

Out with the Old, in with the New

Eph 4:22-24

Introduction:

- A. A phrase often repeated around New Years.
- B. A phrase even more applicable to the life of a Christian.
 - 1. Eph 4:22-24.
 - 2. Col. 3:9-10.
- C. In Ephesians 4 and Colossians 3, Paul contrasts our old man with our new man.

Discussion:

I. A Contrast of *Minds* (Eph 4:17,23)

- A. Old uncontrolled anger versus new controlled anger (Eph. 4:26-27)
 - 1. Uncontrolled anger robs us of happiness.
 - 2. To avoid sin, anger must be properly directed and proportioned.
- B. Old malice and hatred versus new kindness and gentleness (Eph. 4:31-32)
- C. Old hard and unforgiving heart versus new tender and forgiving heart (Eph. 4:31-32)
 - 1. Forgiveness is conditional (Luke 17:3-4).
 - 2. Forgiveness is essential because we have been forgiven (Matt. 18:21-34)
 - 3. Forgiveness is essential to our being forgiveness (Matt. 18:35)
- D. Old ethic hatreds versus new inclusiveness (Col. 3:10-11; cf. Gal 3:28)
- E. Old arrogance versus new humility (Col. 3:12)
- F. Old impatience versus new longsuffering and forbearance (Col. 3:12-13)
 - 1. Longsuffering is not tolerance
 - a. Tolerance overlooks offences.
 - b. Longsuffering does not quickly give up on offenders.
 - 2. Remember God's longsuffering with us (Rom. 2:4).
 - 3. Longsuffering has limits (cf. 1 Pet. 3:20; 2 Pet. 3:9-10).

II. A Contrast of *Words* (Eph. 4:29)

- A. Old corrupt speech versus new edifying speech (Eph 4:29).
- B. Old filthy language versus new clean speech (Col. 3:8).
- C. Old lying versus new truth speaking (Eph. 4:25; Col 3:9, 10).

III. A Contrast of *Deeds* (Col. 3:9, 10)

- A. Old theft versus new work (Eph. 4:28).
- B. Old immorality versus new morality (cf. 1 Cor. 6:9-11).
- C. Old manners versus new manners (1 Pet. 3:8)

Conclusion:

- A. Old man crucified with Christ (Rom. 6:6)
- B. Newness of life after baptism (Rom. 6:1-5)