

The Book of Colossians

Lesson 11

Study Notes

Christian Living Part II

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Text: Colossians 3: 12-17.

Introduction: In the previous lesson we have learned that we are to "mortify" (make dead) our members which are upon the earth. We are reminded to "put off" anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of our mouths. In this lesson the emphasis is going to be "put on" the new man. The new man is to be as much recognized by his robes (his habits) as the old man is by his rags. Three times Paul reiterates the words "put on." The words "put on" are in the imperative; this is not a _____ but a _____. Putting off the old man is not enough; we must put on the new man and live by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I. Put on the Right Clothing.

Colossians 3:12

A. *The elect of God.* We are _____ and _____ of God. This has to do with what we are positionally. God has set us apart from the unsaved. His purpose is and has been from all eternity that we should be like His _____. The "elect of God" refers to those whom God has chosen from mankind who are saved individuals, to be channels through which others might learn the way of salvation.

B. *Holy.* We are set apart by God and for God. We are made holy by God's own sovereign will; and is not the result of human _____ or attainment.

C. *Beloved.* We are loved by God. We love Him because He first loved us; as our love grows in Him our desire will be to obey and walk in the _____ of life.

Our New Wardrobe.

1. *"Bowels of mercies"* A heart of compassion, mercy in action, and _____ sympathy for the less fortunate.

2. *"Kindness"* Thoughtfulness of others, unselfishness, _____ of disposition, gentleness, and graciousness.

3. *"Humbleness of mind"* Having a humble opinion of one's self, recognizing one's moral lowliness, modesty, lowliness of the emotions of the mind. Humbleness is modesty, it places self-last, and regards self as _____. Note it was Paul's attitude about his life.

Ephesians 3:8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

4. *"Meekness"* Is an inwrought grace of the soul, a tempered spirit. Not weakness, but _____, delicate consideration for others. It is the opposite of arrogance and self-assertion.

5. "Longsuffering" Patient under provocation. This denotes restraint which enables one to bear injury and insult without resorting to retaliation. It accepts the _____ without complaint. Longsuffering is an attribute of God and a _____ of the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

II. Put on the Right Character.

Colossians 3:13

A. "Forbearing one another" Means to bear with; to endure beside. Put up with things we dislike and get along with those who disagree. Christians can _____ without being disagreeable.

B. "Forgiving one another" we are to show one's self gracious, kind, benevolent, to grant forgiveness. The word forgiving is the Greek word "charizomai" and is built on the same root as the word _____ and means to bestow favor unconditionally.

Note: The word "quarrel" means cause of _____, a matter of complaint.

C. "Forgiven by Christ" We are to forgive in the same portion as; just as; according as.

In one of his sermons, D.L. Moody used to picture the Lord's saying to Peter, "Go, hunt up the man who put the crown of thorns on My head and tell him I love him. Tell him that he can have a crown in my kingdom, one without a thorn. Find the man who spat in my face and preach the gospel to him. Tell him that I forgive him and that I died to save him. Find the man who thrust the spear into my side and tell him that there is a quicker way to my heart." That is how the Lord has forgiven us. That is one sure way to end our quarrels.

III. Put on the Right Charity.

Colossians 3:14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

A. *The priority of charity.* The word for "charity" is "agape" God's kind of love, the kind of sacrificing love that took the Lord Jesus to the Cross. We are to wear "charity" on top of all these other things like an _____ or outer garment. The importance of love cannot be over emphasized in our spirituality. Love is the piece of the garment that holds all the other in place.

B. *The perfection of charity.* The "bond of perfectness" describes the completeness the believer can obtain by having abundant love. Perfectness is completeness, full growth, _____, good working order. The word "bond" means a joint tie, a uniting principle. So, love fuses all attributes of holiness together in our lives and produces the perfect harmonious life that can be used of God.

IV. Put on the Right Crown.

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

A. *The peace of God.* This peace is the tranquility of the _____; and is not ruffled by adversity nor disturbed by fear. The peace passes all understanding and is given by Christ Himself. This peace can only be enjoyed in the environment of _____. This peace resides in the soul of a person who has been reconciled with a holy God. We can enjoy the peace of God through His protection.

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

B. *The position of peace.* It is to "rule." Means to sit as _____, arbitrate, decide all doubts, settle all questions, and make the final decision. His peace is to rule our hearts; our thoughts, feelings, desires. When His peace rules our hearts then we will be thankful.

V. Put on the Right Chorus.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

A. *Saturate our lives with the word of Christ.*

The word of Christ dwelling in our hearts becomes a vast treasury of wisdom upon which the Holy Spirit can draw as He _____ us through the varying circumstances of life. We need to get the Word out of our Bibles and into our hearts.

B. *Singing with grace in our hearts.*

The right kind of singing causes our heart to be taught; causes our hearts to be tender; and the right kind of singing causes our hearts to be thankful. Singing is often used as a learning tool for memorization.

There are three types of songs here mentioned.

1. The psalms. Given to us by the inspiration of God.
2. The hymns. Given to us by the experiences of the author.
3. The spiritual songs. Given to us by the Holy Spirit; it is the song of the soul that has been redeemed.

Isaiah 12:2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

VI. Put on the Right Conversation.

Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

A. *What we do in "word."* A word uttered by a living voice which embodies a concept or idea.

B. *What we do in "deed"* Business, employment, that which any one is occupied, enterprise or undertaking.

No matter what we undertake, let it be in the name of Christ. We cannot live in sin and honor or glorify the name of Christ. The teaching here is no matter what we are doing, it should magnify the Son of God.