

## PUTTING ON CHRIST AND WEARING HIM EVERYWHERE

Galatians 3:26-27

### I. INTRODUCTION: I

1. **2** When speaking of “putting on Christ” we are talking about what occurs at conversion (**Gal. 3:27**: “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”).
  - A. “put on Christ” is a phrase taken from a Greek word which means: “to sink into (clothing), put on, clothe one’s self” (Thayer); in fact, that is how its translated in the NIV: “for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”
  - B. The preposition “for” at the beginning of v. 27 ties it to the previous passage.
    - (1) Thus helps explain verse 26 (i.e., how one becomes “sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus...”).
    - (2) Have you ever heard the expression: “he’s a chip off the old block.”?
    - (3) A “good” son should reflect their father (i.e., you should “see” the parent in the child).
2. When we “put on Christ” we become “new creatures” (**2 Cor. 5:17**: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”; **Col. 3:9-10**: “Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him...””; **Rom. 6:3-7**: “walk in newness of life”; **Eph. 4:21-24**: “put off...the old man...put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness...””; **Gal. 6:15**: “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.”).
  - A. Wearing Christ means displaying the attributes of Christ; Vincent (*Word Studies in the NT*) comments on Gal. 3:27, “To put on Christ implies making his character, feelings and works our own.”
  - B. We are to grow up spirituality to be “Christ-like” (2 Peter 1:3-10; **Rom. 8:29**: “...He also predestined [us] to be conformed to the image of His Son...”).
  - C. We are to follow (imitate) Christ and follow the apostles as they imitated Him (**1 Cor. 11:1**: “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.”; **1 Pet. 2:21-22**: “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: 22 ‘Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth’”).
3. When one becomes a Christian he/she should begin to think and act differently (**Rom. 6:16-18**: “Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”; **Rom. 12:1-2**: “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...””; **1 Tim. 6:11-12a**: “But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life...”).
4. **3** I want to look at three areas where we each need to examine ourselves to see if we have indeed “put on Christ” and wear Him everywhere.

### II. DISCUSSION:

**First, we need to examine ourselves to see if we...**

#### I. **4** Wear Christ Among Our Brethren:

- A. Every Christian is aware that we are to serve as examples (**Matt. 5:13**: “salt of the earth”; **Matt. 5:14-16**: “...the light of the world...Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”).

- B. We normally think of our example setting in regards to non-Christians, however, our fellow Christians ought to be able to see us as good examples. Examples in:
- (1) Study habits: **Jn. 5:39**: “search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.”; Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 2:15 (Ron Halbrook).
  - (2) Attendance habits: Our attendance is essential that we may “provoke [one another] unto love and good works” (Heb. 10:24-25). If everyone attended as regular as you...would anyone be encouraged? (recall Sister Hartsock)
  - (3) Love for one another: **Jn. 13:34-35**: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”; **Heb. 13:1**: “Let brotherly love continue.”; **1 Pet. 1:22**: “...love one another fervently with a pure heart.”
  - (4) Pursuit of unity: **Eph. 4:1-3**: “...walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (cantankerous old buzzards; Joe Garner, Mr. Brewer)
  - (5) Doing our “share”: **Eph. 4:16**: “...the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.” (a chain is only as strong as its weakest link!)
  - (6) **5** Use of our abilities: using our abilities to further the cause of the Kingdom (Matt. 25:14-30).
  - (7) A pattern of good works: **Titus 2:7-8**: “in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, 8 sound speech that cannot be condemned...”; Jas. 2:14ff (i.e., working faith!)
  - (8) Application and concern for Bible authority: Col. 3:17 and 1 Pet. 4:11
  - (9) Willingness to acknowledge our errors: Jas. 5:16: “Confess your trespasses to one another....”; and efforts to correct them Matt. 7:1-5
  - (10) Willingness to forgive: Matt. 18:21-35; Matt. 3:8; Matt. 18:15-17 (lady in Baton Rouge)
  - (11) **6** Older setting examples to the younger: **Titus 2:2-5**: “that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; 3 the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things — 4 that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.” (John Witt)
  - (12) Humility: **Rom. 12:3**: “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly...” (Ron Halbrook)
  - (13) No double standards: **Prov. 20:23**: “Diverse weights are an abomination to the LORD, and dishonest scales are not good.”; nobody is “above the law”!
  - (14) Proper approach to worship: Jn. 4:24
    - (a) On time, prepared (bring Bible, pen/pencil, rested, clear-minded, pray beforehand, etc.).
    - (b) Dressing appropriately (modestly, respectfully, etc.).
    - (c) Participation (Bible class, singing, following along in Bible, partaking of the LS, etc.).
  - (15) Behavior in social settings: e.g., hospitality; **Rom. 12:13**: “given to hospitality.”; **1 Pet. 4:9**: “Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.”; 1 Tim. 3:2 & Titus 1:8: “hospitable” is one qualification of an elder). Our desire to be with each other ought to outweigh our desire to be among worldly folks (**Rom. 12:10**: “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;”).

