

Getting Dressed as a Believer: Putting on Our Spiritual Clothing

Colossians 3:12-13

- BGT** ¹²Ἐνδύσασθε οὖν, ὡς ἐκλεκτοὶ τοῦ θεοῦ ἄγιοι καὶ ἠγαπημένοι, σπλάγχνα οἰκτιρμοῦ χρηστότητα ταπεινοφροσύνην πραύτητα μακροθυμίαν, ¹³ἀνεχόμενοι ἀλλήλων καὶ χαριζόμενοι ἑαυτοῖς ἐάν τις πρὸς τινα ἔχη μομφήν· καθὼς καὶ ὁ κύριος ἔχαρίσατο ὑμῖν, οὕτως καὶ ὑμεῖς·
- NKJ** ¹²Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must* do.

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 (*orgēn*): **chronic** anger “**growling**”
 - 2) Wrath (*thumon*): **overflowing** anger “**exploding**”
 - 3) Malice (*kakian*): **vengeful** anger “**hurting**”
 - b. **I Am to Remove Sinful Uses of Speech**
 - 1) Blasphemy (*blasphemian*): **derogatory or injurious** speech
 - 2) Filthy language (*aischrologian*): **dirty or immoral** speech
 - 3) Lying (*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)

Therefore, “Clothe Yourself” (aor imp middle)

A Brief Study of the Analogy of Clothing in the Christian Position and Practice

1. **Past “Clothing” – What Has Already Been Put On**
 - a. Believers Have Been Clothed with **Power From Above** (Luke 24:49)
 - b. Believers Have Been Clothed with **Christ** (Gal 3:27)
 - c. Believers Have Been Clothed with the **New Man** (Col 3:10)
2. **Present “Clothing” – What Needs to Be Put On Now**
 - a. Clothe Yourself with the **Armor of Light** (Rom 13:12)
 - b. Clothe (x!) Yourself with **Christ** (Rom 13:14)
 - c. Clothe Yourself with the **New Man** (Eph 4:24)
 - d. Clothe (x!) Yourself with the **Whole Armor of God** (Eph 6:11)
 - e. Clothe Yourself with the **Breastplate of Righteousness** (Eph 6:14)
 - f. Clothe (x!) Yourself with **Christian Conduct** (Col 3:12)
 - g. Clothe Yourself with the **Breastplate of Faith and Love** (1 Thes 5:8)
3. **Future “Clothing” – What Will Be Put On**

We Will Be Clothed with **Immortality** (1 Cor 15:53)

7 Articles of Spiritual Clothing that a Believer Is Commanded to Put On

Just as our physical clothing reflects our beliefs and intentions, making a statement about both, our spiritual clothing is to reflect our beliefs and purposes about God, making a clear statement about Him! We are to reflect in our lives what we have received from God. Like getting clothes as a gift. Every article is something we've received from God ourselves.

1. Put on "Tender Mercies" by Choosing to _____ and _____ the Needs of Others (Be Aware and Care)

(σπλάγχνα οίκτιρμου – splagchna oiktirmou – **yearnings of mercy**)

splagchnon – σπλάγχνον ("feelings" or "yearnings" – 11x in 11 verses)

Matt 9:36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

2. Put on "Kindness" by Choosing to _____ Others as You Seek to _____ Their _____ (Act Beneficially)

χρηστότητα – chreestoteeta – kindness (10x in 8 verses)

[LN] a. an event or activity which is useful or benevolent; b. to provide something beneficial for someone as an act of kindness

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness,

Titus 3:4 But when the **kindness** and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, (See Titus 3:1-7)

3. Put on "Humility" by Choosing to Consider Yourself to Be a _____ to _____ (Selflessly Serve)

ταπεινοφροσύνην – tapeinophrosuneen – humility or lowly-minded

Phil 2:3 [Let] nothing [be done] through selfish ambition or conceit, but in **lowliness of mind** let each esteem others better than himself.

1 Peter 5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to [your] elders. Yes, all of [you] be submissive to one another, and be clothed with **humility**, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the **humble**."

4. Put on "Meekness" by Choosing to _____ Others with _____ and Consideration (Softly Speak)

πραύτητα – prauteeta – meekness; gentleness; consideration (11x in NT)

[LN] gentleness of attitude and behavior, in contrast with harshness in one's dealings with others

1 Cor 4:21 What do you want? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of **gentleness**?

Gal 5:23 **gentleness**, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Gal 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of **gentleness**, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

5. Put on "Longsuffering" by Choosing to Give People _____ and _____ to _____ (Patiently Care)

μακροθυμίαν – makrothumian – longsuffering (11x in NT)

[Fri] as a state of emotional quietness in the face of unfavorable circumstances: patience, long-suffering; (1) as patience under trial: endurance, steadfastness; (2) as constraint exercised toward others: forbearance, patience; (3) as God's constraint of his wrath: long-suffering, forbearance

1 Cor 13:4 "Love suffers long" (verb form) – hang in there with difficulty, with difficult people, or with people's difficulties

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **longsuffering**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Eph 4:2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with **longsuffering**, bearing with one another in love,

1 Tim 1:16 However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all **longsuffering**, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

2 Tim 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season [and] out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all **longsuffering** and teaching.

6. Put on "Bearing with One Another" by Choosing to _____ with the _____ of Others

ἀνεχόμενοι ἀλλήλων – anechomenoi alleelon –

to hold within (if "ana")? To not hold (if "an")? To hold up?

"love will cover a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8; Proverbs 10:12 "Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.")

2 Cor 11:19 For you **put up with** fools gladly, since you [yourselves] are wise! (ἡδέως γὰρ ἀνέχεσθε τῶν ἀφρόνων)

Eph 4:2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, **bearing** with one another in love,

7. Put on "Forgiving One Another" by Choosing to _____ Others from Their Sin _____ (____ up the ____)

χαριζόμενοι ἑαυτοῖς – charidzomenoi heautois (23x in NT)

[UBS] grant, give, bestow on; deal generously or graciously with, forgive, pardon; hand over or release (of a prisoner); cancel a debt; be returned

Luke 7:42 "And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely **forgave** them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"

Eph 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving** one another, just as God in Christ **forgave** you.