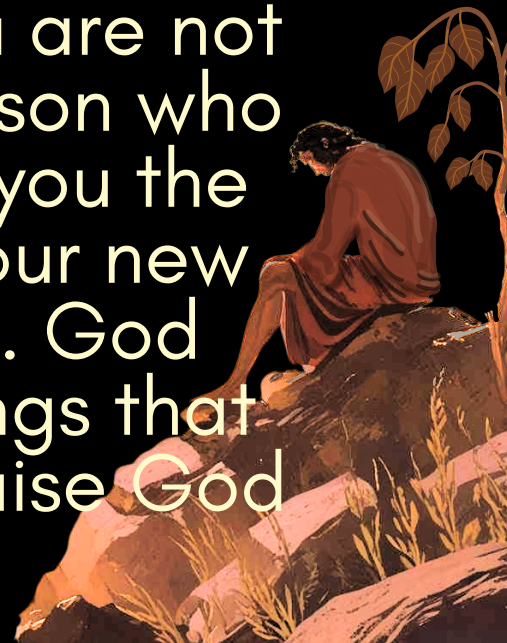


## Ephesians 4:17-24 ESV

17 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. 20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!— 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

God has given you faith and it changes everything about you. You are not blind, living in the dark, with a hardened heart. You are a new person who is growing in righteousness and living in holiness. God has given you the Spirit and He is renewing you daily from your old way of life to your new life, which is the likeness of God. God saved you and saves you. God saved you from death and gave you life. God saves you from things that threaten to destroy you and make you ignorant of God's work. Praise God for saving you!



## Ephesians 2:4–5 ESV

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

There was a time when you were a dead person. You didn't know it then, but when you were given life in Jesus Christ, you realized that you were dead. God's love gave you life! His life-giving work brought you into Christ. This is an incredibly generous gift, given from God's love. This gift shows God's mercy towards His people. God's mercy gave you life rather than wrath. Praise God for saving you!



## 1 Thessalonians 5:5-6 ESV

<sup>5</sup> For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup> So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

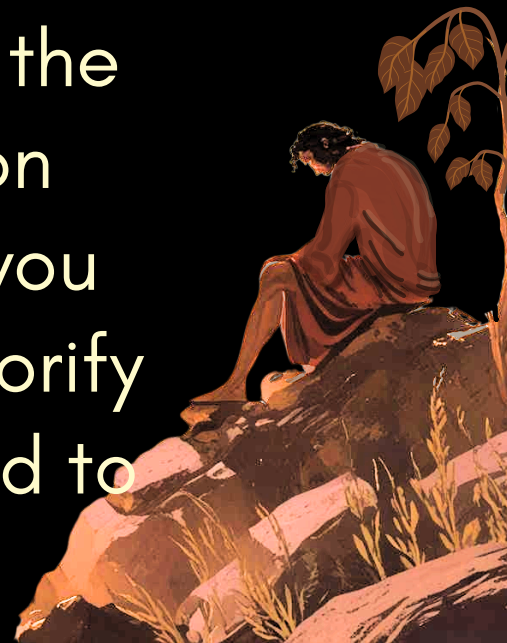
You might be in a season where sin has worked its way back in and is disrupting you in profound ways. It may not cause you to be drowsy, but it is causing you to be spiritual lazy, unable to see what God is doing around you, and indifferent to take action to serve, encourage, fight, care, or respond spiritually. As God's people, Christians are to keep awake spiritually and be sober to respond to the Holy Spirit as He guides them. You are a person of the light and, maybe, you find yourself sleepy and not engage in God's work in you, around you, or through you. Pray and ask God to awaken your heart and mind. What will you do today to wake up? God saves His people from sleeping and living in darkness. You are His and you live in the Light of God!



## Titus 2:11-14 ESV

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,  
12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Works cannot save you, but saved people are equipped to do good works. Grace brought you salvation. Salvation causes you to reject the things of this world and to live more like Christ each day. Salvation causes you to hope for Christ to appear. There is a work to justify you and there is ongoing work to set you apart to do good works and glorify God. This work causes you to passionately desire for good works and to do good works. God saves His people!





## Hebrews 3:12-13 ESV

12 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. 13 But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

The devastation of sin is that it affects our hearts and our minds, then it infects our actions. Realize that any sin that lingers and is not dealt with before God will infect the believer's heart. Take a moment today and be encouraged to ask God to examine your heart, mind, and actions today. As God reveals sin, ask God to remove it and ask Him to forgive you for that sin. Receive His forgiveness and praise His work to save you from the hardening effects of sin. God works to help you abide with Him and love His work. Praise God that He saves His people!