## Second, to put on Christ and wear Him everywhere we also need to...

### 2. **7** Wear Christ Among Our Families:

#### A. **\*\*** The godly role of husbands/fathers:

- (1) Spiritual leadership: **1 Cor. 11:3**: “But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.”; **1 Tim. 3:5**: “(for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?)”
  - (a) Noah: **Gen. 7:5**: “And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.”; 1 Pet. 3:20: Noah was able to save his family!
  - (b) Joshua: Josh. 24:15
- (2) Physical leadership:
  - (a) Breadwinner: 1 Tim. 5:8; Beware! Providing for your family doesn’t remove the responsibilities of being the spiritual leader, loving your wife, and being a father to your children. Do not work so much that you forsake your most important duty of getting your family to heaven!!
  - (b) Physical role in the marriage: **1 Cor. 7:3**: “render to his wife the affection due her...”; **Heb. 13:4**: “Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”; Matt. 5:28
- (3) Love their wives: **Eph. 5:25**: “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,”; **Eph. 5:28-29**: “So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.”
- (4) Leadership in raising children: it takes both a father and a mother, but the father provides the leadership! **Eph. 6:4**: “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

#### B. **8** Godly role of the wives/mothers: **Prov. 31:10-31**

- (1) Guide the home: **1 Tim. 5:14**: “Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.” (Doesn’t mean she can’t work: **Prov. 31:16**: “She considers a field and buys it; from her profits she plants a vineyard.”).
- (2) Submission to their husbands: assist them in carrying out their duties, not standing in their way; **Eph. 5:22-24**: “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.”; **Col. 3:18**: “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”
- (3) Be a “help meet” for the man: Gen. 2:18-25
- (4) Be a powerful example to husbands: 1 Pet. 3:1-7 (**1 Pet. 3:1**: “Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,”)

#### C. **9** Godly role of children:

- (1) Obey and respect parents: **Eph. 6:1-3**: “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 ‘Honor your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with promise: 3 ‘that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.’”; **Col. 3:20**: “Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.”; Deut. 21:18-21: stubborn, disobedient children were stoned

- (2) Receive “instruction” from your parents: **Prov. 1:8-9:** “My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother; 9 For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, and chains about your neck.”; **\*\*Mark Twain** said: “When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.”; **Prov. 13:1:** “A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.”
- (3) **\*\* Pick your friends carefully:** 1 Cor. 15:33; **Prov. 13:20:** “He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.”
- (4) Don't fear being different: **1 Pet. 4:3-4:** “For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles — when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. 4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.”
- (5) Your faith, must be “your” faith: **2 Cor. 5:10:** “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”; Rom. 10:17

### **Third, to put on Christ and wear Him everywhere we also need to...**

#### **3. 10 Wear Christ Among Those in the World:**

- A. Where are you as a Christian? (Gal. 3:27; Col. 1:13; **Jn. 17:16:** “They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.”; 1 Jn. 2:15-17; **Col. 3:1-3:** “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”).
  - (1) We are to realize that the world can influence us (1 Cor. 15:33).
  - (2) Yet, we can also influence the world (Matt. 5:13-16; **2 Cor. 3:2:** “You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men;”).
- B. Don't befriend the world (**Jas. 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.”).
  - (1) We must be in the world, but we cannot be of the world (Jn. 17:16).
  - (2) We must abstain from every form of evil (1 Thess. 5:22).
  - (3) Upon conversion we become “new creatures,” we must act like it (2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 6:3-7; 12:1-2).
  - (4) **!! No revenge:** **Rom. 12:19-21:** “Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.”
  - (5) Honesty: **Rom. 12:17:** “Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.”
  - (6) Humility: **Titus 3:1-2:** “Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.”
  - (7) Careful how we “fight the good fight of faith”: 1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Cor. 10:3-5
  - (8) **\*\* William “Fishbait” Miller, Congressional Doorkeeper (1949-1953, 1955-1974):** “Eighty percent were hypocrites, 80 percent liars, 80 percent serious sinners...except on Sundays. There's always boozing and floozing.” (60 Minutes CBS TV 24 Apr 77) The worst thing a man or woman can do in life is to cause damage to the cause of Christ through worldly living!

### III. CONCLUSION: 12

1. Can you agree with Paul? **Rom. 6:1-2:** *“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?”*
2. Can you agree with Paul? **Phil. 1:21:** *“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”*

Adapted from a sermon by Brian A. Yeager.