

2 Weeks ago – the **Msg Title** was - **Sufficient or Not**

& **the question** was - **Does 100%**
of **all we need** in our **life** with **God**

come through our **real. personal** & **always-increasing**
relationship with **Jesus Christ?**

& **in** that **message** - we **saw clearly** - that **trying** to **follow**
someone else's Religious Rules and Requirements

Provides no true help in **conquering** Sin
or **transforming** our life - **ON the inside**

that Msg was **kind of** a **knockout punch** - for **those trying** to
reach God - **thru religious rules and regulations**

And **then** in **last week's message** we **asked** the **question**
"if not religion then what"

& **we BEGAN** – to **answer** the **question**

if <u>following man-made religious rules</u> and <u>regulations</u> <u>don't transform</u> my <u>life</u> for God - <u>then what does?</u>
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& we saw – in the 1st Paragraph of Col Ch 3

That WHERE we SET our SIGHTS
is WHERE We are Going to GO

& God's Word COMPELLED US

to **ALWAYS be SEEKING** the **THINGS** of **HEAVEN**

To **Set our MIND** – our **FOCUS** - our **DETERMINATION**
on our **New Life In Christ**

Today we **begin** to **GET** to **THE HOW**
HOW do we begin to DO this?

Today we **see** the **Most Famous**
"Life-Transformation Theology" of the **N.T.**

AND we see **WHY** a **Real, Personal,**
Always Growing Relationship with **Jesus Christ**

DOES what **NO religious rules or regulations** can **EVER** do

Let's Pray

These verses are **famously known** as
the **PUT OFF - PUT ON theology** of the **New Testament**

This TRUTH is **written** a **number of times** in the **N.T.**

(with **Eph 4:17-5:5** being the **primarily parallel**)

& **understanding** this **PUT OFF - PUT ON theology**
Fully Answers the **question** - **"if not religion then what?"**

And The Answer - is a DEATH and LIFE - ANSWER

The Answer - is a putting to DEATH
& a bringing to LIFE - Answer

And it starts today - with a THEREFORE

Colossians 3:5 (NLT) starts with the word - SO
meaning THEREFORE

This is a word that CONNECTS these Vs's
To the Verses just before them

SO . . . because your new life in Christ
is 100% sufficient for your life with God (2 msgs ago)

& because Man's Religious Rules and Regulations provide no help
in true life-transformation (last week's msg)

therefore . . . Colossians 3:5(a) (NLT)
5 So (therefore) put to death . . . (stop)

EVERY translation I use – says here put to death

In the original this is in the ACTIVE VOICE - which means
you DO IT - you MAKE THE CHOICE

you TAKE THE ACTION – To “Put To Death”
what NEEDS to be Put To Death

You DON'T Provide the POWER
You CAN'T Provide the POWER

The POWER we NEED - to put to Death
the things that NEED to be put to Death

COMES IN & FROM our Real, Personal,
Ever-Increasing Relationship with Jesus

The POWER comes from your Life IN Christ

But YOU Make the CHOICE – YOU Take the ACTION
& the Life of Jesus Christ in you – IS the POWER

<p><u>One definition</u> of the word translated “<u>Put to Death</u>” is – <i>destroying the strength of a thing with lethal determination</i></p>

I love that - ***destroying the strength of a thing with lethal determination***

THAT – is OUR PART

There is an OUR PART
& there is a GOD'S PART

The lethal determination is the OUR PART

the POWER to Destroy the thing that NEEDS Destroying
is the Life of Jesus Christ IN YOU →

That is GOD'S PART !!

OUR PART – is the **LETHAL DETERMINATION**
GOD’S PART – is the **POWER to Accomplish it**

Let’s read all of Colossians 3:5 (NLT)

5 So put to death (destroy the strength of with lethal determination)
the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do
with (another way of saying ‘put to death’) **sexual immorality,**
impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy (put greed, to
death), **for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of**
this world.

