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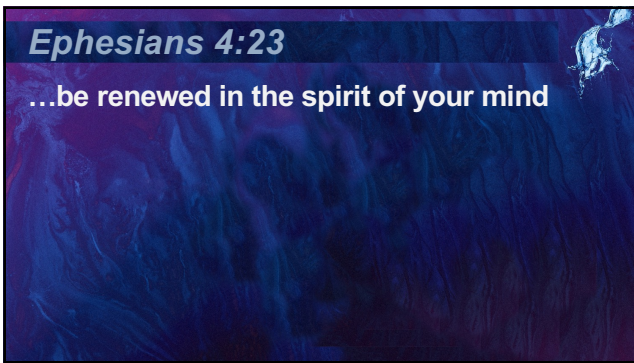
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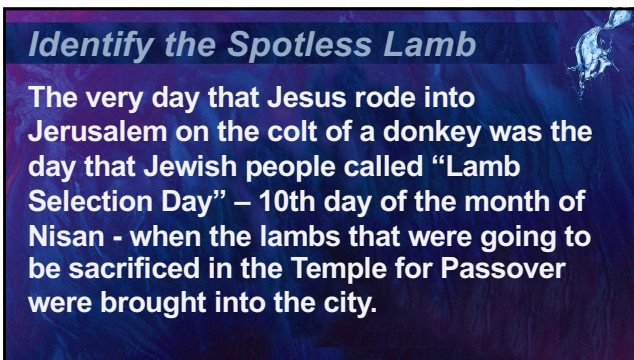
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***Identity***

The set of characteristics by which a person or thing is definitively recognizable or known or identified.

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***Identity of the Spotless Lamb***

- 1. Male without blemish
- 2. Year old
- 3. Sheep or goat
- 4. Kept until the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan when all the Passover lambs were sacrificed

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***Psalms of Ascents***

The Jewish people traveled up to Jerusalem (2700 ft. above sea level) for three feasts (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles). They made the ascent together and chanted from Psalms 120 to 134 which is why they are called the Psalms of Ascents.

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**Isaiah 2:3**

3 and many peoples shall come, and say:  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

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**Matthew 21**

1 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”

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**Matthew 21**

4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,  
5 “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.

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**Matthew 21**  
 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. 8 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

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**Matthew 21**  
 9 And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

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**Matthew 21**  
 10 And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" 11 And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

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What is the significance of the crowd placing their cloaks on the road in front of Jesus he rode to Jerusalem?

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**Cloak**

1. Heavy outer garment
2. Protection from the elements
3. Like a sleeping bag when traveling
4. Maintained in best possible condition
5. Very valuable

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**Cloak in Ancient Israel**



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**Steps to A Renewed Mind**

1. Put off old self
2. Renewed in the Spirit of your Mind
3. Put on new self

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**Renewed Identity**

1. Gift of our most Valuable Possession

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**Exodus 22:26-27**

26 If ever you take your neighbor's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, 27 for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.

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*Renewed Identity*

1. Gift of our Most Valuable Possession
2. Identity is Our Core

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*Can You Guess Their Profession?*



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*Can You Guess Their Profession?*



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*Can You Guess Their Profession?*



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*Can You Guess Their Profession?*



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*Put Off Our Old Identity?*

It's easy to understand why God wants us to put off sin in our lives. It's more difficult to put off good things that we see as part of our pre-Christ identity but are holding us back from our high calling in Christ.

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**Our "Cloak"**

- 1. Ethnicity
- 2. Family of origin
- 3. Socio-Economic status
- 4. Gender
- 5. Culture – Language
- 6. Reputation – Resume
- 7. Skill or Interest

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**Galatians 3:27-29**

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

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**Philippians 3**

4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;

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**Philippians 3**  
6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

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**Philippians 3**  
8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

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**Philippians 3**  
9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith

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**2 Corinthians 5**

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh [Cloak]. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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**Renewed Identity**

- 1. Gift of Our Most Valuable Possession
- 2. Identity is Our Core
- 3. Renewed Purpose

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**Ephesians 1**

18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe

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**Ephesians 1**

according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

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**Lay Down an Old Identity?**

Is there part of our natural identity, our cloak, that we need to lay down so the calling of Jesus can be fulfilled in our lives?

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**Mark 10**

29 Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

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