

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE
PROGRAM 42 (#912222)
WEEK 9 (912349)
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare**

**TITLE: Program 42 – Know The Enemy And Don’t Give Him A Place
Of Occupation**

TUESDAY

OPEN

If the devil were to stand knocking at your door and you opened it and you saw his suitcase there, would you say to him, “Come on in”? Of course not. Well then why when sin knocks at your door do you open the door and say, “Come on in”? My goodness, don’t you know, my friend, that sin and the devil are hooked at the hip? You don’t want any part of it. We’ll talk about it today.

PART ONE

In the morning I have my quiet time in one of two places. I either have it in the parlor. Now the parlor is a converted carport or I have my quiet time in our kitchen which has a little sitting area and I get on the couch. Now I don’t sit on the couch, you know, like you normally sit on a couch. But I prop my

back up against one side and put my feet up there and pull a blanket over my feet and on the right there's a table with some lamps on it backing up to the couch and I put my coffee and my cereal up there. And that's where I have my quiet time and I love it because there are French doors, I guess you would call it. A door with two windows on each side and I can sit there and I can look out in the backyard and I just have a wonderful view. It's small but it's wonderful. And today I got up from that I went over to the sink and I was making coffee and I was thinking about you. And I was thinking about the high privilege that I have with God to teach you the Word of God, but I thought, God, You have given me one of the highest privileges in the world and that is the honor of opening Your book and taking people through truth, absolute truth, words that are breathed and preserved in a book called the Bible, words that come straight from Your mouth, straight from Your heart. Words that reflect Your character and Your desire for mankind and Your plan and Your enablement and Your promises. Your exhortations and Your reproofs and Your rebukes. And I thought, God, what a high privilege I have of just being able to open the Word and share it with these people. And I want you to know that as I do this program you as an individual are on my heart and I told the staff when I came in this morning, I'm so privileged to be able to work with them because I spend a lot of time by myself because I have so much writing to do. And it's always such a privilege to be with our staff because we have a godly staff. We have people that really love the Word and love the Lord and who walk uprightly and it's such an honor to be with them. And I just want you to know that every program is bathed in prayer and what I do is I ask God to really speak to you. I ask God just to over shadow me and fill me with His Spirit and and and He knows that you're going to be listening. He knows what you need. He knows where you've been. He knows where you're going and He has things that He wants to share with you. Today we're going to see that Satan and sin are hooked at the hip and this is why. He's going to tell us that we are not to walk as the

Gentiles walk in Ephesians chapter 4 but we didn’t learn Christ that way but we’re to walk a different way and this is what we’re going to look at and I just wanta share these truths and I want you to pray that God would just cleanse you as we have prayed for you that God would cleanse you, Precious One, with the washing of the water of His Word. So let’s open our Bibles. Let’s go to Ephesians chapter 4, we have this word of exhortation. Let me read it to you, I want to start with just this statement. Verse 20, “**...You did not learn Christ in this way.**” (Ephesians 4:20) You didn’t learn Christ so that you would continue to walk in your sensual way. Your old man has been put off. Your new man has been put on. You are a new creature in Christ Jesus. Sin has been taken care of. The penalty of sin has been paid. The power of sin has been broken by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and someday because the Holy Spirit is in you you are going to be even absent from the presence of sin when you are absent from this body and you are present with the Lord. And so he says in all of this that you are to [be renewed in your mind.] (4:23) It is so important, Beloved. It is vital for you to be in the Word of God daily. That’s why when I get up in the morning I head toward the parlor or I head toward the kitchen and I open my Bible so that God might speak to me. And then I speak to Him. And so it is a conversation. I read the Word and as I read the Word and I read what He says I’m examining my heart. As I read the Word and I read a prayer, I’m praying for you or I’m praying for my family, for my children, for my grandchildren, for my husband, for our staff, for our Precept leaders all across the United States and all across the world. So I’m praying for you and this is what it’s all about. Now, this is what he says verse 23, “**...That you be renewed in the spirit of your mind.**” (Ephesians 4:23) And I want us to go to Romans chapter 12. And I want us to see something that is very, very important. In Romans chapter 12 he gives us all the truth of the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. He explains how God has saved both Jew and Gentile only by faith. It’s through grace and it’s by faith. It’s appropriated by faith.

