**Ephesians 4:22-24**

***That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.***

When you get ready for work each morning, do put your old dirty clothes from the day before on, and then put clean ones over them? Of course not, the old cloths would make the new one’s stink. So, what do you do? You only put on new, clean clothes. But also if your body stinks it will stink up those new, clean clothes as well. So you need to shower so that your new, clean clothes will not smell like your dirty old clothes from your stinky body.

That’s the type of thing today’s devotional is talking about.

***That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.***

It’s like removing those old dirty self before you ***put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.***

But so many people try removing those old clothes and put on new ones, yet they still stink with sin, because they are trying to appear to be clean by their own efforts and they usually do this by works.

One example would be if you *say “I’m an alcoholic so I’ll stop drinking.”* Which is good, but even though you stop drinking you are still dirty and stinky from all your other sins. You could spend the rest of eternity trying to be clean, but that dirtiness you have just will not go away, no matter how much you try.

But Jesus says, ***Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.* Matt 23:26**

You need to realize that you cannot clean yourself, and that only by the blood of Jesus can you be made clean.

* **John 15:3 *You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.***
* **Matt 26:28 *For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.***
* **Psalms 51:7 *Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;***

***Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.***

In the book of Revelation, it speaks of those believers who died during the seven-year tribulation and how they are cleansed.

* **Rev 7:14 *And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.***

So stop trying to clean yourself, or others, and come to Jesus and let Him cleanse you. Or bring others to Jesus so that He will clean them. Then let the Lord robe them, and you in His righteousness as He removes those old garments and gives you a clean body to put them on.

* **Luke 15:21-24 *And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.***