

The Power to Change Self-Indulgence

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Broadcast Dates: 1/23/26, 1/26/26, & 1/27/26

Message Date: 12/22/24 ● 10:00 A.M.

Scriptures:

- 1 Peter 2:11, *NLT*
- Hebrews 10:1
- Hebrews 10:1-10, *MSG*
- Philippians 2:13, *NLT*
- Philippians 2:13, *AMPC*
- Ephesians 4:17-19, *MSG*

Summary:

God wants to empower us. Specifically, He wants us to be able to break free from addictions, cravings, and lasciviousness. Submitting to a change in identity—from who the world tells us we are to who Christ says we are—delivers us from addictive behavior. Seeing ourselves the way God sees us through Jesus changes our thinking, which subsequently changes what we do. God has already declared that we're righteous, innocent, holy, and redeemed; believing this has a transformative effect. Focusing on Jesus instead of on the law persuades us of our identity in Him and shifts our awareness from sin to our innocence in God's eyes. Looking to Christ is the only way to find freedom from our sins.

1. Born-again believers don't belong in this world; we must therefore beware of worldly influences.
2. God views us as temporary residents. Worldly desires are a danger to the way we have been redesigned.
3. Biblical self-indulgence is feeding the sinful passions of our flesh. It's defined as indulging in any pleasure that's harmful to our souls and is spiritually dangerous because it's a form of idolatry.
4. We need God's help to overcome addictive behavior. He works in us to change our desires.
5. God's grace is the only thing powerful enough to bring about real and lasting change in us; our self-efforts will amount to nothing.
6. Allowing grace to change our belief and move us from one promise to another enables that new belief to take us from self-indulgence to self-denial.

Category: spiritual growth

Keywords: power, change, empower, addictions, cravings, lasciviousness, transformative, freedom