OR FORNICATION** (*porneia*) [where we get the word pornography]-(the depiction of erotic behavior as in pictures or writing intended to cause sexual excitement) = here, it is used generally to refer to any form of sexual immorality. When used with adultery, it means illicit intercourse among unmarried persons.

- Coupled with *moicheia* – adultery

➤ **Mark 7:20-23** (20And He was saying, “That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. 21For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, 22deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride *and* foolishness. 23All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.”)

2. ***IMPURITY OR UNCLEANNESS***—moral uncleanness, lewdness (sexually unchaste [un-chast]). This word not only means immoral acts but also include impure pictures, obscene books, and any other indecency that feeds the fires of passion.
 - **2 Corinthians 12:21** (21I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.) [I.e. *sexual immorality*]
3. ***GREED OR COVETOUSNESS***— it is the root from which these sins of the flesh grow. The longing of the creature which has forsaken God to fill itself with the lower objects of nature.
 - While we generally think of this word as meaning the lust for money, here it refers to sensual desire- greed to satisfy one's sexual appetite outside the bounds of marriage.
4. ***FILTHINESS***— ugly, shameful conduct of any kind, particularly dirty stories, suggestive jokes with a sexual coloring, and all forms of obscenity and indecency.
5. ***SILLY OR FOOLISH TALKING***— gutter language.
6. ***COARSE JESTING***— unclean speech, often veiled in innuendo or double meaning.

D. ***How***— can we avoid doing these things?

1. ***REMEMBER THE MODEL*** found in the previous chapter (you are a new creature, so lay side the old self, be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self).
 - **2 Corinthians 5:17-18** (17Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 18Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,) [Or *a new creation*]

- **Ephesians 4:17-24**

- **1 Corinthians 6:9-11** (9Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 11Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.) [I.e. *effeminate by perversion*]

2. **BE IMITATORS OF GOD AND WALK IN LOVE.**

- **Romans 13:10** (10Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of *the* law.)

3. **PRACTICE THE GIVING OF THANKS.**

E. **Why** we need to avoid doing these things.

1. It is proper among saints for these things not to be named among you.
2. It is not fitting for you to do these things.
3. No immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

F. **Conclusion**

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