

Wrong Labels, Right Labels: Three Standings We Have in Christ

Colossians 3:11-12a

BGT	¹¹ ὅπου οὐκ ἔστι Ἕλληνας καὶ Ἰουδαῖος, περιτομῆ καὶ ἀκροβυστία, βάρβαρος, Σκύθης, δοῦλος, ἐλεύθερος, ἀλλὰ [τὰ] πάντα καὶ ἐν πᾶσιν Χριστός. ¹² Ἐνδύσασθε οὖν, ὡς ἐκλεκτοὶ τοῦ θεοῦ ἅγιοι καὶ ἠγαπημένοι, σπλάγχνα οἰκτιρμοῦ χρηστότητα ταπεινοφροσύνην πραύτητα μακροθυμίαν, ¹³ ἀνεχόμενοι ἀλλήλων καὶ χαριζόμενοι ἑαυτοῖς ἕαν τις πρὸς τινα ἔχη μομφήν· καθὼς καὶ ὁ κύριος ἔχαρίσατο ὑμῖν, οὕτως καὶ ὑμεῖς·
NKJ	¹¹ where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave <i>nor</i> free, but Christ is all and in all. ¹² Therefore, as <i>the</i> elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also <i>must do</i> .

REVIEW

If then you were raised with Christ,

- **Be Seeking the Above Things (Col 3:1)**
- **Be Thinking the Above Things (Col 3:2)**
- **Put to Death Sinful Motivations (Col 3:5-7)**
- **Put Off Sinful Actions (Col 3:8-10)**
 1. **When Is It To Be Done?** **Now (not later).**
 2. **Who Is To Do It?** **I am responsible to do this. It is my job, not someone else's job.**
 3. **What Is To Be Done?** **Take off, set aside** (immediate, decisive action)
 4. **What Is It To Be Done To?**
 - a. **I Am to Remove Sinful Uses of Emotions**
 - 1) **Anger** (ὀργήν – *orgēn*): **chronic anger** “**growling**”
 - 2) **Wrath** (θυμόν – *thumon*): **overflowing anger** “**exploding**”
 - 3) **Malice** (κακίαν – *kakian*): **vengeful anger** “**hurting**”
 - b. **I Am to Remove Sinful Uses of Speech**
 - 1) **Blasphemy** (βλασφημίαν – *blasphemian*): **derogatory or injurious speech**
 - 2) **Filthy language** (αἰσχρολογία – *aischrologian*): **dirty or immoral speech**
 - 3) **Lying** (ψεύδεσθε – *psuedesthe*): **dishonest or inaccurate speech**

THREE REASONS WHY THESE CHANGES ARE SO IMPORTANT TO MAKE:

- I. Because you have put off the old man with his deeds
- II. Because you have put on the new man
- III. Because all stand equal in Christ
 - A. No possibility
 - B. No partitions (ways of classifying humanity into two categories)
 1. racial, national, ethnic (Greek, Jew)
 2. religious, ritualistic (Circumcised, Uncircumcised)
 3. cultural, educational (Barbarian, Scythian)
 4. social, economic (Slave, Free)

Paul's Connecting Command:

- **Therefore** – because of, or based upon what I just stated
- **Put on** – cloth yourself with – command (more next week on this)
- **As** – with the characteristic quality of
[GING] “introduces the characteristic quality of a person, thing, action,”;
[UBS] “on the grounds that, on the pretext of”
“Because you are these things, you obey my command with the characteristics of such people”
“You do what I tell you in a way that reflects what your standing in Christ as elect, holy, and loved people”
“Live supernaturally toward others because you stand supernaturally in Christ.”

THREE STANDINGS THAT WE HAVE IN CHRIST THAT WE MUST UNDERSTAND IN ORDER TO LIVE RIGHTLY

1. ELECT – As _____ Ones

We are to live as those that have been chosen by God (Unearned _____)

a. The Nation of _____

Mark 13:20 "And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days."

b. The _____

Luke 23:35 And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God."

c. The Good _____

1 Timothy 5:21 I charge *you* before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.

d. The _____, as Individuals

Romans 16:13 Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.

e. The _____, as a Group

1 Peter 2:9 But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Romans 8:33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies.

Revelation 17:14 "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him *are* called, chosen, and faithful."

f. Those that Will Be _____

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

διὰ τοῦτο πάντα ὑπομένω διὰ τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς, ἵνα καὶ αὐτοὶ σωτηρίας τύχωσιν τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ μετὰ δόξης αἰωνίου.

2. SAINTS – As _____ Ones

We are to live as those that have been made holy by God (Unearned _____)

1:2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1:4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;

1:12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

1:22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight --

1:26 the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

3:12 Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

1 Peter 1:15-16 but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

3. BELOVED – As _____ Ones

We are to live as those that God has placed His love upon (Unearned _____)

Perfect – past tense with continuing results

Passive – something done to us, not by us

- **Colossians 3:12** herefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

- **1 Thes 1:4** knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

- **2 Thes 2:13** But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

1 John 4:10-11 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.