

A WHOLE NEW WARDROBE (PART 2)

10/21/07

Intro – Ever see a “before and after” picture? Pretty unbelievable, isn’t it? Yet, it also means a whole new wardrobe. Likewise, now that we are Christians the “old wardrobe” we used to where just doesn’t look right on us. God wants to clean out the old wardrobe and replace it with a brand new one...

Eph 4:22,24 – “*You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to **put off your old self**, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ... And to **put on the new self**, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*”

1. PREREQUISITE UNDERSTANDING: POSITION, then PRACTICE (WALK)

A. _____ – “What we are, and receive the moment we believe”

- “Sealed” (Eph 1:13)
- “Seated” (Eph. 2:6)
- “Saved” (Eph. 2:8)

B. _____ – “The practical, every day walking out of our faith where we continually become more like Jesus in what we say and do.”

2. WARDROBE: OLD > NEW

EPHESIANS 4 & 5

A. LIES > TRUTH 4:25

4:25 – “*Therefore each of you must **put of falsehood** and **speak truthfully** to his neighbor...*”

B. CONTROLLING ANGER > CONTROLLED ANGER 4:26-27

4:26-27(N.L.T.) – “*And don’t sin by letting **anger gain control over you**. Don’t let the **sun go down while you are still angry**, for anger gives a **mighty foothold to the devil**.*”

C. BITTERNESS & ANGER > KINDNESS & FORGIVENESS 4:31-32

4:31-32 – “*Get rid of all **bitterness, rage, and anger, brawling and slander**, along with every form of **malice**. **Be kind and compassionate** to one another, **forgiving** each other as Christ forgave you.*”

D. _____ > _____ > _____

4:28 – “*He who has been **stealing** must steal no longer, but must **work**, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to **share** with those in need..*”

I Thess 4:11-12 – “*Make it your ambition to ... **work** with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.*”

II Thess 3:10 – “*For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: ‘**If a man will not work, he shall not eat.**’*”

*I Tim 5:8 – “If anyone **does not provide** for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has **denied the faith** and is worse than an unbeliever.”*

***Discussion:**

1. Give examples of stealing that many people do and see nothing wrong with it.
2. What are some of the things God’s Word says about people who don’t work?
3. God goes even further telling us to work as though we were working for Him. How would this change the way many people work?
4. God’s Word says much about helping the poor. Does this teaching contradict those scriptures?

E. _____ > _____

*5:3 – “But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of **greed**, because these are improper for God’s holy people.”*

*I Tim 6:8-10 – “But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who **want to get rich** fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the **love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, **eager for money**, have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”*

*I Tim 6:17-18 – “Command **those who are rich** in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for **our enjoyment**. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be **generous and will to share.**”*

***Discussion:**

1. The Bible has more scriptures dealing with money than what other subject?
2. Why is greed so dangerous? How does it subtly sneak up on us?
3. What does the scripture say about how we should handle financial blessing and riches if it does come our way?
4. Pastor Rich shared 4 things that “giving” reveals. What were they?

CONCLUSION: What is the difference between “CONDEMNATION” and “CONVICTION”? They both use the same emotion. What is it? So, how do they then differ? How do Christians often confuse these two. Which one must we learn to reject, and why? Which one must we receive Why?