

Why Do We Think the Way We Think?

Life in Christ: Wealth, Walk, Warfare (Ephesians) – Part 101

Ephesians 4:17-19

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Pastor Dan Phillips

Copperfield Bible Church

¹⁷ Therefore I say this — indeed, I testify in the Lord: no longer *are* you to walk just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸ due to being darkened in their intellect, ¹ because of being alienated from the life of God, on account of the ignorance that is in them,

on account of the callousness of their heart; ¹⁹ *these are* the sorts who, having become morally numb, ² delivered themselves to outrageousness, ³ resulting in the working of all uncleanness with greed. ⁴

[Ephesians 4:17-19 DJP]

Introduction:

Noetic Effects of Sin

(from Greek *nous*, “mind”; e.g. Eph 4:17)

That sin affects not only our bodies and our desires, but also even *the way we think, process information, choose beliefs, reason, make decisions.*

Total Depravity

Not that we are all as bad or sinful as we can be

But that sin permeates and corrupts *all* of us, body, soul and mind

I. The Delusional Root: Our Federal Head⁵ (Genesis 1—3)

A. Crucial _____ op (Genesis 1—2)

B. Cr_____ B_____ op (Genesis 3)

1. Appraisal: complete *delusion*

a. The Serpent’s

i. God is cruel

ii. God is unreliable and unloving...or worse

b. Eve’s (3:6)

2. Action: complete *treachery*

3. Aftermath: complete *meltdown*

¹ Or, possibly, *thinking* or *mental disposition*.

² Or *past pain*.

³ Or *indecency*.

⁴ I.e. to the insatiable practice of every dirty thing they can think of.

⁵ Meaning Adam, appointed by God to be the first head of humanity: Romans 5:12-21; 1 Cor. 15:22.

II. The Deceitful Fruit: Our Fallen H_____

A. Fundamental Principle: Jeremiah ___:9

B. “Factory” Production

1. Matthew ___:18-19

2. Genesis ___:5; ___:21

C. Fulltime Propaganda

1. *Solomon* knew:

a. The only right way:
Proverbs ___:7

Proverbs ___:10

b. Our way:
Proverbs ___:6

2. *Paul* knew:

Romans ___:18

1 Corinthians ___:18

1 Corinthians ___:23

1 Corinthians ___:14

3. And of course, *Jesus* knew:

Luke ___:15b

III. The Daily Fallout

A. As to W_____

B. As to W_____

C. As to W_____