



Natural vs Supernatural Man

Ephesians 4:17-29 Part 1

Quick Review

KEY POINT:

Without God and the Gospel, there is no hope for true conflict resolution.



Ephesians 2:19-22

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesus

Port City

Gateway to many trade routes in western part of Asia Minor.

Romans called it "the first and greatest metropolis of Asia."

Temple of Diana was here had a 50,000 seat amphitheater

Asiarchs are high-ranking officers of the province of Asia

Diana or Artemis

- Artemis was the Hellenic goddess of the hunt, wild animals, wilderness, childbirth, virginity and protector of young girls





Ephesus

Paul visited at end of 2nd missionary journey briefly

Paul stayed here for 3 years during his 3rd missionary journey

The apostle John, according to tradition, spent many years in Ephesus, where he died and was buried.

One of the 7 churches mentioned in the Book of Revelation

Revelation 2

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.²’ “I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³ I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.

Revelation 2

⁵ Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'

Charles Heck

Thanks to Ignatius of Antioch who was alive for only 32 years, we know what became of the Ephesians church after John condemned them. Polycarp and Ignatius were disciples of the Apostle John, by the way. Ignatius was alive from A.D. 108-140. He was alive within a generation or so of John's words of warning to the church in Ephesus.

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Charles Heck

Did Ephesus recapture its 1st love? You be the judge. Here is what Ignatius said about the Ephesian church: In his letter he praised their love and commended them as a church “characterized by faith and love of Christ Jesus our Savior.”[1] He rejoiced that they “love nothing in human life, only God.”[2] He called their leaders men of inexpressible love.[3] In fact, his conclusion was that the whole church was filled with love.[4]

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Acts 19-20:1



Ephesians 4:17-32



This week

Part 1 vs 17-24

Next week

Part 2 vs 20-32

Ephesians 4:17-24

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.

¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

Ephesians 4:17-24

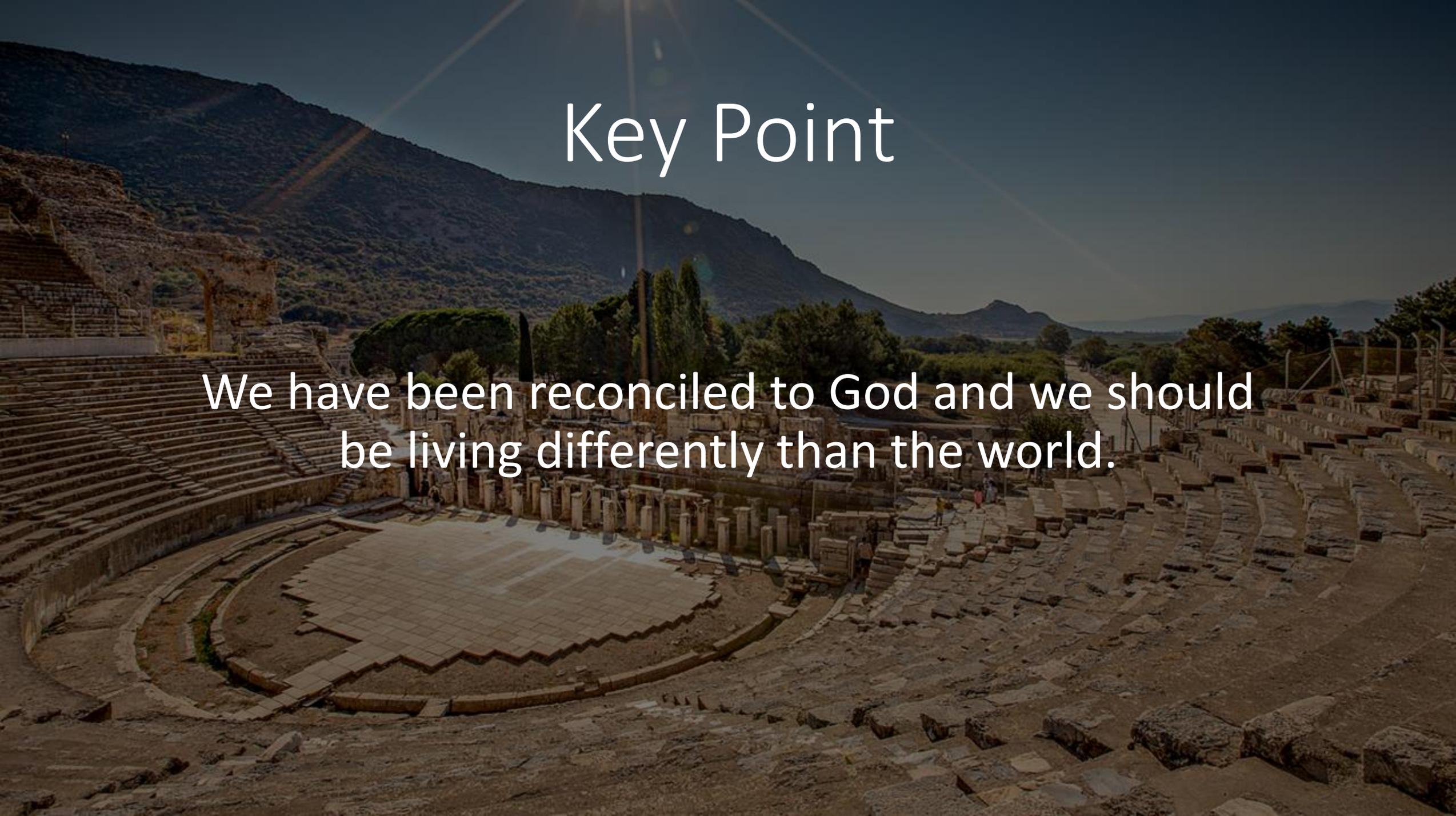
¹⁹ Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.²⁰ That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

