A Christian's Moral Attire

Introduction

- 1. Most of us are concerned about how we look. Our appearance is important to us. We want our clothes to match, to be coordinated.
 - A. However, there is something far more important to God. He's concerned about how we adorn the doctrine of God, our Savior.

Titus 2:10 not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.

2. The apostle Paul stressed what is truly important for the Christian in displaying the "bond of perfection."

Colossians 3:12-14 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

Things to Put On

- 1. Christians are very special: "God's chosen ones." They are "holy", set apart for God's service. They are "beloved", objects of God's love.
- 2. The beloved apostle Paul wrote to Christians telling them that they are to "Put on", which is to clothe yourself, envelope yourself with the certain characteristics.
 - A. There is urgency do it now!

3. A new wardrobe is moral attire. Listen to the words of the Psalmist:

Psalms 132:9 Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness, And let Your saints shout for joy.

- A. Our clothing of righteousness can be referred to as our "sacred vestments of our daily priesthood."
- 4. The new man in Christ demonstrates his new life by his new garments.

Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Ephesians 4:22-24 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

A. We have to be determined as Christians to get rid of the filthy garments of worldliness.

Romans 13:12-14

4. Since Christians are holy, we are not to follow the ways and values of the world.

James 4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

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The New Wardrobe

1. "Heart of Compassion."

A. This denotes one that is sensitive to the needs of others and has a deep caring for the problems and sufferings of others. It means getting involved.

1 John 3:17-18

1) This person has a desire to help in whatever way he can.

2. "Kindness"

- A. One who has a sweet disposition shown in one's attitudes and actions toward others. Such as the example of David.
 - 2 Samuel 9:1, 12-13
 - 1) This person is friendly and helpful; one who has a smile, a kind word, an offer to help others. A kind person possesses the ability to put himself in another person's shoes.

3. "Humility"

A. This is the opposite of arrogance, unpretentious. The wise man, Solomon, had this to say in Proverbs:

Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom.

Proverbs 16:18-19 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

1) The humble person has the attitude of a servant; one desiring to lift others up.

Philippians 2:3-4 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others

- 4. "Meekness" or gentleness.
 - A. This is the opposite of rough and rude. The meek person is considerate of others' feelings and also possesses self-control.

1 Peter 3:3-4

5. "Patience"

- A. This one is calm in the face of provocation; long tempered.

 James 5:10-11
 - 1) The patient person endures with others; has a controlled strength. One who has the ability to put up with things; tolerant of the faults of others.

Ephesians 4:2

6. "Forgiveness"

A. We need to have an attitude of always being ready and willing to forgive.

Matthew 18:21-22 Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

1) Jesus is not advocating for people to condone sin, but to have the ability to forgive and overlook offenses.

Proverbs 19:11 The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, And his glory is to overlook a transgression.

7. "Love"

- A. This holds all the other garments (attributes) together.
- B. It unites all these virtues; ties them together like a belt.

1 Corinthians 13:2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

- These are the garments, "the attire" that we are to wear every day.
- The new wardrobe of the new man.

Conclusion

1. One day the faithful will be dressed in glorious redeemed bodies.

1 Corinthians 15:53-54 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY."

2. However, before we can experience the blessedness of being victorious in Christ we must first "put on" Christ.

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

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Invitation

Place	Date

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Richie Thetford, September 2020 (Based on a lesson by Bobby Stafford)