

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

Colossians 3:12

BGT	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	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
“Because you are these things, 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”

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

1. **ELECT** – As Chosen Ones – We are to live as those that have been chosen by God (Unearned Privilege)
2. **SAINTS** – As Holy Ones – We are to live as those that have been made holy by God (Unearned Purity)
3. **BELOVED** – As Loved Ones – We are to live as those that God has placed His love upon (Unearned Care)

Therefore, "Clothe Yourself" (aor imp middle)

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1. Past "Clothing" – What Has Already Been Put On

a. Believers Have Been Clothed with Power From Above

Luke 24:49 "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

καὶ [ἰδοὺ] ἐγὼ ἀποπέλλω τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν τοῦ πατρὸς μου ἐφ' ὑμᾶς· ὑμεῖς δὲ καθίσατε ἐν τῇ πόλει ἕως οὗ ἐνδύσηθε ἐξ ὕψους δύναμιν.

b. Believers Have Been Clothed with Christ

Gal 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

ὅσοι γὰρ εἰς Χριστὸν ἐβαπτίσθητε, Χριστὸν ἐνεδύσασθε.

c. Believers Have Been Clothed with the New Man

Col 3:10 and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

καὶ ἐνδυσάμενοι τὸν νέον τὸν ἀνακαινούμενον εἰς ἐπίγνωσιν κατ' εἰκόνα τοῦ κτίσαντος αὐτόν,

2. Present "Clothing" – What Needs to Be Put On Now

a. Clothe Yourself with the Armor of Light

Rom 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

ἢ νῦν προέκοιπεν, ἡ δὲ ἡμέρα ἤγγικεν. ἀποθώμεθα οὖν τὰ ἔργα τοῦ σκότους, ἐνδυσώμεθα [δὲ] τὰ ὄπλα τοῦ φωτός.

b. Clothe (x!) Yourself with Christ

Rom 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.

ἀλλὰ ἐνδύσασθε τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν καὶ τῆς σαρκὸς πρόνοιαν μὴ ποιήσθε εἰς ἐπιθυμίας.

c. Clothe Yourself with the New Man

Eph 4:24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

καὶ ἐνδύσασθαι τὸν καινὸν ἄνθρωπον τὸν κατὰ θεὸν κτισθέντα ἐν δικαιοσύνῃ καὶ ὁσιότητι τῆς ἀληθείας.

d. Clothe (x!) Yourself with the Whole Armor of God

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

ἐνδύσασθε τὴν πανοπλίαν τοῦ θεοῦ πρὸς τὸ δύνασθαι ὑμᾶς στήναι πρὸς τὰς μεθοδείας τοῦ διαβόλου·

e. Clothe Yourself with the Breastplate of Righteousness

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, so that you may be able to stand against the devil's schemes.

στῆτε οὖν περιζωσάμενοι τὴν ἀσπίδα τῆς ἀληθείας καὶ ἐνδυσάμενοι τὸν θώρακα τῆς δικαιοσύνης

f. Clothe (x!) Yourself with Christian Conduct

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

Ἐνδύσασθε οὖν, ὡς ἐκλεκτοὶ τοῦ θεοῦ ἅγιοι καὶ ἠγαπημένοι, σπλάγχνα οἰκτιρμοῦ χρηστότητα ταπεινοφροσύνην πραύτητα μακροθυμίαν,

g. Clothe Yourself with the Breastplate of Faith and Love

1 Thes 5:8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.

ἡμεῖς δὲ ἡμέρας ὄντες νήφωμεν ἐνδυσάμενοι θώρακα πίστεως καὶ ἀγάπης καὶ περικεφαλαίαν ἐλπίδα σωτηρίας·

3. Future "Clothing" – What Will Be Put On

We Will Be Clothed with Immortality

1 Cor 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

Δεῖ γὰρ τὸ φθαρτὸν τοῦτο ἐνδύσασθαι ἀφθαρσίαν καὶ τὸ θνητὸν τοῦτο ἐνδύσασθαι ἀθανασίαν. ὅταν δὲ τὸ φθαρτὸν τοῦτο ἐνδύσῃται ἀφθαρσίαν καὶ τὸ θνητὸν τοῦτο ἐνδύσῃται ἀθανασίαν, τότε γενήσεται ὁ λόγος ὁ γεγραμμένος· κατεπόθη ὁ θάνατος εἰς νίκην.