

IMPUTED: PUTTING OFF AND PUTTING ON (pt 3)

- *Scripture Reading:*
 - **Ephesians 4:14-25**

- What Romans 6 describes as God's reckoning (imputing, counting true):
 - We NT grace-believers are **DEAD with Christ to our sin nature** and **ALIVE with Christ to God's purpose for us**, are described in Ephesians 4 and Colossians 3 as:
 - **“PUTTING OFF” the Old Man, and**
 - **“PUTTING ON” the New Man**

REVIEW

INTRODUCTION

- **Two weeks ago, we started the practical application of the Scriptures on the positional truth of “putting on”, and “putting off” from Ephesians 4 and Colossians 3**
- **This morning, we want to look at Ephesians 4 more closely, and take in a more detailed look of this important truth**

THE GROWING CHRISTIAN

Eph 4:14-16

Stunted growth (vs 14)

- “**children**” = inarticulate babblers – cf Heb 5:13, I Cor 1:1-3
- “**doctrine**” = OT doctrine to be known, understood, BUT NOT practiced
 - example: the Mosaic Law – Rom 6:14
- “**the men**” = law teachers – cf I Tim 1:3-7, 19-20
 - Note that Eph & I Tim were both written from Paul’s Roman imprisonment

Proper growth (vs 15-16)

THE WALK (lifestyle) TO BE AVOIDED

Eph 4:17-19

The Gentiles walk in the “Vanity” (empty results) of their minds (vs 17)

- **Darkened understanding**
- **Separated and ignorant of God’s (eternal) LIFE**
- **Blindness of heart (=mind, will, and emotions)**

Having ceased to care, they have given themselves to depravity (vs 19)

CHANGED POSITIONS

Eph 4:20-24

Reminder of the changed position (vs 20-24)

Lessons learned of "the Christ"

- **Lesson # 1** - To have **PUT OFF THE OLD MAN**, being corrupted according to the lusts of the deceit (vs 22)
 - Satan's deception of Eve w/the lie to act independently from God
- **Lesson #2** - to have **PUT ON THE NEW MAN**, created according to God, in righteousness and reverential duties concerning the truth (vs 24, cf Eph 2:10,15)

CHANGED BEHAVIOR

Eph 4:25

- **PUTTING OFF (present-tense) The Lie of Rom 1:25, acting independently from God**
 - **Walking as Gentiles walk - Eph 4:17-19**
 - **Acting independently from believers of a different race - cf Eph 2:16**
 - **Being divisive among believers in a local church – I Cor 1:12-13**

CONCLUSION

- In Romans 6, God counts us to have
 - Died with Christ to our sin nature, and to have been
 - Raised with Christ unto righteousness

- In Ephesians 4 and Colossians 3, God counts these same opinions as having
 - “put off the Old Man” (our former position in Adam), and
 - “put on the New Man” (our new position in Christ)

CONCLUSION

- Our responsibility is to
 - Reckon God's opinion of us to be true (Rom 6:16), and
 - Refresh our thinking of this position (Eph 4:23)