Ephesians 4:17-24

²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

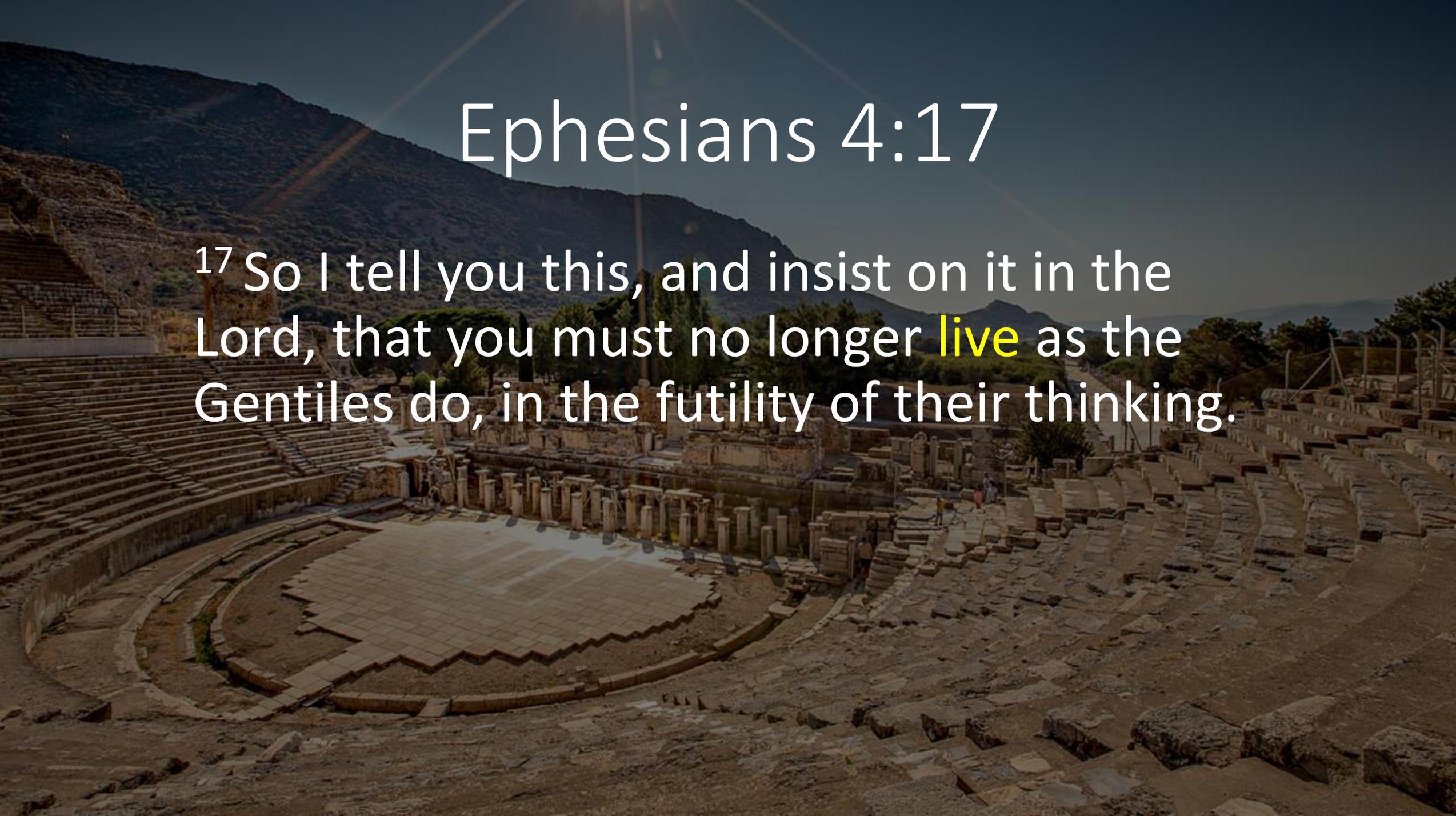
Key Point

We have been reconciled to God and we should be living differently than the world.



Ephesians 4:17

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer **live** as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.

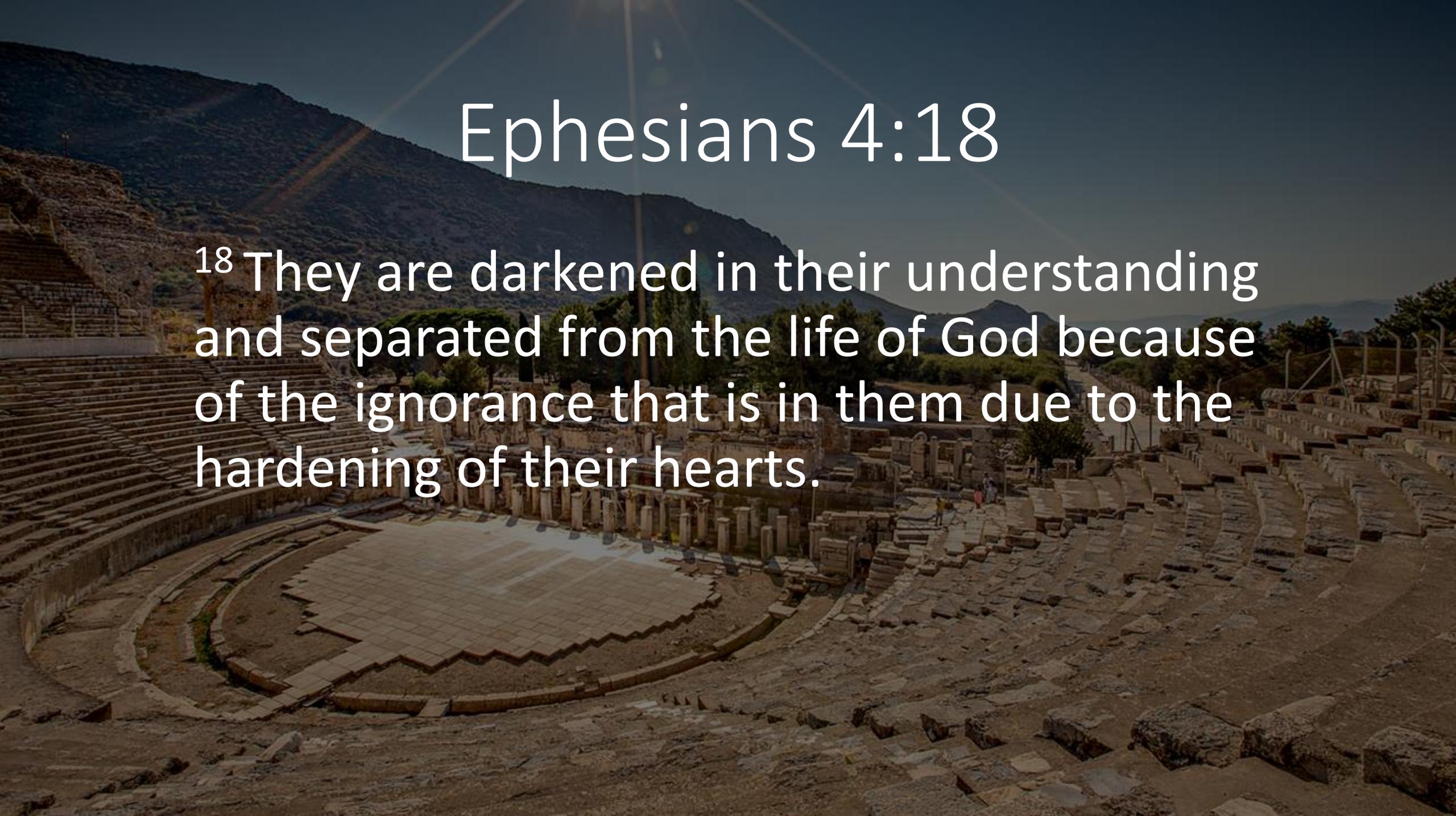


John MacArthur

The unregenerate man resolves everything on the basis of his thinking, his mind. It is his mind that is ultimate; it is what he thinks, what he acquiesces to, what he agrees with, that makes the difference. The only problem is that he will follow his mind to emptiness, because it is vanity, it is useless, it is aimless, it is pointless, and it is purposeless.

