THE RIGHTEOUS PURSUES HOLINESS

Chapter 2 Lesson 4

Chapter's Subject: Created Anew in Righteousness and True Holiness

Main Point Called Out (Part A)

Today's Study: (a) Introduction

(b) The Walk of the Believer

INTRODUCTION

- A. Brief Review (Review questions from previous lesson and highlights from lessons 1 and 2 of chapter 2)
 - Review as many questions as possible from previous class Review Questions (10 to 15 minutes).
 - 2. Another way that we can define "pursuing holiness is:
 - (a) To lay aside every hindrance and those petty habits that hinders us!
 - (b) As Paul states, we must "Press towards the objective, let nothing hinders us!
 - (c) Jesus guarantees that anyone who hungers and thirsts for righteousness will be fully satisfied.
 - 3. In Lessons 1 and 2 (of this chapter) the things were discussed (1) Allurements of the World, (2) Abuse of Divine Grace, and (3) Adapted to the Evil Environment.
 - (a) We associated three pointers with Psalm 1:1, where we clearly see the progression of someone caving into sinful ways.
 - (1) "Walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly" (Psa. 1:1)
 - Here we are told that the **righteous** <u>strolled</u> (walketh) <u>not</u> in the crowd of the ungodly, the person who is straying does.
 - The righteous do socialize but do not "*mix up*" (if you understand the phrase). We do not become integrated with their ways; saturated by their evil lifestyle.
 - Sad but true too many have allowed Satan to allure (attract, charm, entice, etc.) them until they give in to his evil charm.
 - This downward fall starts with a simple "stroll" on the wrong pathway.
 - Too many have been deceived with the lie "just one time" or "just a little" or similar lies that lead to more sin.
 - (2) "Standeth not in the way of sinners" (Psa. 1:1)
 - Here we are told the righteous <u>standeth not</u> in the way of sinners, the person who is straying does.
 - The abuse of divine grace started with just a leisure walk (or stroll), but eventually and because of evil association, the decision to linger even for a little while came into play.

- This person fell for Satan's carrot on the pole and continues to walk on trying to get to the carrot not realizing the danger ahead. It may be also one of Satan's most alluring offers that is more like a delicious looking apple and Satan is saying "only one bite, it will not hurt you."
- This person knows that the situation is not according to the will of God but eventually caved in, saying: "Oh God will forgive me, His grace is infinite!"
 - So he/she is not only taking a stroll but standing in the midst of a polluted environment.
 - Think of Sister Eve, like her all this person can see is only the benefits of the pleasure of sin and not the awful consequences!
- (3) Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. (Psa. 1:1)
 - Here we are told the righteous <u>sitteth not</u> in the seat of the scornful but the person who is straying does.
 - In lesson 2 (of this chapter) I mentioned:
 - Abram (later Abraham), who settled in Haran which was not Canaan, the place where God wanted him to go. God repeated the call and he moved on to Canaan (Gen. 11:31-32; 12:1-3; Acts 7:2-4)
 - We have also seen Lot who loved Sodom, despite its gross immortality (Gen. 1:5-13)
 - I also mentioned Peter who "sat" in the midst of sinners, which was a part of his steps leading to his denial of Christ (Matt. 26:62; Luke 22:55). I must note that Peter also made it right with God (Matt. 26:75).
 - Take a look at the Church (Universal) ... what do you see in so many situations where there is no distinction between the Church and the world?
 - Observe the stages of apostasy as he Church (Universal), in different stages, throws out fundamental doctrines and righteous standards of living. These most essential qualities (characteristics) are replaced with that which is considered to be politically correct. There is relentless effort to be popular only to increase numbers and yet Jesus Christ, the Apostles and early Church pioneers did not attract the multitudes with things of the world but with the things of God
 - The Church took a **stroll** then it **stood**, and then **sat** down. But God is not without a witness, bless His holy name!!
- (b) Sin is not just an overnight experience, it just didn't happen; there were stages in its development!!
 - (1) I had also made mentioned of the progression of sin:
 - First sin becomes attractive to the eyes.
 - Then it enters the mind where it is allowed to developed

- Then the delights of the allurements enters the heart and at this point there seems to be no turning back (save only by the deliverance of God!!)
- Finally the act of sin is committed.
- (2) One example of the facts of sin is seen in James 1:12-15.

