

Repeated Words, Themes, and Ideas

1. Jesus Christ, Paul, the Lord's prisoner, urges the Ephesians to walk worthy of their calling, 4:1. There is only one Lord Jesus Christ, 4:5. We each got a spiritual gift according to how many gifts Christ thought were needed, 4:7. Jesus descended from heaven, defeated Satan, took his captives away, gave gifts to them, then ascended back up to heaven as the Sovereign who fills all things, 4:8-10. Jesus gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors, and some teachers, 4:11. The ultimate reason why Jesus gave spiritually gifted individuals to the Church is to edify His Body, 4:12. The ultimate reason why Jesus wants to edify His Body is so that we would all be exactly like Him, perfect in every way and unable to be deceived by Satan's ways, 4:12-16. Paul testifies in the Lord that the Ephesians should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, 4:17. The Ephesians have not learned Christ this way, i.e., life in Christ is not to be lived according to Satan's deceptions which leave you blind and immersed in sin, 4:17-20. The Ephesians have heard and been taught by Jesus according to His truth which is in Him, 4:21. The Ephesians must forgive each other as God in Christ forgave them, 4:32 (other places this appears: 1:1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11-12, 13, 15, 17, 20-21, 22-23; 2:5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19-20, 21, 22; 3:1, 3-4, 6, 8, 9, 9-11, 12, 14, 17, 17-19, 21).
2. Walking in our new life in Christ or our old life, Paul urges the Ephesians to walk worthy of their new life in Christ where there's supposed to be utter selflessness and unity because there is one Body of Christ, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all who is in us all, 4:1-6. The Ephesians must continue to grow in their new life in Christ until they're like Christ in every way so that they will never again return to their old life where they were constantly deceived by Satan's captives, 4:13-14. Instead of Satan's deceptions, the Ephesians must lovingly speak Christ's truth to each other; they must each do their part in order to help each other be like Christ in every way, 4:14-16. The Ephesians must not go back to their old life, living as Gentiles who are alienated from the life of God, deceived by Satan and thus thoroughly engulfed in sin, 4:17-19. Christ taught the Ephesians to live differently; they now have the truth: they've taken off the old, corrupt man who lives by deceitful lusts and have now put on the new man who is righteous and holy, 4:20-24. Since the Ephesians have put off Satan's lie, they must now live in Christ's truth since they are members of the same Body: they can be angry but without sin; they must not hold onto their wrath and give Satan a foothold. If they were thieves before, they must stop and instead earn a living in order to help those in need. Instead of speaking corrupt words to each other, they must speak things that edify and impart grace to those listening. They must not grieve the Holy Spirit who sealed them for the day of redemption. Every bitter, angry, and malicious word must be put away from them. They must instead be kind and forgive each other as God in Christ forgave them, 4:25-32 (other places this appears: 2:10).
3. Calling/Called, Paul urges the Ephesians to walk worthy of their calling, 4:1. The Ephesians were called in one hope, 4:4 (other places this appears: 1:18).
4. Love, The Ephesians must bear with each other in love, 4:2. The Ephesians must speak Christ's truth to each other in love so that they will grow up to be just like Him, 4:15. Every member of the Body of Christ must do their part to cause the growth of the Body in love, 4:16 (other places this appears: 1:4, 15; 2:4-5; 3:17, 18-19).

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5. Unity/Oneness with Christ, The Ephesians must keep their oneness with Christ which the Spirit has given them because there's only one Body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all who is in us all, 4:3-6. The Ephesians ultimate goal is to become just like Christ in every way so that they will no longer be deceived by Satan's ways, thus, they must stick with Christ's truth so that they will think, speak, and act like Him—the one who enables them to help each other be like Him, 4:13-16.
6. Church / Body / New Man, there is only one Body of Christ, 4:4. Jesus gave the various spiritually gifted individuals in order to edify His Body, 4:11-12. The Body of Christ grows because of its connection to its Head, Christ, 4:15-16. The New Man that the Ephesians have already put on was created according to God in true righteousness and holiness, 4:24 (other places this appears: 1:22, 23; 2:4-10, 15, 16, 14-22; 3:6, 10, 14-15, 21).