

## Before and After

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March 17, 2024  
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### INTRODUCTION

1. Text Ephesians 4:22-32; Luke 8:26-40 (before and after)
2. Most of the time preachers tell folks that they need to put on more clothes.
3. This figure of taking off clothes is used to make a point to the people of Ephesus.
4. The principles, habits, and dispositions of the soul must be changed before there can be a saving change of the life.
5. Today we want to notices the contrast between how we used to be and how we are to be.

### II Discussion.

#### A. Old Man

1. Romans 6:1-6 Tells us of the old and new man.
2. The old man is laid in the grave and we are to be new creatures II

#### Corinthians 5:17

3. This is the new birth of John 3:7.

#### B. Talk

1. Lying. Revelation 21:8
  - a. We can lie in several ways; by not saying anything, by saying half-truths, and by out and out lying.
  - b. It all comes from the devil. John 8:44
2. Truth
  - a. The truth will make us free. John 8:32
  - b. The truth needs to be taught in love. Ephesians 4:15
  - c. The truth needs to be preached. John 17:17; 2 Timothy 4:2
3. It is never right to tell a lie.
4. Kinds of talk
  1. Evil communication. James 3:10
  2. We will be judged by what we say. Matthew 12:34-37
  3. Edifying. Colossians 4:6

#### C. Anger

1. This means that which points especially to that which provokes the wrath. It is harbored, abiding.
2. Our Lord was angry but did not sin. Mark 3:5 I Peter 2:22-23
3. Sin not - what happens when we are angry? We say and do things we normally wouldn't and we later regret it.

#### D. Stealing - Working

1. Stealing
  - a. Idle mind is the devil's workshop. Stealing is the effects of idleness. Don't sponge but spend.

2. Work has always been right.
  - a. 1 Timothy 5:8; 2 Thessalonians 3:10
3. This passage tells us why we are to work.

E. Dispositions towards others

1. Bitterness a condition of extreme wickedness
2. Wrath - anger smoldering bitterness, kindled into flames
3. Clamour - Controversy Loud threatening
4. Evil speaking - abuse insults
5. Malice all of the above are various exhibitions of malice. badness in

general

6. Kind - serviceable, good, pleasant, gracious.
7. Tender hearted - compassionate
8. Forgiving. Matthew 6:14-15; 18:21-22

III Conclusion

1. We need to take those old things off when we become new creatures.
2. We need to leave them off.
3. Have you been a new creature?

Source: 1987 sermon