I will break the verses down for clarification . . . no detailed discussion.

- We will be tempted (temptation is not sin) v. 12.
- We must resist temptation v. 12.
- Blessings guaranteed for the over-comers v. 12.
- God's holiness is made clear. There is NO evil in Him. He tempts no one!! v. 13.
- Allurements of sin will be experienced v. 14.
- Man is enticed by his own lust v. 14.
- The awful effects of sin:
 - > There is a penalty, the rule has not changed!! v. 15.
 - There is spiritual death (separation from God and eternal damnation) v. 15.

B. The opposing view of those not in favors of the doctrine of holiness.

- It has been stated that teachers of holiness are teaching legalism, ritualism, imposing man-made rules, and the teaching of biblical holiness is extremism, etc.
 - (a) These are statements that I have heard so often as preachers find ways and means to belittle those who are brave enough to say, with love and in obedience to the will of God ..."Thus saith the Lord!"
 - (b) Sure, throughout the history of the Church there have extreme and manmade views in regards to Christian manner of living but there is a great difference with what we are presenting in this study.
- 2. Remember: If we take holiness away from the people, we are leaving them in pitch darkness; darkness that can be felt and results in death and destruction, eternally.
- 3. We will not get into a debate, nor detailed discussion but the neglect of effectively teaching holiness has had disastrous results!!
 - (a) Too many preachers and leaders have made excuses for not contending "for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).
 - (b) Because of such gross neglect, we have so many in churches that are not a part of the Church (Universal ... the Bride of Christ (Rev. 21:2; 22:17). Beloved, we judge no one, but people must not only be a part of a congregation they need to live a life of righteousness and true holiness because by the fruit one is identified (Matt. 7:17; 12:33; etc. see also Eph 4:24).
 - (c) Beloved, there is no such thing as a "sinning saint". People who habitually sin have not seen God nor know Him any longer (if they once knew Him).
 - (d) It is appalling to see the things that we entertain within the Church today, all in the name of tolerance . . . but I will not get into that area, at least not at this time.
 - (e) God still speaks to His people and is still saying: "Be ye holy for I am holy!!"

(f) <u>No matter what compromise we witness within the Church, always remember</u> <u>this quote:</u>

"As a pattern of life, holiness is a life that is dedicated to Christ and separated from the world, and does not practice sin."

"Called unto holiness" bride of the Lamb, Waiting the Bridegroom's returning again, Lift up your heads, for the day draweth near When in His beauty the King shall appear,

Are you ready for that "great day?" Without holiness NO man shall see God!! (Heb. 12:14).

NOTE:

- Created Anew in Righteousness and True Holiness (Our second main division of this study) has been divided under three subjects (a) "Cheap Grace?" (b) "Called Out" and (c) "Character of the Child of God".
- 2. We have already discussed "Cheap Grace?" in lessons 1, 2 and 3.
- 3. "Called Out" will be discussed in lessons 4 to 11 and the "Character of the Child of God" in lesson 12.
- "Called Out" is divided in the following sub-pointers, (a) "The Walk of the Believer" (b)
 "The Word in the Believer" and (c) "The Wholesome Life of the Believe."

"CALLED OUT"

Introductory Notes:

- 1. Some emphasis has been placed on the phrase "in Christ" throughout this study.
 - (a) In chapter 1 we saw that to be "Clothed **in Christ's** Righteousness is to be declared righteous **in Christ.**
 - (b) We also saw that "any man in Christ is a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17).
 - (c) Rom. 8:1 also states that there is no condemnation to them who are in Christ
 - (d) I have also stated that while perseverance is necessary we will only do so when we are preserved and we are preserved ONLY as we **abide in Christ;** thus enabling us to be fruitful (John 15:1-8).
- 2. In this section we are focusing on "Called Out".
 - (a) Beloved, the Church is a "Called out community in a hostile environment."
 - (b) Because we are **"called out"** our lifestyle must be different. We are specifically told to **"come out and be separated"** (2 Cor. 6:17).
 - (c) Strongly impressed upon my heat is the fact that: "The **called out** are those who are **in Christ**, clothed **in His righteousness**.
- 3. In covering the subject "Called Out", I will be looking at three areas that are related to our lives as people who are separated from the world and unto God (These three areas

were listed above). We are "Called Out" to the glory of God and hereby become witnesses to the unregenerate, of the One True and Living God!!!

