

The Anatomy of a Church (11)

Pastor Eddie Ildefonso

[Acts 20:28](#)

(Continuation from 02/16/14)

PERSONAL HOLINESS

[1 Peter 1:14 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance,

The lusts that characterized that former life include sinful desires and thoughts, evil longings, uncontrolled appetites, sensual impulses, and all other unrighteous motivations and urges that compel the unregenerate (cf. [1 Corinthians 6:9-11](#); [Galatians 5:19-24](#); [Ephesians 5:3-5](#); [1 Thessalonians 4:4-5](#)).

[1 Corinthians 6:9-11 \(NASB\)](#)

⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

¹⁰ nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

¹¹ Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

[Galatians 5:19-24 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁹ Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

²¹ envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

[Ephesians 5:3-5 \(NASB\)](#)

³ But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

⁴ and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵ For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

1 Thessalonians 4:4-5 (NASB)

⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

⁵ not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

1 Peter 1:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance,

For believers, such former lusts... were theirs in ignorance, before they were saved and when they did not know any better (cf. [Acts 26:18](#); [Ephesians 2:1](#)),

Acts 26:18 (NASB)

¹⁸ to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

Ephesians 2:1 (NASB)

¹ And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,

The same thing could be true of both Gentiles (cf. [Ephesians 4:17-19](#)) and Jews (cf. [Romans 10:2-3](#)).

Ephesians 4:17-19 (NASB)

¹⁷ So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,

¹⁸ being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

¹⁹ and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

Romans 10:2-3 (NASB)

² For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

³ For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Regeneration creates a new life ([2 Corinthians 5:17](#)) that has both the desire and the power to live righteously.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

02-23-14

Series: [The Anatomy of a Church](#)

Paul's inspired words in [Colossians 3:1-10](#) echo Peter's call to holiness:

Colossians 3:1-10 (NASB)

¹ **“Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.**

² **Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.**

³ **For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.**

⁴ **When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.**

⁵ **Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.**

⁶ **For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,**

⁷ **and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.**

⁸ **But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth.**

⁹ **Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices,**

¹⁰ **and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.”**