He explains the whole gospel and when he brings that to a close in chapter 11, verse thirty-three he says, **“Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! ...Who has known the mind of the Lord, or ... [become] His counselor? Or who has first given to [God] that it might be paid back to him again?” (Romans 11:33-35)** In other words God’s not in your debt. And it says, **“For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever [and ever and ever]....” (Romans 11:36)** This is the one God and Father of all who is in all and who is through all and this is the way he ends with this glorious presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. And then he says, **“Therefore...,”** in the light of all that God has done, **“...I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living ... sacrifice....” (Romans 12:1a)** In other words God wants you to be on the altar. God wants you to give yourself totally, completely, absolutely without reservation, without hesitation to Him. And then he says that you **“...Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” (Romans 12:1b)** This is the way you serve God. This is the way you worship God by putting yourself on the altar. And all of this has to do with sin and the devil but by saying, “God, I am yours. I do not belong to myself. I do not belong to the kingdom of darkness. I belong to You and here I am laying on the altar. I am a living sacrifice.” And then he makes this statement. **“And do not be conformed to this world....” (Romans 12:2a)** That word **“conformed”** means don’t let the world squeeze you into it’s mold. In other words don’t let the mold be set and then you be poured into that. He says, **“...But be ye transformed....,” (Romans 12:2a, KJV)** and the word **“transformed”** there is **“metamorphoo”** and when you think of **“metamorphoo”** you’ve gotta think of a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. The metamorphosis that takes this little creature that crawls around on the ground. I used to collect them when I was a kid up in Michigan. We

had the fuzzy little brown and black ones. They were the cutest little things and I would collect them. They became my pets and I would put them in jars and I would give them greenery and just dress it all up for that little caterpillar. That caterpillar would eventually spin a cocoon and when it struggled out of that cocoon it would no longer be crawling on the ground where it could be stepped on and squashed or taken by a little girl captive and put in a jar. But that now would become a beautiful butterfly that was no longer earthbound that was heaven bound that could soar and and that could see life from a whole different perspective, that beautiful butterfly that was a new creation. You never would have dreamed it could’ve come from that little wiggly worm on the ground but it did. Now how does that happen? How do we change from this caterpillar on the ground to this beautiful butterfly? It’s by not allowing the world to squeeze us it’s into it’s mold because if it does we’re just like all the other caterpillars walking on the ground and able to be trampled on and we’re just like everybody else. But no, God says, “**...Be transformed...**,” “metamorphood,” “**...by...**,” listen carefully, “**...The renewing of your mind...**,” the renewing of your mind, “**...That you [might] prove...**,” that you might put to the test is what the word means, “**...That which is good and acceptable and perfect.**” (Romans 12:2) This is what God wants for you and me. And this is what he’s saying in Ephesians chapter 4 as we look at it “**...That you be renewed in the spirit of your mind.**” (Ephesians 4:23) And as I told you “renewed” there is in the present tense. It’s a present infinitive and it means you keep on being renewed. And that’s what you and I are doing. We’re being renewed together as I have the privilege of teaching you as you have the privilege of studying the Word of God as you and I move through the text and breathe in and surround ourselves with absolute truth. It’s awesome. Well now what about that devil that’s knocking at the door because he’s out there and he’s knocking. We’ll talk about it in just a minute.

PART TWO

We’ve seen that as a new creature in Christ Jesus a person that has put on the new self that it’s so important for us as it says in Ephesians 4 to, “**...Be renewed in the spirit of [our] mind...,**” (Ephesians 4:23) and I want you to know, my friend that if you’re not then you’re not gonna recognize when you’re in trouble. When you’re on the verge of sin you’re not going to recognize when it’s the devil knocking at your door and standing there with his suitcase and wanting to move in. And the reason you’re not going to recognize it is because you’re so entangled with the affairs of this world and you’re so immersed in the way that the culture is living that you forget that there are distinctives in our life. Let’s look at Ephesians chapter 4 now. He says in verse 25, “**Therefore...,**” (Ephesians 4:25a) in the light of the fact that you were not to walk in the futility of your mind like the Gentiles walk, in the light of the fact that you have learned Christ in a different way and you’ve been renewed in the spirit of your mind he says, “**Therefore, laying aside falsehood...,**” he says, “**...speak truth each one of you with his neighbor....**” (Ephesians 4:25a) In other words when you and I communicate with others, we’re to do as it says in verse 15, “**...truth[ing] it in love....**” (Ephesians 4:15a) Falsehood doesn’t belong to us because falsehood belongs to the devil. That’s what you have to remember and if you don’t know this scripture then you need to look at it with me. It’s John chapter 8, verse 44 and it is a very telling scripture. And a very important scripture because it tells us about the enemy and you need to know your enemy. I’m a gal that likes war movies and I like listening to the military channel and so what you see in warfare is that you’ve got to know your enemy. And when you know your enemy then you can plan your strategy, your battle attack better. Well in John chapter 8, verse 44 this is what it says. Jesus turns and He’s speaking to the Pharisees, to the religious leaders that have a religion but not a relationship and He says, “**You are of your father**

the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father....” (John 8:44a)

