

Epic Significance  
Ephesians 4:1-24  
October 22, 2013

- I. Turning Point
  - A. First Three Chapters
    - 1. Primarily \_\_\_\_\_
    - 2. Beginning in chapter four
      - a. Such blessings demand a \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. Last Three Chapters
    - 1. Primarily \_\_\_\_\_
    - 2. Throughout Scripture
      - a. \_\_\_\_\_ is a response to the gracious acts of God
      - b. \_\_\_\_\_ acts...\_\_\_\_\_ respond
  - C. Chapter Four
    - 1. The word picture of \_\_\_\_\_ (*peripateo*)
    - 2. Walking implies a pattern of behavior
- II. A Life Worthy of the Call – Ephesians 4:1-3
  - A. Prisoner of the Lord
    - 1. Paul strengthens his appeal
  - B. Summary Statement – Vs. 1
    - 1. Calling
    - 2. This is the only true \_\_\_\_\_ in the passage
  - C. The Worthy Life Described – Vv. 2-3
    - 1. Prepositional phrases and participles
    - 2. This is what the \_\_\_\_\_ worthy of the calling looks like
    - 3. These are qualities that war against our \_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_
  - D. Humility
    - 1. Lowliness of \_\_\_\_\_

E. Gentleness

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ of others
2. A willingness to \_\_\_\_\_ our rights
3. It is not \_\_\_\_\_

F. Patience

1. From its etymology – “to have a wide and big \_\_\_\_\_”

G. Bearing With One Another

1. Perhaps a better translation: “\_\_\_\_\_ up with each other in love”

H. Make Every Effort

1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ for peace with others
2. Paul is telling us to \_\_\_\_\_ unity

I. Living in Community

1. These are character qualities that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ community
2. It requires that we focus on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Rather than \_\_\_\_\_
3. It requires that we not be dictated by our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

III. Creed – Vv. 4-6

A. A Reason for Maintaining Unity

1. Everything they hold of any \_\_\_\_\_ they hold with other \_\_\_\_\_
2. They are \_\_\_\_\_ in these theological truths
3. One baptism?

IV. Receiving Grace – Vv. 7-16

A. Diversity Within Unity

1. Paul has emphasized our unity in Christ
  - a. But unity does not mean \_\_\_\_\_
2. We have been created as unique beings with specific \_\_\_\_\_ to use for God’s \_\_\_\_\_

B. Unexpected Grace

1. Grace here means \_\_\_\_\_ given to us to be used for God’s glory

2. "As Christ apportioned it"

C. Quotation – Psalm 68:18

1. Paul is using scriptural support to show that the \_\_\_\_\_ Christ gives these gifts of ministry to his people

2. Descent

3. Summing all things up in Christ

V. The Purpose of Gifts – Vv. 11-16

A. The Gifts

1. Here the gifts are more than just spiritual gifts

a. They are \_\_\_\_\_ which Christ gives to the church

B. The Purpose

1. So that they might \_\_\_\_\_ the church and \_\_\_\_\_ its members for service

C. The Result

1. Unity...again

a. Unity is \_\_\_\_\_

b. At the same time, unity is something that must be \_\_\_\_\_

2. Knowing \_\_\_\_\_

3. Maturity

D. The Purpose of Maturity – Vv. 14-16

1. We will know the \_\_\_\_\_

2. We will \_\_\_\_\_ the truth in love

3. We will grow up into \_\_\_\_\_

- E. Growth Together
  - 1. We grow as part of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. Supporting ligaments

VI. APPLICATION: Hearing Truth Spoken in Love  
A. An Exhortation

VII. The Old Life of Futility – Vv. 17-19

A. "Insist on it in the Lord"

- 1. Paul is giving the full weight of his \_\_\_\_\_

B. Live/Walk

- 1. Do not walk as the \_\_\_\_\_ walk
- 2. Gentiles

C. Formerly/Now Statement

- 1. Formerly: You once \_\_\_\_\_ as the Gentiles \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Now: You can no \_\_\_\_\_ do that

D. Distortion of the Mind

- 1. The particular \_\_\_\_\_ are not the focus
- 2. Notice these statements
  - a. Futility of their thinking
  - b. Darkened in their understanding
  - c. Ignorance that is in them
  - d. Hardening of their hearts
  - e. Deceitful desires
- 3. God is not \_\_\_\_\_ people who might otherwise follow him
- 4. Therefore

5. To sum up

- a. "...hearts made insensitive to God have set off a chain reaction that turned out the light and led to meaninglessness." (Snodgrass)

E. Callousness (lost all sensitivity)

1. Leads to all kinds of \_\_\_\_\_
2. The emphasis here is on \_\_\_\_\_ sin

F. Prevalent in our Culture

VIII. Learning the Messiah – Vv. 20-24

A. A Strong Contrast

1. The problem: a \_\_\_\_\_ mind
2. The solution: a \_\_\_\_\_ mind

B. Three Images

1. Learn Christ
  
2. Taking off the old self
  
3. Made new in the attitude of your minds
  
4. Put on the new self

IX. Conclusion: Walking in Our Calling

A. Do Not Live as the Americans Do

1. The state of our culture
  
2. The entertainment industry
  
3. The desire for more
  
4. Our culture is very seductive

B. The Response

1. It's not enough to just turn of the TV

2. Driven by desire

3. Putting on the new woman