Ephesians 4:18

¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

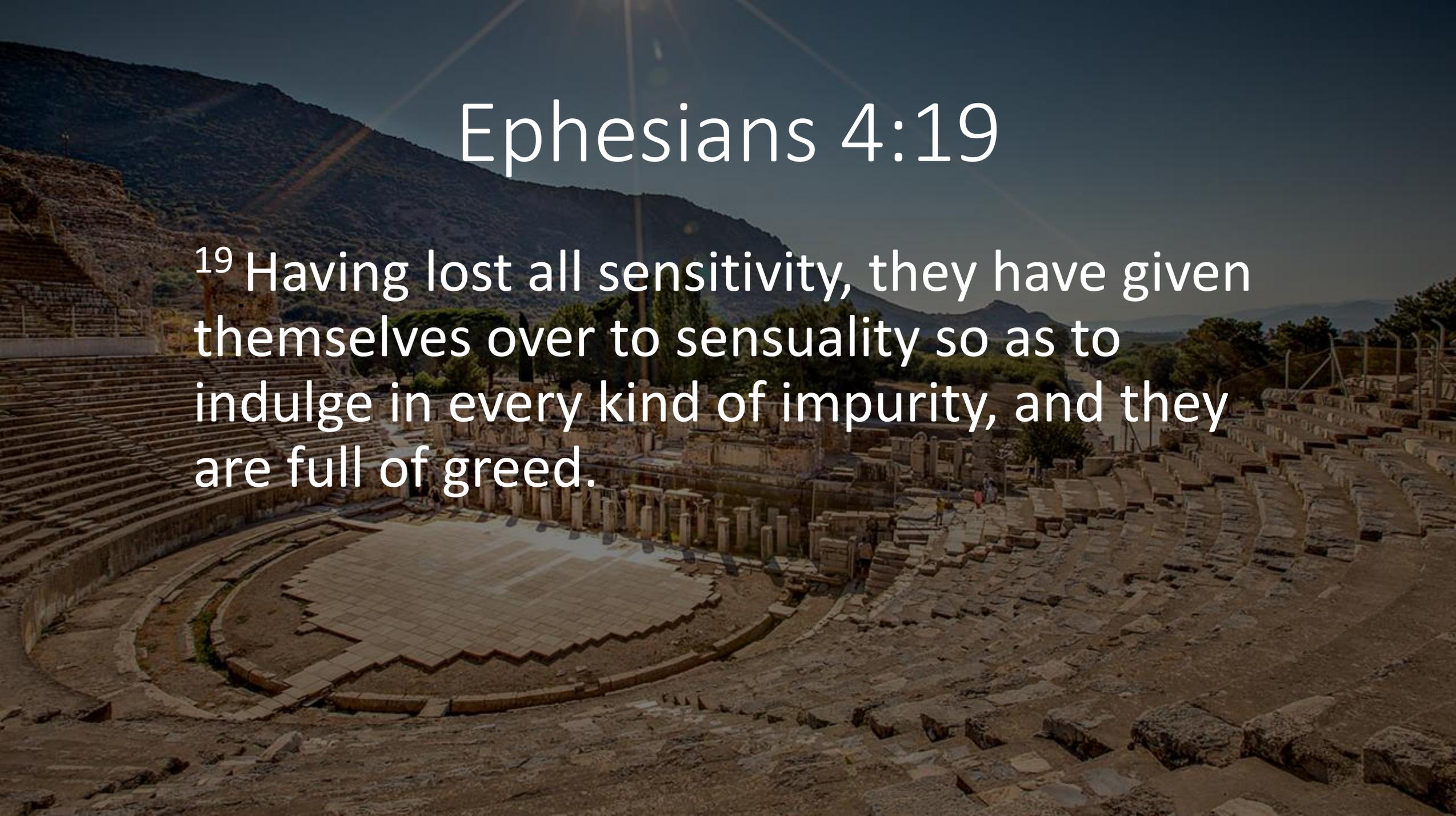


Mark 7

²⁰ And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

Ephesians 4:19

¹⁹ Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

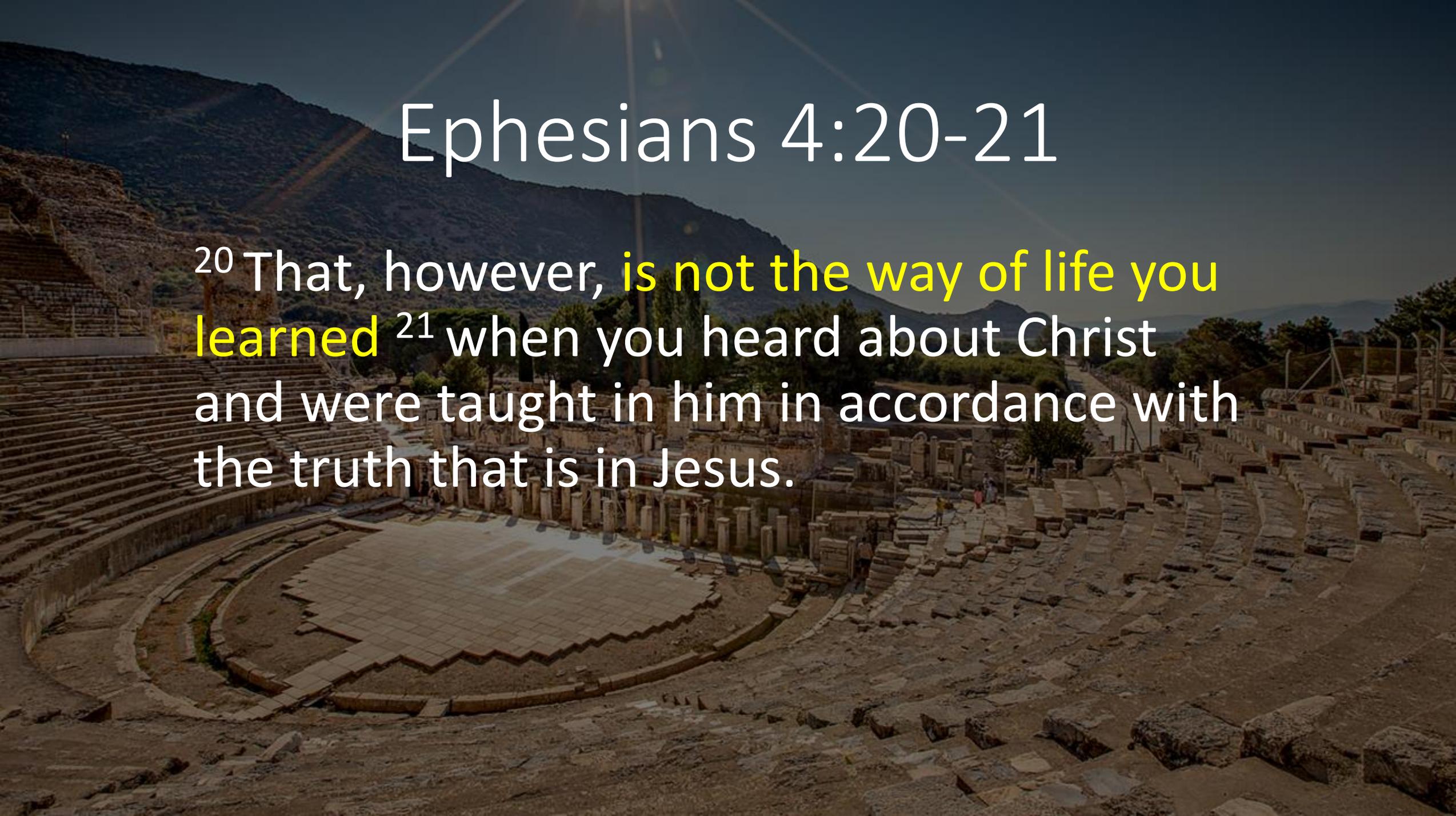


Vanderbilt Law Professor Edward Ruben

“The new morality is based on concepts of self-fulfillment,” Rubin says. “You’re supposed to live the best life you possibly can for yourself, and there’s essentially nothing beyond the experience of life that justifies it. It just justifies itself in terms of your own experience.”

Ephesians 4:20-21

²⁰ That, however, **is not the way of life you learned** ²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.



Ephesians 4:22-24

²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

