**Sermon**

**April 24, 2024**

**Ephesians 4:17-32**

**The Prepared Way**

8 ***For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God***, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which **God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them**.

Ephesians 2:8-10

**Even the Body**

5 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: “***Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me***. 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7 Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come—In the volume of the book it is written of Me—**To do Your will, O God**.’”

Hebrews 10:5-7

**Natural Response**

2 ***For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground.* He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.** 3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And **we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.**

Isaiah 53:2-3

**Joseph**

6 ***Thus he left all that he had in Joseph's hand***, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate. ***Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.*** 7 And it came to pass after these things that h**is master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, “Lie with me**.” 8 But he refused and said to his master's wife, “Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. 9… **How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?”**

Genesis 39:6-9

**Your Metamorphose**

1 ***I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service***. 2 And **do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:1-2

**The Christian Walk**

17 ***This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind***, 18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the **blindness (hardness) of their heart**; 19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Ephesians 4:17-19

**Learning with Christ**

20 ***But you have not so learned Christ***, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 **and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,** 24 and **that you put on the new man** which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:20-24

**The Power of Choice**

25 ***Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,”*** for we are members of one another. 26 “**Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath,** 27 **nor give place to the devil**.

Ephesians 4:25-27

**Sensitivity**

30 And ***do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God***, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And **be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.**

Ephesians 4:30-32