

"The Python and the Hare"

Ephesians 4:17-24

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James 1:14-15: But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown **brings forth death**.

Ezekiel 18:20a: The soul who sins shall **die**.

Romans 6:23a: The wages of sin is **death**... this text is talking about eternal death.

Romans 8:13-14: For if you live according to the flesh **you will die**, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Romans 6:-12: What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can **we who died to sin** still live in it?

Ephesians 4:1: I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you **to walk in a manner worthy of the calling** to which you have been called...

Part 1: Constricted by _____

Vs. 17: Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must **no longer walk as the Gentiles do**, in the futility of their minds.

Vs. 18: They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.

Vs. 19: **They have become callous** and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

Matthew 13:15: For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

Jeremiah 17:9: The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

Part 2: Freed by _____

Vs.:20-21: But that is not the way **you learned Christ!**— assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as **the truth is in Jesus**,

John 17:3: And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Vs. 22-24: to **put off your old self**, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and **to be renewed** in the spirit of your minds, and to **put on the new self**, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

John 3:3: Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Romans 12:2: Do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed** by the **renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Vs. 24: and to **put on the new self**, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

2 Cor. 5:17: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.