- 4. We are "Called Out" and may all of us as Believers:
 - (a) "Walk the walk" and not just "Talk the talk". (Discussed under: :"The Walk of the Believer")
 - (b) Allow the Word of God to dwell richly in our lives as we daily receive our spiritual nourishment from it (the Word of God), as it guides us in the pathway of holiness (Discussed under: "The Word in the Believer")
 - (c) Remember that our lives are complete only in Jesus Christ which becomes evident practically, by our conversation and manner of living (Discussed under: :Wholesome Life of the Believer")

5. The Believer's walk in Christ.

(a) In today's world we are so caught up with large numbers in our local congregations to the extent that so many denominations neglect the essential need for their followers to live a life of righteousness and true holiness.

(This fact has been and will be mentioned throughout this study because of the great damage being done to the cause of Christ. Spiritual compromise and corruption is so evident and widely accepted; God be praised there will always be those who will live for God at any cost because the Church is built upon Jesus Christ and He gave the assurance that "the gates of hell will not prevail"!!!)

- (b) The believer is not to walk as the unregenerate man walk or live !!
- (c) The reason for this distinction in lifestyle is stated in the Word of God (<u>a few</u> references are listed below).
 - (1) The believer did not learn worldly, sinful lifestyle from Jesus Christ (Eph. 4:20)
 - (2) Christ, our perfect example, did not live a sinful life (Heb. 4:15).
 - (3) Christ has not taught us to live a sinful mediocre life. He expects us to live above ritualism, formalism, externalism, etc. (Matt. 5:20)
 - (4) If a man heard Christ and being taught by Christ, then he has heard and been taught the truth (Eph. 4:21)
 - (5) If a person has really heard Christ speaking to his heart, then what he heard were not instructions supporting the kind of life lived by unbelievers (Eph. 4:21-24)
 - (6) Etc.

Eph. 4:20-24 (Amplified Bible)

"But you did not so learn Christ! Assuming that you have heard Him and been taught by Him as [all] Truth is in Jesus [embodied and personified in Him], Strip yourselves of your former nature [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterized your previous manner of life and become corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from elusion; And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude], And put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image, [Godlike] in true righteousness and holiness".

THE WALK OF THE BELIVER (Eph. 4:20-24)

The true walk of the believer is a <u>walk in-Christ</u>, and it is a walk that involves three actions (1) Remove/Renounce (2) Renew (3) Replace.

Remove/Replace (Eph. 4:22)

As we discussed in chapter 1, the old sinful nature, also referred to as the "old man," must be removed and be renounced. In other words he (the "old man") is to be "removed" or "taken out of position" and be "renounced" or "give up on him, cast him out," etc.

The Believer is to "Remove/Renounce the Old Man" or "Put Off the Old Man".

A. Introductory Notes

- 1. But what really is the "Old Man?"
 - (a) The "old man" refers to what a man is before he accepts Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.
 - (b) It is the very nature of man, the corruptible seed which is passed on from generation to generation and leads to death (Rom. 5:12) or separation from God and eternal damnation.
 - (c) The "old man" is what is called the nature of Adam
 - (d) The "old man" is also referred to as "the natural man" (1 Cor. 2:14)

1 Cor. 2:14 (KJV)

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discern."

- (1) The truth is many of us still do not understand the disastrous effects of The Fall (Gen. 3). Think of all that he was, what he enjoyed, who he was, etc. before he fell by transgression and which continues to all succeeding generations.
 - The natural man is also referred to as the "animal man".
 - Do not forget that God's wrath fell on Nebuchadnezzar and he lived among the beast and was like the beast of the field (Dan. 3, NB vv. 28-32).
 - The Prodigal Boy (Son), lived among and ate like pigs that he fed (Luke 15:11-32, NB vv. 14-16).
 - Sin, beloved, is man's greatest enemy, the foulest monster ever to enter the universe. It drags you down to the lowest standard of living and derogatory lifestyle.
- (2) There are many things in this universe (1 Cor. 2:14) that can be learnt about the natural man; of which some are:
 - The natural man may be learned, gentle, eloquent, fascinating, but the spiritual content of Scripture is absolutely hidden from him, and as a result he relies on human reasoning or emotions.

