

The Put On Colossians 3:9b-11

INTRO: The put on that we are studying today is no put on. In other words, this put on is not fake, phoney, or sham. The put on that we are looking at today is the real thing. This is the real put on. Verse ten says: "Put on the new man...." In verse thirteen, we read: "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, etc...."

What we put on tells us a lot about ourselves. A policeman, a sailor, a soldier, and an airman is known by the uniform he wears. Who we are determines what we wear. When I was in the US Air Force, I wore the uniform of the United States Air Force. The uniform identified me as a member of the Air Force.

Christians must dress themselves spiritually by wearing the spiritual uniform of a child of God and a soldier of the Lord.

I. VSS 9b-10a, THROW OFF THE OLD, PUT ON THE NEW

A. Vs 9b, This part of Colossians links us with the preceding verses (5-9a) which tells believers what they are to put off. Verses 12-17 tell believers what to put on.

1. "Seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds."
This is how we are to see it.
 - a. "Seeing that" indicates an accomplished fact.
 - b. Romans 6:6: "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."
The old man is nailed to the cross.
 - c. Ephesians 4:22: "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts."
 - d. The old man is to be "put to death" (vs 5). This is the way it is to be.
2. What is the old man?
 - a. It is the unregenerate self.
 - b. It is the old, wretched, depraved, sinful self.
 - c. Calvin: "The old man is whatever we bring from our mother's womb and whatever we are by nature. It is called the old man because we are first born from Adam, and afterward are born again through Christ"

(Hendriksen 149-150).

3. At salvation, the believer discards his former sinful way of living. Living that is characteristic of the unregenerate.
 4. Yes, we have a problem with sin. This is because we live in a body of flesh. There is a remedy to the problem, the blood of victory, the blood of Christ.
- B. Vs 10a, And have put on the new man. This means to put on the new way of life, a new disposition.
1. The new man is the regenerate self. This is what believers are in Christ (II Cor 5:17). The new man or new self:
 - a. Walks differently from the world (Eph 4:17, “henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of the mind.”)
 - b. Walks in divine love (Eph 5:1 “And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us....”).
 - c. Walks in the light of God’s truth (Eph 5:8, “Walk as children of light.”).
 - d. Walks in wisdom (Eph 5:15, “See then that ye walk circumspectly [exactly, accurately, diligently], not as fools, but as wise.”) Love God’s law; love God’s Son; hate sin; pursue holiness (Psa 119:9, 11, 105).

II. VS 10, THE GROWTH OF THE NEW MAN

- A. The Greeks used two words for new: *neos*- “new in time” and *kainos* - “new in quality, fresh.”
1. The believer has put on the *neos* man– the “new man.” This takes place in time, once and for all.
 2. The believer is being *kainos*–“renewed.” There is a change in the quality of life, a quality of life that did not exist before salvation.
 - a. The “new man” is being renewed daily. II Cor 4:16: “But, though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.” The believer’s new nature is constantly renewed. It is like a growing plant.
 - b. Salvation means progress– progress in the growth of the new man.
- B. “Renewed in knowledge.” The Greek word for “knowledge” is *epignosis* meaning “deep, thorough knowledge” (1:9).
1. Increased knowledge comes through the process of

- renewal.
2. William Hendriksen said: “When a man is led through the waters of salvation, these are ankle-deep at first, but as he progresses, they become knee-deep, then reach to the loins, and are finally impassable except by swimming” (150).
 3. You cannot grow in the Christian life without knowledge, and spiritual growth comes as our minds are renewed. “Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind....” (Rm 12:2).
 4. Our source book for knowledge is the Bible, God’s Word (II Tim 3:16-17).
 - a. Believers are to desire the Word of God (I Pet 2:2).
 - b. The Word of God is food. Food that fuels growth, the growth of the new man.
 - c. Spiritual growth depends on how much knowledge we have of Christ (Phil 3:10) and on how much knowledge of Christ we put to practice in our lives.
- C. The goal of renewal and knowledge is to conform the believer to the image of Christ who created him.
1. The new man, as he grows in knowledge, becomes progressively more and more like the Lord Jesus Christ who created him.
 2. It is God’s plan to make believers like Jesus Christ (Rm 8:29).
 3. The new man, growing in grace, will continue to go forward in Christlikeness until the Lord returns or the believer dies. Believers will one day bear the image of the heavenly. One day we’ll be like Jesus (I Cor 15:49 “As we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.” I John 3:2 “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”

III. VS 11, TEAR DOWN THAT WILL

- A. Christ is the only one who can bring about spiritual harmony. It does not matter if you are black, white, red, or yellow. Salvation is for all who believe, and all believers are brothers and sisters in Christ.

- B. Christianity destroys barriers. It tears down the walls. The Gospel message received, makes men new creatures in Christ. Christianity destroys barriers:
1. That come from birth and nationality. Nations that despised and hated each other find the ground level at the cross.
 2. Coming from ceremony and ritual. Circumcised and uncircumcised are drawn into one fellowship by the Holy Spirit.
 - a. To a Jew, a man of any other nation was unclean.
 - b. When a Jew becomes a Christian, saved men of all nations become his brother.
 3. Between the cultured and uncultured.
 - a. the Scythian was, in the ancient world, an ignorant barbarian.
 - b. The Greek was the aristocrat of learning.
 - c. The cultured and uncultured came together in Christ.
 - d. The greatest scholar and the simplest worker toil together for the kingdom.
 4. Between class and class.
 - a. The slave and free man came together in the church.
 - b. In the early church, there were times when the slave had a leadership position in the church, and the master sat as a humble member.

CONCLUSION: New life in Christ is abundant life; it is full and free. The Gospel changes lives!

“To all my vileness, Christ is Glory Bright; To all my miseries, Infinite Delight!
To all my ignorance, Wise without compare; To my deformity, the Eternal Fair;
Sight to my blindness; to my meanness, Wealth; Life to my death; and to my sickness, Health;
to darkness, Light; my Liberty in thrall, What shall I say? My Christ is All in All!”

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