

## —Sermon Notes for October 3, 2021 —

Gary Frank preaching

“THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL:  
‘Take off his grave clothes and let him go.’”

Romans 6:3-7... Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were, therefore, buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin - because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

John 11:43-44... When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “*Lazarus, come out!*” The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. *Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”*

Our burial clothes represent the sin and corruption of our old self.

Can you name your burial clothes?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Your Road to Damascus:

1. You step out in faith and accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.
2. We receive Eternal Life, the Holy Spirit, & a new Identity in Christ.
3. Christ begins to transform you into His image by removing burial clothes.
4. Ever so quickly or slowly, we begin to align our thoughts, desires, passions with Jesus.
5. The more we do this, the more we experience love, joy, peace, forgiveness, kindness, gentleness, self control.
6. We experience joy in the good and bad experiences in life.

### **We begin to see?**

Your ability to mature and grow into your identity in Christ is dependent on the following:

- You must understand how deeply God loves you. And you did nothing, nor can do anything, to deserve it.
- In the truth of his love, we must begin to love Him deeply.
- As we apprehend this truth, our lives begin to change radically in two ways:
  - His love changes our pallet.
  - We begin to serve not as a servant, but as a son.
  - Don't make your grave clothes your primary focus. There is no condemnation in Christ.

*Unconditional Love is the most powerful force in the universe.  
Unlike Adam & Eve who hid from God in self-condemnation, we need to move toward Him.*