

## Living Under the Lordship of Christ

### Good Counsel pt. 3

Colossians 3:10-17

#### Three Directives

Paul offers three directives Colossians 3:5-17:

1. Focus on a heavenly/eternal perspective.
2. Put to death the old sinful nature
3. Put on the new nature which is the nature of Christ.

**Directive 3** -- Put on the behaviors of the new nature.

***Underlying principle*** – As Christians, we have been imparted the nature of Christ and have an obligation to live according to the “new nature.”

Paul uses the analogy of taking off dirty clothing and putting on clean clothing.

These are not two separate or unconnected ideas. The two are completely joined as a process of our salvation and life in Christ.

We must not only rid ourselves of the soiled clothing (sin nature), we must, in its place put on the qualities inherent in the nature of Christ.

*The power of Christ in us makes possible the ability to shed what we once were so that we can become something new in Christ.*

*Paul speaks of renewal, making the point that our salvation is both an accomplished fact and an ongoing experience.*

### ***Out of Place Verse?***

Verse 11 seems out of place. In reality, it probably speaks to one of two things (or possibly both):

Some connect these thoughts with what Paul says in verse 9. There he prohibits lying to one another.

Verse 11 is likely meant to connect with the extent of the redemptive work of Christ. No matter a person's background Christ's power to set them free from the old sin nature and clothe them with his righteousness is fully possible.

### **Putting On Christ Likeness**

#### ***Our identity In God***

Our identity in God is described in three ways:

- We are chosen
- We are holy
- We are loved

#### ***Reflecting Christ's nature***

1. What we are becoming in Christ, directly determines the way we are to live.
2. The qualities in Paul's list are connected to relationships.
3. These qualities demonstrate connection between our personal conduct and corporate interaction.

Behaviors pursued on a personal level: Compassion, Kindness, Humility, Meekness and Patience.

Behaviors on the relational level:

Bearing with one another

Forgiving one another

Loving (Put on love) one another

This section concludes with four strong encouragements:

1. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts
2. Be thankful.
3. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
4. Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.

***There are four concluding thoughts:***

How we live is and always has been important.

Paul offers us a list which guides us in our behavior.

How we live should be congruent with the grace we have received rather than linked to the worldly trends and events.

We should live authentic and consistent Godly lives.