• The natural, or unspiritual, man/woman (1 Cor. 2:14) identifies the unregenerate person, that is, one govern by mere natural instinct (2 Peter 2:12)

2 Peter 2:12 (NJKV)

"But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption."

- Note the following also in reference to the natural man
 - > This kind of person does not have the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:9).
 - > This person is under Satan's dominion (Acts 26:18).
 - > This person is enslaved to the body and its passions (Eph. 2:3).
 - He or she belongs to the world, lives in sympathy with the world (James 4:4).
 - > This person rejects the ways of the Spirit (1 Cor. 2:14)
- 2. In addition to the above, note also: the natural man is man under the power of corruption, and have not been illuminated by the Spirit of God.
 - (a) In the Book of Jude, they are seen as natural, sensual, not having the Spirit (Jude 19)

Jude 19 (Amplified Bible

"It is these who are [agitators] setting up distinctions and causing divisions – merely sensual [creatures, carnal, worldly-minded people], devoid of the [Holy] Spirit and destitute of any higher spiritual life."

- (b) The understanding through the corruption of nature by the fall and through the confirmation of disorder by customary sin, is utterly unable to receive the rays of divine light.
- (c) The natural man is prejudiced against divine light.
- (d) The truths of God are foolishness to such a mind.
- (e) The natural man sees truths of God as trifling and impertinent things, not worth his minding.
- (f) The light shined in the darkness and the darkness comprehended it not (John 1:5).
- (g) The natural man is destitute of the Spirit of God and cannot know the things of God, because they are spiritually discerned but he may have some understanding as relates to general knowledge in interpreting the Bible yet remaining ignorant of the truths of God.

B. Three things are taught about the "old man" in Scriptures

- 1. First, the believer's old man has already been put to death.
 - (a) It was crucified with Christ Rom. 6:6 (KJV)

""Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that we should not serve sin." (See also 2 Cor. 2:4-11; Gal. 2:20; Col. 2:20; 2 Tim. 2:11).

- (b) When the believer received Christ, God began immediately to count him buried with Christ and united with Him in the very likeness of His death.
 - (1) This is the meaning symbolized in baptism . . . death to the old man; resurrection of a new man.
 - (2) The principles, habits and dispositions of the soul must be changed, before there can be a saving change of life.
- 2. Second, the seed of the old man has been put off from the believer.

(a) Col. 3:9 (KJV)

- "Lie not to one another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds."
- (1) Since you have **put off the old man** the sinful character and pattern of life when you died with Christ
 - See Col. 3:5 for a listing of five sins: " sexual vice, impurity, sensual appetites, unholy desires, and all greed and covetousness ..." (Amplified Bible)
 - See Col. 3:8 for another listing: Amplified Bible: "But now put away and rid yourselves [completely of all these things: anger, rage, bad feeling toward others, curse and slander, and foulmouthed abuse and shameful utterance from your lips!"
- (2) The old man must be removed or taken out of position and renounce or given up, abandon.
- (3) No more chains! No more bondage! I am free!
- (b) I am liberated! Set free by the precious blood of Jesus Christ; the old life is now in the past.

1 Peter 4:3 (NKJV)

"For we have spent enough **of our past lifetime** in doing the will of the Gentiles—**when we walked** in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries."

- 3. Third, in Eph. 4:20-24, the believer himself is exhorted to <u>put off the old man</u>; he is told to exercise his own will in putting off the old man.
 - (a) There are far too many who make no effort in giving up their past. God is the only one who can change us for better but we have our part to do; we must walk in obedience to the Word of God, here we are challenged to "put off the old man".
 - (b) We "put off" **by realizing and acting** upon three truths (*note also information shared above as well as hereafter*).
 - (1) First: The old man, from God's perspective is counted as dead.
 - Therefore, the believer counts his old man being dead.
 - Rom. 6:11 (Amplified Bible)

"Even so consider yourselves also dead to sin and your relation to it broken, but alive to God [living in unbroken fellowship with Him] in Christ Jesus."

(2) Second: The old man is recognized as very much alive.

Remember, we are saved from (delivered from) the compulsion of sin but the possibility of sinning is still a possibility.