These are **references** to your **sin nature**
to your **flesh nature** - that **is still lurking** within **you**

YOU make the **choice** –

YOU take the **action** - with ***lethal determination***

& **God provides** the **Supernatural Power**

In & Thru your **Real**, & **Ever-Increasing**
Relationship with **Jesus** Christ

This is the **“PUT OFF” Side**
of **Living** our **New Life in Christ**

PUT OFF – **Put to DEATH** – **with lethal determination**

the **things** of your **Old Nature** – Your **Sin Nature**

then – for a little motivation

Colossians 3:6 (NLT)

6 Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming.

This “**Anger of God**” – is referring to
the Holy, Just, & Righteous - Response of God – TO SIN

Guys – God **MUST Judge Sin**

Or he **CANNOT** be HOLY - & He **CANNOT** be God

When you **Receive Jesus** Christ as your **SAVIOR**

God **DOES NOT Excuse** your sin

Your sin is **FULLY PAID FOR** – **By Jesus** Christ – **in your place**

Thru Faith in Jesus - The **Wrath of God** - for **your Sin**

FALLS on **Christ** – **instead of you**

And then – adding **LOGIC** to the **MOTIVATION** of **V.6** . . .

Colossians 3:7 (NLT)

7 You used to do these things (the works of your sin nature) ***when your life was still part of this world.***

God is **saying** – **these** are the **things**
you **USED TO DO** in your **OLD LIFE**

But that **OLD LIFE** has been **Crucified with Christ**
& **you** have **been raised to NEW LIFE** – **IN HIM**

So – **LIVE in your NEW LIFE** – **NOT in your OLD LIFE**

Set Your **FOCUS** – & **Set** Your **ACTIONS**

On your **NEW LIFE** in Christ

Putting Into Action - your **New Life In Christ**

Requires you to **FIRST** – **PUT to DEATH**
with lethal determination – your **OLD life of Sin**

If you have **made Jesus Christ**
your **Savior** & **Lord** today

Isn't it time - to begin **WALKING IN**
The **NEW LIFE** that *you* have *been GIVEN - IN CHRIST*

Isn't it time - to **TURN FROM** the *things* of your *Old Life*
FROM the **things** of your **Sin Nature**
FROM the **things** of **This World**

Vs's 8-9 say – **NOW is the time** to do that

Colossians 3:8-9 (NLT)

*8 But now is the time to get rid of (LIT Put Off, Put Away) **anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language.***

9 Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off (Put Off) your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds.

NOW is **the time** to – **PUT AWAY**
the **Works** of your **Sin nature**

NOT in **order** to **EARN** – or **DESERVE something** from God
NOT in **order** to **follow** some **Rules & Regulations**

BUT (V.9 says) – **BECAUSE** you **have**
STRIPPED OFF (Put Off) - your **Old Sin Nature**

When **V.9** says
for you have stripped off (Put Off) your old sinful nature

It is **speaking positionally** - meaning **IN CHRIST**
you have been FREED from **the Power** of your **Sin Nature**

You have Died to that **Old Life** –
So - **STOP trying** to **REVIVE** it

You are **no longer a SLAVE** to your **Sin Nature**
So **STOP Choosing it** as Your **Master**

<p><u>When</u> you <u>received New Life</u> in <u>Jesus</u> Christ Your <u>sin nature</u> <u>Lost its power</u> to <u>enslave you</u> It now it <u>only has power</u> – <u>if you GIVE it power !</u></p>

Romans 6:6–7 (NLT) → →

Romans 6:6–7 (NLT)

6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.

7 For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin.

Our **Life Transformation** comes from **LEARNING to LIVE**

In the **NEW LIFE** that **Jesus Christ** has **freely Given us**

Sin has **LOST** its **POWER**

We are **NO LONGER Slaves** to **Sin**

The **OLD Nature** has been **THROWN OFF** (Stripped Off)

It **has been Crucified** with **Christ**

& so - Colossians 3:10 says (NLT)

10 Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.

There is SO, SO MUCH - In this ONE HUGE Verse!

