

# Sunday, November 9, 2025

*1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”*

**Title:** Take Off the Old

**Series:** Spiritual Warfare...6

**Text:** Ephesians 4:1 - 5:2

**Purpose:** I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to examine THEIR own life and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to them about an aspect(s) of the old nature that HE would have them discard.

## Introduction:

- ~ Short review of ‘You Were Bought with a Price.’
- ~ Introduction, 1 Corinthians 6:19 – 20; ~ 1. The Strategy of Possession; ~ 2. The Strategy of Depression; ~ 3. Strategy of Oppression; ~ 4. Strategy of Rebellion
- ~ Major instruction to the Believer on Spiritual Warfare is found in Ephesians 6
- ~ There are vital instructions in Ephesians 4 and 5 that prepare the Believer for the Holy Spirit instruction in Ephesians 6.
- ~ Most Bible scholars divide Ephesians into two major groups: chapters 1 – 3 as ‘Doctrine;’ and chapters 4 – 6 as ‘Duty.’
- ~ Ephesians 4:1 – 5:3
- ~ 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,”
- ~ 5:1, “Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.”
- ~ The light snow is a reminder that if we are going to have a safe journey the old, out of season tires, need to come off and snows put on. If I am going to journey well with Christ Jesus and His saints, I need to put off the former man and put on the new man.

## 1. Overview:

- ~ vs. 1 – 6, Unity in the body of Christ Jesus
- ~ vs. 7 – 11, Christ Jesus’ gifts to the saints
- ~ vs. 12 – 16, the purpose of Christ Jesus’ gifts
- ~ vs. 17 – 19, no longer walk as the Gentiles
- ~ vs. 20 – 22, put off the old self, which belongs to your former manner of life
- ~ vs. 23 – 24, put on the new self
- ~ vs. 25 – 31, specific instruction from the Holy Spirit
- ~ vs. 32 – 5:2, Christ Jesus our model

## 2. Off With the Old:

- ~ vs. 17 – 22, please permit me to share a few of the portions that spoke to me:
- ~ vs. 17, “in the futility of their minds” - “what is devoid of truth and appropriateness; perverseness, depravity; frailty, want of vigor”
- ~ vs. 18, “due to their hardness of heart.” – compare with Matthew 13:15 and contrast with Philippians 2:1 – 8
- ~ vs. 19, “The have become callous” - this is the only use of this Greek word in the Scriptures, and means: to cease to feel pain or grief; cease to bear troubles with greater equanimity, cease to feel pain at; to become callous, insensible to pain, apathetic
- ~ vs. 22, THIS IS A COMMAND – “*to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,*”

## 3. On With the New:

- ~ vs. 23 – 32, again some highlights that I took note of and their application to me:
- ~ vs. 23, “*and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,*” Compare with Romans 12:1 – 2 and 2 Corinthians 10:4 – 6,
- ~ “*For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. (5) We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, (being ready to punish every disobedience when your obedience is complete.*”
- ~ vs. 24, “*and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*”
- ~ vs. 25, “*let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.*”
- ~ vs. 26, “*Be angry and do not sin,*”
- ~ vs. 27, “*give no opportunity to the devil.*”
- ~ vs. 28, “*doing honest work...that he may have something to share with anyone in need.*”
- ~ vs. 29, “*give grace to those who hear.*”
- ~ vs. 30, “*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*”
- ~ vs. 31, here is a huge put OFF!
- ~ vs. 32, “*forgive one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*”

## Conclusion:

~ Ephesians 5:1 – 2, “*Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. (2) And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*”

**Hymn – Just a Closer Walk With Thee.**