- The old man is tempted, tested and tried by the tempter.
- The old man is tempted to look, taste, feel, etc. This is done with Satan's goal to lead into sin.
- The believer's duty is to resist (1 Peter 5:8, 9); the believer MUST refuse to participate in sin . . . note two things:
 - First: With a made up mind, he has decided to be led of the Holy Spirit and not the desires of the flesh (se Rom. 8:1; etc.)
 - Second: He has put off the old man as he walks day by day in the light of God's Word (Psa. 119:9-11; etc.) Note also Rom. 6:12-13.
 Rom. 6:12-13 (KJV)

"Let not sin therefore, reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto God."

- (3) Third: The old man (including all creation) is seen aging and dying day by day.
 - The believer realizes that this world and all that is within it, including the old, is in a constant dying process.
 - The believer knows that the old man and the sinful desires, will deteriorate, disturbs and will be destroyed.
 - Carnal desires eat away at life and the balance of things until all things becomes nothing but decayed matter.
 - Indeed, the things seen are temporal . . . vanity of vanities said King Solomon and spoken by experience which was realized the hard way.
 - Therefore, the believer puts off the old man and puts on the new man, by faith in the love of God.
 - When man bases his faith in Jesus Christ and the love of God, God makes him (the new believer) a brand new man, endowing upon him, life eternal and citizenship of the new heavens and earth.
 - Rom. 6:6 Amplified Bible

"We know that our old (unrenewed) self was nailed to the cross with Him in order that [our] body [which is the instrument] of sin might be made ineffective and inactive for evil, that we might no longer be slaves of sin."

• See also Eph. 4:22; 1 Peter 4: 3; 2 Peter 1:9

Renew Eph. 4:23

A. Introductory Notes

- 1. Now that the "old man" has been "Removed/Renounced" (or Put Off) there must be a "Renewal" or be "Renewed in the spirit of his mind" (Eph. 4:23).
- 2. The believer's mind is to be renewed which means (a) to be made new (b) readjusted (c) changed (d) turned around or (e) regenerated.
- 3. I am not a genius in the computer world (in fact I have much limitations) but this renewal of the mind is like removing all virus, etc. from your computer, and have it tuned up for efficiency.
- 4. Beloved, this is worth repeating over and over: God still desires holiness of life for His people.
- 5. Remember these statements, quoted before and will be repeated throughout this study:
 - (a) "Our efforts at effective service/ministry are powerless and useless when coming from an unclean vessel."
 - (b) "The fulfillment of our divine purpose demands holiness of life."
 - (c) "There must be a desire for holiness, such desire is essential to deny worldly passions and live self-controlled, upright and godly lives."

Rom. 12:2 (Amplified Bible)

"Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]."

Eph. 4:23 Amplified Bible

"And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude."

B. The mind of the unregenerate man has been adversely affected by sin.

- 1. This renewal of the mind is desperately needed!
- 2. The mind is basically worldly ... that is:
 - (a) Selfish, self-centered, self-seeking.
 - (b) Centered on the world.
 - (c) Centered on the flesh and it's lusts
 - (d) Centered on the things of this life, the things that are seen. As I have stated elsewhere, this means to be forcefully driven by the need for sensual pleasure, the deep seated crave the push for "instant gratification" and at any cost, even if it damns the soul.
- Scripture is clear about the corruption of man's mind.
 The human mind has been tragically corrupted by man's selfishness and sin.
 Man's mind:

- (a) Has become vain, empty and futile in its imagination (Rom. 1:21).
- (b) Has become reprobate (Rom. 1:28).
- (c) Has become carnal and full of enmity against God (Rom. 8:7)
- (d) Has become blinded by Satan lest it (the mind) believes the glorious gospel of Christ (2 Cor. 4:4).
- (e) Has become full of vanity, futility, emptiness, etc. (Eph. 4:17).
- (f) Has become focused upon earthly things (Phil. 3:18-19).
- (g) Has become alienated from God and an enemy of God (Col. 1:21).
- (h) Has become fleshly (Col. 2:18; Titus 1:15).

C. The mind is to be renewed by the presence of Christ in the life of the believer.

- 1. When a person receives the Lord Jesus Christ as his Lord, the man is spiritually:
 - (a) Born again (John 3:3-8; 1 Peter 1:23)
 - (b) Made into a new man (Eph. 4:24; 2 Cor. 5:17)
 - (c) Made into a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17)
 - (d) Given the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16)
- 2. What really is the renewing of the mind?

