

Putting on the New: A Study of Colossians Chapter 3

March 10, 2024

Colossians 3:9–10, 12-17

The new person does not want to wear old clothes. "...since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self..." (Colossians 3:9)

Leave the old habits, the old selfishness that belonged to the old person and take on the new habits of selflessness, which belong to the new person who is Christ.

There is a divine and dramatic transformation that takes place in the life of a believer. "You die," said Paul – "crucified with Christ." So, every Christian is a new person.

It is essential that we, as Christians, understand that the reason we are to change our lifestyle is because God has changed our life. God has changed us and transformed us; and a new life demands a new lifestyle.

The old person is not converted. You cannot convert what is corrupt. You replace it. Scripture says, *"If any person be in Christ, they are a new creation."*

This has always been God's plan, to make new people, not just to shape up the old ones, not just to dust you off and make you look better, but to make you new. That is God's design, and that is what Christ came to accomplish.

We are different than the rest of the world because the rest of the world is all the old person: corrupt, the old nature. So, the first great truth: we are different, you are different.

"And have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator." (Colossians 3:10)

As much as we would like the old person to just immediately disappear, that is simply not the case. The old stuff is still in front of your eyes, and we are going to have to begin to conquer it, little by little, day by day as we live.

If you are saved, it is God's plan to make you like the Son. It is God's plan to make you to be like Jesus Christ. And the process of maturing you, of conforming you to Christ goes on day after day.

Behind good works is knowledge – deep, thorough, complete knowledge. The new person progresses to a complete knowledge. And from that knowledge comes the right kind of behavior.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 2 Timothy 3:16, NLT

Feel as if you have little knowledge? It does not matter. Whatever you have the Bible says you "appropriate it." You make it a part of yourself, and you grow it.

Take the truths you know and turn them into the energy to build yourself, and grow to the full knowledge that makes for Christlikeness.

Notes:
