

FOUR PILLARS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

I. THE PILLAR OF OUR POSITION IN CHRIST.

- A. We were chosen and predestined in Christ (Eph 1:3-4, 11, 13, 2:13).
- B. We were saved in Christ (Eph 2:4-9).
- C. We are seated in heavenly places in Christ (Eph 2:6, 1:19-23).

II. THE PILLAR OF OUR UNION WITH CHRIST.

- A. We are alive in Christ (Eph 2:4-5).
- B. We have a new self: Christ Himself (Eph 4:22-24).
- C. We are called to put on that new self (Eph 4:24, 4:1-3, 5:1-2).

III. THE PILLAR OF OUR RELATIONSHIPS.

A. Our relationship to the church.

- 1. We are members of God's household (Eph 2:19).
- 2. We are joined and held together in the Body of Christ (Eph 4:16).
- 3. We grow and are built up as the Body functions properly (Eph 4:16).
- 4. The Spirit of God lives and loves in a properly connected and functioning body (Eph 2:21-22, 3:16-19).

B. Our relationships with one another (Eph 5:21-6:9).

- 1. Right relationships reveal Christ (Eph 5:28-32).
- 2. Right relationships release blessing (Eph 6:1-3).

IV. THE PILLAR OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE.

A. We battle against the world (Eph 2:1-3, 6:12).

- 1. The world will always try to conform and capture us (Rom 12:2, Col 2:8).
- 2. We win this battle by renewing our minds (Rom 12:2, Eph 4:17-24).

B. We battle against the flesh (Eph 2:1-3, Gal 5:16-17, 1Pet 2:11).

- 1. The flesh will always try to corrupt us (Eph 4:22, Rom 7:21-23).
- 2. We win this battle by putting off the old self and putting on the new self (Eph 4:22-24, Rom 8:12-13,13:14).

C. We battle against the devil (Eph 2:13).

- 1. Spiritual forces of evil will always resist us (Eph 6:10-12).
- 2. The armor of God will make us stand (Eph 6:10-18).