This most wonderful truth is easily seen

- (a) When a person receives Jesus Christ into his life, he receives the mind of Christ as well.
- (b) <u>Christ places His mind in the believer's mind: that is changes the believer's</u> <u>mind to focus upon God.</u>
- (c) <u>Whereas the believer's mind used to be centered upon the world, it is now</u> <u>centered upon spiritual matters.</u>
- (d) The believer's mind is renewed, changed, turned around and regenerated.
- (e) However, it is critical to remember that ONLY CHRIST can renew the human mind!!
 - (1) Only Christ can implant the mind of Christ within the person.
 - (2) Only Christ can give a person His thoughts and the spirit to live out His thoughts.

D. The believer is to live a transformed life!!

- 1. He is to walk day by day renewing his mind more and more.
- 2. He is to allow the Spirit of Christ (the Holy Spirit) to focus his mind more and more upon God and spiritual things.
- 3. In regards to the believer's mind, note the following:
 - (a) The believer is to love the Lord with all his mind, etc. (Matt. 22:37; Mark 12:29-31).
 - (b) The believer is to keep his mind upon spiritual things, not carnal things (Rom. 8:5-6)
 - (c) The believer is to cast down imaginations and every though that interrupts his knowledge of God and to capture every though for Christ (2 Cor. 10:3-5)
 - (d) The believer is not o to allow his mind to become corrupt (2 Cor. 11:3)

- (e) The believer is not to fulfill the desires of the flesh and mind (Eph. 2:3)
- (f) The believer is not to walk as the world walks in the vanity of their mind (the world) (Eph. 4:17)
- (g) The believer is to be renewed in the spirit of his mind (Eph. 4:2)
- (h) The believer is to let the mind of Christ be in him by walking humbly before God and men (Phil. 2:5; 1 Cor. 2:16; 1 Peter 4:1)
- (i) The believer is to think only upon the things of praise and virtue (Phil. 4:8)
- (j) The believer is to live by the laws of God which God puts into his mind (Heb. 8:10
- (k) The believer is to arm himself with the same mind as Christ in bearing suffering (1 Peter 4:1)

Replace

Eph. 4:24

KJV: "... and that you put on the new man, which was created after God in righteousness and true holiness

NKJV: "... and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."

A. The New Man

- The call, challenge (or however you may term it) is an emphasis on the need to replace (<u>replace: to put back in a proper place or former place</u>) the "old man" is to be replace with the "new man". Remember, salvation from sin restores the moral image of God ... replacing that which was lost because of The Fall.
 - (a) <u>The new man refers to "regenerated" or "renewed" or "born again".</u> (If you need to review the brief definitions for these and others, go back to Chapter 1 Lesson 3.
 - (1) "Regeneration" is another term used for the "new birth" or "born again", etc.
 - (2) "Regeneration is a recreation of spiritual life in the heart (Rom. 12:2; Eph. 4:23-24)
 - (b) The new man is not a makeover; it is not a refurbishing, etc. but a new man created by Jesus Christ.
 - (1) Christ has given a holy nature and an incorruptible life.
 - (2) This holy nature is opposed to the old man with a corruptible nature.
 - (3) The new man is one who is:
 - In fellowship with God
 - Obedient to God's will
 - Devoted to God's service
- 2. Two Greek words translated by the English "<u>new</u>"
 - (a) "Noes": refers to something new, just been made but many others existing like it.
 - (b) *"Kanios":* refers to something new and there is nothing like or in existence like it.
 - (c) *"Kanios" is the word used in Eph. 4:24.*

