

Colossians

What Do You Think?

- What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?
- In Christ, we are holy
 - Why do we sometimes fail at holiness?
 - Why do we still sin?

The Apostle Paul

- You need to become what you are!
 - In Christ, you are holy (1:22)
 - In real life, not always
 - Reject the old and choose to live the new

Colossians 1:9-10

“...we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects...”

The Apostle Paul's Application

1. Off with the Old (3:5-9)
2. On with the New (3:10-17)

The Apostle Paul's Application

1. Off with the Old (3:5-9)

- What do we do with our old sin nature?
 - Paul: KILL IT!
 - Don't submit to the old master (i.e. pattern of living life)
 - Sever the relationship between your bodily members and the old life

1. Off with the Old (3:5-9)

A. Put the old to death (5)

- Immorality – all inappropriate sex
- Impurity – moral corruption (Rom. 1:24)
- Passion – uncontrolled selfishness
- Evil desire – corruption of good desires
- Greed – *to have more*; not good enough

1. Off with the Old (3:5-9)

- *Lay aside; renounce*
 - Anger – internal; smoldering, seething
 - Wrath – anger expressed externally
 - Malice – personal animosity
 - Slander – blasphemy; reviling words
 - Abusive speech – obscene; innuendo

1. Off with the Old (3:5-9)

A. Put the old to death (5)

- The constant choice: the flesh or The Spirit?
 - By choosing one, you reject the other
 - Rom. 8:12-13; Gal. 5:16
 - Submit / sow to the Spirit (Gal. 6:7-9)
 - Walk in the Spirit (Col. 3:7; Gal. 5:16-26)

2. On with the New (3:10-17)

A. Having put on the new self (10)

- The new life: Christ-like; holy; heavenly
 - 3:1-4; Eph. 4:20-24
- New privileges / responsibilities (Phil. 3:20)
- New desires (Matt. 5:6; Rom. 12:1)

2. On with the New (3:10-17)

B. Put On (12)

- Characteristics of the new self
- Only possible if you are in Christ
 - So [therefore], as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on...

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2. On with the New (3:10-17)

B. Put On (12-14)

- Characteristics of the new self
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B. Put On (12-14)

- Heart of compassion – *pity, mercy*; deep concern for the needs of others (Rom. 12:1)
- Kindness – desire for the good of others (Rom. 2:4; 1 Cor. 13:4; Gal. 5:22)
- Humility – correct estimate of ourselves (Phil. 2:3-8)

B. Put On (12-14)

- Gentleness – *meekness*; not self-assertive (Matt. 11:28-30; Gal. 5:22)
- Patience – *long-suffering*; not quick-tempered (Rom. 2:4; Gal. 5:22; Eph. 4:2)
 - Bearing with one another – *endure*; tolerating irritation (Rom. 2:4; Eph. 4:1-2)
 - Forgiving – *to grant grace* (2:13; Eph. 4:32)

B. Put On (12-14)

- Love – *willing / doing good to others*
 - God: John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; 1 John 4
 - Greatest virtue: 1 Cor. 13:4-7, 13
 - Sums up the law: Matt. 22:36-40; Rom. 13:8-10
 - Fulfills the law: Gal. 5:13-15; James 2:8

B. Put On (12-14)

- Love – *willing / doing good to others*
 - Beyond all – *over all or on top of all*
 - Like a girdle or belt that holds all the other virtues in place
 - Love encompasses, empowers, and perfects the other virtues (1 Corinthians 13)

B. Put On (12-14)

- Love – *willing / doing good to others*
 - 'The perfect bond of unity'
 - *A bond of the perfection*
 - Col. 2:1-3; Eph. 4:14-16
 - We will not grow properly apart from love in community

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts
 - Peace – assurance & contentedness
 - Inner calmness that rests on God's goodness and wisdom
 - From God: Col. 1:2; John 14:27; Gal. 5:22
 - Comes with reconciliation (Col. 1:19-22)
 - Alienated/hostile -> now at peace

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts
 - Rule – *umpire* (cf. 2:18) or *regulator*?
 - Don't let false teachers act as umpires and judge you by their false doctrines; rather, let peace assure you that you are in Christ
 - Or: in Christ, you have peace with God; your lives should manifest that peace with one another

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- And be thankful
 - Emphasized: 1:3, 12; 2:7; 3:16, 17; 4:2
 - *Continually become thankful*
 - Outward expression; public praise
 - Others hear and are encouraged to praise
 - God is glorified! (2 Cor. 4:15)

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- And be thankful
 - Life / existence (Rom. 1:21)
 - Salvation (Col. 1:12)
 - God's provision (e.g. – Matt. 15:36)
 - God's working (e.g. – Luke 17:11-19)
 - Other believers (e.g. – Col. 1:3; Phil. 1:3)
 - Everything! (Eph. 5:20)

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you
 - *The word of truth, the gospel (1:5); The word of God (1:25); The word (4:3)*
 - Of: *from or about Christ?*
 - All He commanded (Matt. 28:19-20)
 - Whole purpose of God (Acts 20:27, 35)

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you
 - Dwell – *be at home in* (Rom. 8:11 [7:17-18,20])
 - Richly – i.e. –prized, cherished, highly valued; cf. *riches* (1:27), *wealth* (2:2)
 - Deut. 6:6-9; Psalm 1; Ps. 119:11, 105; John 17:17; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16-17; James 1:21-25

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- In all wisdom
 - Necessary for walking worthy (1:9-10)
 - Hidden in Christ (2:3)
 - Prov. 2:1-6

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- Prov. 2:1-6
 - Wisdom
 - Heart
 - Understanding
 - Knowledge
 - Treasure
 - Fear of the Lord
- Col. 1:9-10
 - Knowledge
 - Wisdom
 - Understanding

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- Col. 2:2-3
 - Hearts
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 - Knowledge

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- In all wisdom
 - Teaching – instruction in truth (1:28; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
 - Centered on Christ (2:3; cf. 1:15-22; 2:8-15)
 - Admonishing – warning or encouraging (1:28; Rom. 15:14)
 - Appeal to reason to correct behavior

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- In all wisdom
 - Teaching and Admonishing each other
 - Psalms, hymns, spiritual songs
 - Verbal, emotional expressions of truth
- Singing to God
 - Thanks and praise for who He is and what He has done

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- Whatever you do (17)
 - Lit. – *everything whatever you do*
- Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus
 - Name: all He is and has done
 - We are to do and say all and only what Jesus would do and say
 - Walk worthy / please Him in all respects (1:10)

C. Put On Christ (15-17)

- Giving thanks to God the Father
 - For all He has done (1:21-22; 2:12-15)

So What?

- Am I