There is **MORE COMING** – about **Putting On** your **new nature**
in the coming messages

But I Love This Summary

Because this **summary verse** - **tells** the **FULL PUT ON** side
of our **New-Life Transformation**

To **PUT ON** means - to **SINK** into –
to be **IMMERSED** into – to be **CLOTHED** in

SINK into your new nature
be **IMMERSED** in your new nature
be **CLOTHED** in your new nature

AND BE RENEWED – Be Transformed

Put on your new nature, and be renewed

DEFINITION of “**Be Renewed**” =
to be changed into a new kind of life

& in **the GRK** it's in the **PRESENT TENSE**
Which **MEANS** – it is **CONTINUAL**

<p><u>So it is - SINK INTO</u> your <u>New Nature</u> & be <u>continually changed</u> into a <u>new kind of life !</u></p>
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Be **continually changed** into a **new kind of life**
By SINKING INTO – By Being IMMERSED INTO

Your **NEW Nature** (Your New Life) **IN CHRIST**

and then - look very closely at that one little word
that comes after the phrase - Be Renewed in verse 10

that little word is - AS

Be (continually) renewed – AS you learn to know your Creator and become like him

Pls - Listen to me very carefully Right here

Your Life - Being Continually Renewed - IN CHRIST
You LIVING - Your NEW LIFE - IN CHRIST

It is NOT MAGIC - You Have A Role

Jesus Christ has provided the POSITION & the POWER
but you and I - still have a role

THAT is WHY Col 3:10 says

We put on our new nature, and we are continually renewed - AS
WE LEARN TO KNOW our Creator and become like him

We PUT OFF our OLD Nature – With Lethal Determination

& then We IMMERSE Ourselves INTO
our New Nature in Christ

And we are CONTINUALLY RENEWED (Transformed)
AS we Learn to KNOW our Creator - & Become LIKE HIM

This CAN NOT HAPPEN - BY following
religious rules & regulations - APPLIED from the OUTSIDE

This can ONLY happen - through a Real, Personal,
Ever-Increasing Relationship with Jesus

& THEN - His LIFE IN US – With the Power of The Holy Spirit –
& With Direction from God's LIVING WORD

RENEWS US – it Transforms Us - AS we grow
in our personal and Ever-Increasing knowledge of the Lord

& day by day – As we behold his glory
We become more & more like him

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV)

18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate (behold) the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Religious Rules & Regulations
will never Transform you like THAT !

But - Putting On your New Life in Christ
& being Renewed - as we KNOW Him more & more

THAT – will Transform our Life
NOT - from the OUTSIDE - IN
BUT – from the INSIDE - OUT

& Finally – Look at Colossians 3:11 (NLT)

11 In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.

Again – the Holy Spirit tries to SUM UP

Everything that DOES NOT MATTER – in our New Life in Christ

Our **NATIONALITY** Doesn't Matter

it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile

Our **RELIGION** Doesn't Matter - **it doesn't matter if you are circumcised or uncircumcised**

Our **CULTURE** Doesn't Matter - **it doesn't matter if you are barbaric**
(uncultured), **or uncivilized**

Our **SOCIAL STANDING** Doesn't Matter

it doesn't matter if you are slave, or free

In your New Life in Christ

NONE of that MATTERS

Your **NATIONALITY** – Your **RELIGION** –

Your **CULTURE** – Your **SOCIAL STANDING**

In our New Life in Christ – NONE of that – MATTERS

J.C. Ryle – a Famous **Evangelical Leader** of the late **1800's** said this

The three words—Christ is all—are the essence and substance of Christianity. If our hearts can really go along with them, it is well with our souls....

But for – **FAR TOO MANY** Christian Religions
“***Christ is NOT ALL***”

It is **Christ PLUS** their **Particular Church**
Or **Christ PLUS** their **Sacraments**
Or **Christ PLUS** their **Good Works**

Our NEW LIFE CANNOT BE
Jesus Christ **PLUS ANYTHING**

Our NEW LIFE MUST BE
Out Of our Life with Christ - **COMES EVERYTHING** - - [repeat]

So – **PUT to DEATH** – With **Lethal Determination**
The Works of your **OLD LIFE**

PUT OFF – Your **OLD NATURE**
(stop giving it power)

& **PUT ON** – Your **NEW NATURE**
In Jesus Christ

& **Be Continually Renewed**
AS you **learn** to **KNOW** your Creator - & **BECOME** Like Him