- (1) Jesus Christ makes a new man entirely; a creation unlike any other creation existing.
- (2) The Gentile believer is not made into a Jew, neither a Jew made into a Gentile (Gal. 6:15).
- (3) <u>Each person</u>, through the Lord Jesus Christ is made into a <u>new kind of</u> <u>person – a new man in God.</u>
 - Everyone can begin life all over again
 - Everyone can have a new beginning
 - Everyone can have a new life by coming to Jesus Christ
- 3. Created in righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:24)
 - (a) Simultaneous with the stripping off of the **"old man"** is the putting on of the **"new man"**, which is created in righteousness and true holiness.
 - (1) It is not good enough to shake off corrupt principles but we must be actuated *(actuate: put into action)* by gracious ones.
 - (2) We must put on the new nature, head in the new direction, and have the new way of thinking that the Holy Spirit gives.
 - (3) We must embrace them, let them become an intimate part of us, get them written on our hearts: it is not good enough to cease to do evil, but we must learn to do well.
 - (4) We must not only get the house clean but have it FULLY OCCUPIED with the presence of God and His righteousness or be re-occupied with even more evil (Matt. 12:38-45, NB vv. 43& 44)

(b) Putting on the new man

Eph. 4:24

KJV: "And that ye put on the new man which after God . . . "

Amplified Bible: "And put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image ..."

(1) Let's return to verse 23 (Eph 4) (briefly)

"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind ..."

- The challenge is to use the proper and prescribed means in order to have the mind, which is a spirit, renewed more and more.
- The "spirit of your mind" is the very ground of your character.
- The human spirit is to be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- (2) By the "new man" is meant the "new nature", the new creature: ...
 - ... which is actuated by a new principle even regenerating grace
 - ... thus enabling man to lead a new life, that life of righteousness and true holiness which Christianity requires!!
 - The old man was in a state of turmoil, confusion, emptiness, hopelessness, and in darkness, but by God's almighty power the new man was created!!.

(c) " ... which is created after God ..."

Eph. 4:24 (KJV)

"And that ye put on the new man, which **after God** is created in righteousness and true holiness."

- (1) "After God' in imitation of Him!! (See Eph. 5:1-7), this creation is in conformity to God's grand example and pattern.
- (2) The phase "after God" is explained by Paul in Colossians where he speaks of the **new man** being renewed **after the image of God (Col.3:10).**
 - Gen. 1:26-28, speaks of man made in the image and likeness of God.
 - See the first point of Lesson 3 (this chapter): Created in the Image of God."
 - Several things are applicable in reference to man created in the "image and likeness of God of which one is: a moral being bearing God's likeness.
 - Sin robbed man of that moral likeness but: "Salvation restores the moral image of God and opens the door to God's work of sanctification and growth in holiness."
 - The "new man" (Col. 3:10) this was briefly noted above.
 - The "new man" is the "new creature" in Christ Jesus (John :3; 2 Cor. 5:17)
 - > It is the **renewed** self, the regenerated sanctified self.
 - It is the regenerate man as distinguished from the old man (Rom. 6) and is a new man as having become partaker of divine nature and life (2 Peter 1:4; Col. 3:3, 4).
 - This new man is not the old man made over, or improved (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15; Eph. 2:10; Col. 3:10).
 - The new man is Christ, "formed" in the believer (Gal. 2;20; 4:19; Col. 1:27; 1 John 4:27)
 - 2 Peter 1:4 Amplified Bible

"By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature."

B. "Created in Righteousness and True Holiness" (repeated for emphasis)

- 1. These are complementary qualities of the Spirit and the products of God operating in the heart.
- 2. Righteousness expresses the right conduct of the Christian distinctively in its bearing on his fellow men.
 - (a) Loving without dissimulation (hypocrisy)
 - (b) Follow peace with all men
 - (c) Loving our neighbors as ourselves
 - (d) Etc.
- 3. Holiness, conduct distinctly in relation to God

- (a) Signifying a sincere obedience to the commands of God
- (b) Committed to His **perfect will** at any cost.
- (c) This is true holiness in opposition to the ceremonial holiness of the Jews.
- (d) This is an exhortation to purity and holiness of life.
- 4. How is this righteousness and holiness possible?
 - (a) As we discussed in Chapter 1, only God can make anyone holy as we consecrate ourselves to Him.
 - (b) We are in the Potter's hand, allow Him to break, melt, mold and fill to His honor and His glory!!
- 5. This has been repeated several times that this experience begins with salvation from sin, when a person believes and commits himself wholly to the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior!!!
 - (a) We also discussed before that believing in Jesus Christ is more, much more than mental ascent. It means a person **wholly** entrusts his life, his all into the hands of Jesus Christ and subjects himself to His direction and He (Christ) has His own way in his life!!!
 - (b) God creates the spirit of the person in righteousness and true holiness.
- 6. God quickens the spirit that was dead in trespasses and sin.
 - (a) He actually places His divine nature into the heart of the believer.
 - (b) It is God changing the ordinary into the extra-ordinary, the common to something special with His divine power and His abiding presence.
 - (c) The outcome of such creation ... In righteousness and true holiness <u>... is that</u> <u>the person stands before God in righteousness and holiness of Jesus Christ!!</u>
- 7. THIS IS A NEW CATION UNLIKE ANY OTHE CEATION EXISTING!!
 - (a) <u>"I am a New Creation"</u>
 - I am a new creation I'm a brand new man Old things are passed away I'm born again More than a conqueror That's who I am I'm a new creation I am a brand new man.

