

## **CLOTHE YOURSELF – Colossians 3**

Bill Ferguson – December 10, 2002

Twice in this chapter we are told by Paul to clothe ourselves. With what? How? Why? Verse 10 tells us we have clothed ourselves with the new spiritual self after we stripped off our old unregenerate self (v.9). Now we are in the process of being renewed and remolded into a fuller more perfect knowledge upon knowledge after the image of Him who created it.

In this new creation all distinctions vanish (Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, aliens or the worst of savages, v.11). We are to clothe ourselves as God's own picked representatives, (v.12) His chosen ones who are purified and holy and well-beloved by God Himself by putting on these 12 pieces of spiritual clothing.

When a person gets dressed he puts on socks, underwear, shirt, pants, shoes (slippers), watch, rings, sweater, cologne, shaves, combs his hair, then before going out he puts on a jacket or hat. Twelve things we need to put on in order to be properly clothed as God's representative.

1. Tenderhearted
2. Mercy
3. Kindness
4. Lowly opinion of self (humble)
5. Gentle
6. Patience
7. Forgive
8. Love (God's)
9. Perfectness – blameless – in morals and behavior
10. Peace – soul harmony which comes from Jesus
11. God's written Word – to have a home in our hearts
12. The name of Jesus – an in our dependence upon Him, our praise to our Father goes through Him.

I would suggest that it is imperative that each believer meditate on each of these 12 pieces of clothing. Some questions need to be answered.

1. What does each of those 12 pieces of clothing refer to?
2. Do I have some pieces of spiritual clothing on?
3. Do I have all of them on?
4. Do some pieces of this clothing look tattered or dirty?
5. Do I need all of these to be dressed my best for God?

Before we get dressed with these 12 pieces of clothing we may need a shower to get rid of the list of things in verses 8 – 9. We must wash these things away so we are able to put on the clean, sweet smelling clothing God has for us.

Bless you as you get all dressed up and looking good.