Because he’s your father, you have the same desires. **“...He was a murderer from the beginning....” (John 8:44b)** He wants to destroy you. So if you open the door and say, “Come on in,” just know that he’s got the gun and it is loaded and it’s packed in the suitcase. **“...And [he] does not stand in the truth because there’s no truth in him....” (John 8:44c)** And because there’s no truth in him then you can’t be like him in any aspect and that’s why he’s saying in Ephesians chapter 4, you’ve got to **“...[lay] aside falsehood....” (Ephesians 4:25a)** You’ve got to, **“...speak truth each one [to] his neighbor, for we are members [one of] another.” (Ephesians 4:25b)** When he’s saying **“...neighbors...”** then and **“...we’re members [one of] another...” (Ephesians 4:25b)** he’s talking about the fact as Christians this is what we are supposed to do and of course we can’t lie to the world either. And it says, John 8:44, **“...Whenever [the devil] speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” (Ephesians 8:44b)** And that’s why you can’t trust him and that’s why you can’t act like him and that’s why you can’t speak falsehood. So I want to ask you a question. How are you doing? Are you speaking truth to one another? Now you truth it in love. I mean you’re not rude, you’re not crude. Your speech is supposed to be with grace, it’s supposed to be seasoned with salt but really, how do you talk to one another? How do you talk to people? What do you say about others? See it’s so important. We’re gonna see this even more as we go on, but then He makes this statement. **“Be angry, and ... [sin not,]...,”** and it says, **“...do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.” (Ephesians 4:26-27)** Now I use the New Inductive Study Bible. I think it’s the best Bible on the market. It doesn’t tell me what to believe but it tells me how to take apart every book in the Bible. It shows me how to mark it. It shows me how to study it. It’s just awesome with all the study helps and when I use this Bible then I have everything right here. I’m ready to go. I’m armed for bear so to speak. Well,

I use this and there's a footnote here. And when you look at the footnote, it says, **"...Do not give the devil an opportunity..." (Ephesians 4:27)** It means a place of occupation. In other words what it's saying is this. Okay, the devil comes. He knocks at the door and he wants to come in. He's got his suitcase and he wants to move in. Even though you're a child of God, he would be happy to live with you. [Because he is a liar, he's a murderer,] (PARAPHRASE, John 8:44b) he's a destroyer, he's a deceiver, [he abides not in the truth] (PARAPHRASE, John 8:44c) and he wants to wreck your life so that you won't be any good for the kingdom of God. So you don't open the door and say, "Come on in. What bedroom would you like?" Because then you're giving him a place. So what is God saying to you and me? He's saying, "Look, be angry but do not sin." Now He's not saying anger is wrong because there is a righteous anger and if you study anger and you go through the Bible and when I wrote the book, "Lord, Heal My Hurts," I did a whole section on anger and a whole section on bitterness because it's absolutely crucial. And you find out the one that gets angry the most is God. And if you never get angry, I wanta know what's wrong with you? I wanta know are you so blaa, are you so placid, are you so wishy-washy that whatever is going on is fine? God doesn't want that. We look at God and there are things that God hates. There are things that make God angry. God is angry when people hurt you. God is angry when people molest you. God is angry when people say things to you that are absolute lies and God knows that behind that person is the devil. That makes God angry. But what God is saying to you is, "Look, it's all right to be angry but you cannot sin." **"Be angry, and [sin not]...." (Ephesians 4:26a)** Now to sin when I'm angry would be that the anger would control me rather than the Spirit of God. Because as we're going to see in Ephesians chapter 5, he's going to say **"...Be filled with the Holy Spirit...." (Ephesians 5:18b)** and **"...The fruit of the Spirit is love, [and] joy, [and] peace, [etc.]" (Galatians 5:22a)** So if I have love and joy and peace I can't let anger control me. So there's a

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righteous indignation. There is the emotion of anger and God does not say, you can't have that emotion. He says that emotion is not to rule you. **“Be angry, and ... [sin not]” (Ephesians 4:26a) “And do not give the devil [a place,] an opportunity.” (Ephesians 4:27)** A place of occupation. What is he saying? He's saying this. When you're not controlled by God's Spirit, when you're controlled by your anger, remember [the enemy is a murderer.] (PARAPHRASE, John 8:44b) Remember that he is out to get you. So when you're controlled by your anger you're a pawn to the devil. We're going to see it in our next program but sin and the devil are hooked at the hip, Beloved, you need to find out whose knocking at your door. And, honey, if it has anything to do with the world, with the sin, with the flesh, you keep it out. Otherwise you're gonna be in trouble.