(b) God's promises to make anew!!

(1) Ezek. 11:19 (KJV)

"And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them and heart of flesh."

(2) Ezek. 36:26 (KJV)

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you and heart of flesh."

(3) Gal. 6:15 (Amplified Bible)

"For neither is circumcision [now] of any importance, nor uncircumcision, but [only] a new creation [the result of a new birth and a new nature in Christ Jesus, the Messiah]."

(4) See also 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 2:15; 4:24.

2 Tim. 2:15

KJV:

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Amplified Bible:

"Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth."

Eph. 4:17-24 NIV

Vv. 17-19

"So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you might no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

Vv. 20-24

That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 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; to be made new in attitude of your minds; **and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**"

Beloved, here is a summary of the appeal in this passage. (In particular Vv. 20-32) *In fact I encourage you to read the chapter and also note carefully Vv. 17-32.*

We who know Christ, cannot live as though we did not. **To know Him means we have put off** the old sinful life (v. 22) and put on the new life of <u>true righteousness and holiness</u> (v. 24). Thus we must live a new life (Vv. 24-32).

Contrary to what many are saying the doctrine of holiness is not manmade doctrine, it is not an extremist point of view, it is not to condemn nor criticize anyone, etc. It is the standard of living required by God without which no man shall see Him and it is an assurance of the presence, purity and power of God being manifested among His people!!

Chapter 2 Lesson 4 Review Questions

- 1. In Lessons 1 and 2 (this chapter), we discussed three main pointers, list all three.
- 2. What outstanding factors are noted in James 1:13-15 in regards to the source of sin and its result (List with corresponding verses)?

Complete the following:		
If we take (a)	away from the (b)	
If we take (a) we are leaving them I (c)	away from the (b) (d)	
If we take (a) we are leaving them I (c)	away from the (b) (d)	
If we take (a) we are leaving them I (c) Complete the following:	away from the (b) (d)	
Complete the following:	away from the (b) (d) is a (b)	
	Complete the following:	

- from the world, and does not (e) ______ sin.
- 5. What does it mean to be "clothed in Christ's righteousness"?
- 6. What definition was use to describe "Church" in lesson 4?

7. The believer is not to walk as the unregenerate man walks and lives. We listed five reasons for this distinction in lifestyle as stated in Scriptures, list four with references.

8.	Define "old man" as used in Eph. 4:22.
0	Complete the following:
9.	The (a) or unscriptural, man/woman (1 Cor. 2:14) (b)
	the unregenerate (c),
	That is, one (d) by mere natural (e)
10.	List four things, noted in Scripture, referring to the "natural man"; give reference for each (discussed in our lesson).

LIVING WATER STUDIES

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	Complete the following:
ר (he mind of the (a) man has been (b) c) by (d)
. E	ight Scriptural pointers were listed in regards to the corruption of the unregenerate nind; list four of these with references.
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_	
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. ŀ	low is the mind renewed in the life of the believer?
_	
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_	
、	What is really meant by "the renewing of the mind"?
. \	that is really meant by the renewing of the mind :
_	
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LIVING WATER STUDIES		
16. Ho	v does a believer practically lives a transformed life?	
17. List	some qualities that distinguish the "new man" (Eph. 4:24).	
It is	nplete the following: not good (a) to (b) principles but we must be (d)	_off
	e) ones.	
19. Wł	at is meant by "the new man" (Eph. 4:24)/	
	noted that "righteousness" and "holiness" are complimentary qualities of the Sp od operating in the hart. Briefly explain the distinction between these two quali	