

Sermon Notes -- Themes from Ephesians

“Practical Injunctions – Part I” – Ephesians 4:25

I. Introduction

A. Wearing the right clothes.

1. Paul has already said – Ephesians 4:22-26

B. We put off and put on because it's already happened.

1. Colossians 3:9-10.

C. Key Text:

1. Ephesians 4:25
2. We are like Lazarus – brought out of death to life. Old grave clothes exchanged for wedding garments. So why do we still want the corpse wardrobe?

II. Standards of Character conduct.

A. Putting off lying – verse 25

1. Greek is *Pseudos* (the lie).
 - a. Used by John in describing the Antichrist
I John 2:21-23

B. Examples of lying:

1. Tale Bearing
 - a. Proverbs 18:7-8
 - b. What it is _____
2. Slandering
 - a. Psalms 35:11-16
 - b. False Reports
 - c. Thomas Watson

d. Augustine

e. Jerome

3. Silence

- a. A lie not corrected.
- b. Remaining silent often avoids martyrdom but it is what God wants?

4. Fear

- a. Denying having said something for fear of consequences.

5. Exaggeration

- a. Placing ourselves in a better light than the facts support.
- b. Buttering someone up.

6. Lying to God

- a. A sin of the tongue
- b. Annias/Saphria
- c. James 3:6-10; Psalms 141:3

C. Look at Jesus' life.

1. The Pharisees try to catch Him in –
 - a. Luke 11:53-54 – a slip
2. Jesus left the example to follow –
 - a. I Peter 2:21-23

III. Points for Reflection

- A. God is concerned about truth because truthfulness is part of his being.
- B. Our lying is most often the result of trying to protect ourselves from the gaze of others, yet God sees us at all times.
- C. Honesty may be brutal, but lying can never be condoned when we use it to protect ourselves.