

## PUTTING ON THE DEVIL AND WEARING HIM EVERYWHERE

John 8:44

### I. INTRODUCTION: I

1. **2** Our evening lesson last week dealt with **PUTTING ON CHRIST AND WEARING HIM EVERYWHERE** (Gal. 3:26-27).
2. In that lesson we examined the importance of Christians to imitate the example of Christ (**Col. 3:9-10**: “Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, I 0 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...”; **Rom. 8:29**: “...He also predestined [us] to be conformed to the image of His Son...”). Recall we talked about the importance of putting on Christ and wearing Him:
  - A. Among the brethren,
  - B. Among our family,
  - C. Among those in the world.
3. **3** In the interest of equal time, this week we want to consider: **PUTTING ON THE DEVIL AND WEARING HIM EVERYWHERE**.
4. **4** For a Christian to put on the devil they first must take off Christ: **2 Tim. 4:10**: “for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world...”
  - (1) It's impossible to live in the world and be “in Christ” simultaneously!
  - (2) Many try it, and can be pretty successful in fooling themselves that they've pulled it off!
5. **BUT** one cannot be clothed in light and darkness at the same time (**Col. 1:13**: “...partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. I 3 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,”; **1 Pet. 2:9**: “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;”).
  - A. **BUT** light and darkness do not cooperate or work together; they are incompatible (**2 Cor. 6:14**: “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?”).
    - (1) Notice the comparison of God and the Devil to light and darkness (**Acts 26:18**: “to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God...”; **1 Thess. 5:5**: “You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.”).
    - (2) Jesus represents light, not darkness (**Jn. 8:12**: “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’”).
  - B. You cannot be for and against the Lord at the same time; divided loyalties are impossible!  
**Matt. 12:30**: “He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.”  
**Lk. 11:17**: “But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: ‘Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls.’”  
**Rev. 3:15-16**: “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. I 6 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.”
    - (1) We show whether or not we love God by our deeds (**Jn. 3:19**: “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds

were evil.”). Pure and undefiled religion involves “keeping oneself unspotted from the world” (Jas. 1:27).

- (2) When a Christian steps back into the world; regardless that they pretend to still be a Christian, they have walked away from God and it is an ugly picture!

**2 Pet. 2:20-22:** “For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: ‘A dog returns to his own vomit,’ and, ‘a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.’”

- C. Let’s examine **Putting on the Devil and Wearing Him Everywhere** realizing when we do so we are like the dog returning to his vomit and the sow to her wallowing in the mire.

## II. DISCUSSION:

### I. **5** Wearing the Devil Among Our Brethren:

- A. Satan is a liar (**Jn. 8:44:** “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”).

- (1) When brethren try to “play both sides of the fence” they are wearing the devil among our brethren and to do so they must be deceitful (**2 Cor. 11:13-15:** “For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.”).
- (2) That is why faithful Christians are to be calm and watchful; not paranoid, but aware and watchful! 1 Pet. 5:8
- (3) The faithful are warned of wolves in sheep’s clothing (Matt. 7:15-20; Acts 20:28-31).
- (4) As brethren in Christ we need to be watchful for one another (**Heb. 13:17:** “Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account.”; **Jas. 5:19-20:** “Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, 20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.”).

- B. **6** Faithful brethren will realize those who are wearing the devil because it shows! How?

- (1) Lack of concern for Bible study (**Acts 28:26-27:** “Go to this people and say: ‘Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand; And seeing you will see, and not perceive; 27 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.”).
- (a) They ignore clear instruction to study (Acts 17:11; Jn. 5:39: search the scriptures!).
- (b) If they do study they never learn because of their lives that are full of sin and they have no real intention of making application to their lives (**2 Tim. 3:7:** “always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”; **2 Tim. 3:5:** “having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”).
- (2) Lack of interest in the Lord’s work (1 Cor. 15:58).

- (a) The Lord's work is not important because their work in the world is first; they are apathetic when it comes to religious matters (Haggai 1:3-11).
- (b) They simply do not love the Lord (Jn. 14:15).
- (3) Lack of love for the truth (i.e., disrespect of Bible authority; Matt. 15:1-9; Gal. 1:6-12; "Well, I don't see anything wrong with that.").
- (4) Justify worldly behavior (e.g., social drinking, smoking, immodest dress, dancing, etc.).
  - (a) Ultimately they begin participating in that behavior (**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.*").
  - (b) They are unwilling to acknowledge wrong doing and repent (Acts 7:51-60).
  - (c) Blame those trying to help them out of sin.
- (5) Lack zeal for worship: They have a terrible approach to worship and meeting times of the local church (Heb. 10:24-25; habitually late, habitually absent, unprepared, detached, unfriendly, etc.).
- (6) Seek to be divisive: (1 Cor. 1:10-13; 3:1-5; 2 Jn. 9-11); often play the "devil's advocate"; they have "unique" view of Scripture.
  - (a) **7** That's why we must be watchful instead of "simple" [naive] (Rom. 16:18: "*For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.*").
  - (b) We must be willing to take action (**Rom. 16:17**: "*Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.*"; **2 Thess. 3:6**: "*But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us.*").
  - (c) Such action is designed to help both parties!
    - (i) Stop the spread of apostasy: 1 Cor. 5:6-7; 2 Tim. 3:8-9 (Don't underestimate influence wayward brethren may have on other brethren, especially those new/weak in the faith.)
    - (ii) Save a wayward soul: **Jas. 5:19-20**: "*Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, 20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.*"
- (7) Sadly their fellowship with the world is more important to them than their fellowship with God, with faithful brethren, with those walking in the light (Jas. 4:4; Eph. 5:6-11; Ezek. 3; 33).
- (8) They will ultimately speak evil of good Christians doing good work; even those seeking to help them (2 Pet. 2:12; "Those people at Westside are just a bunch of hypocrites!").
- (9) By wearing the devil they do much harm to the cause of truth (**2 Pet. 2:2**: "...by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.").

## 2. **8** Wearing the Devil Among Our Family:

### A. Husbands who have put on the devil are:

- (1) Not providers for the family:
  - (a) Financially: 1 Tim. 5:8
  - (b) Spiritually: Eph. 6:4 (Nurture defined by Thayer: "the whole training and education of children (which relates to the cultivation of mind and morals, and employs for this purpose

now commands and admonitions, now reproof and punishment). It also includes the training and care of the body”; Admonition defined is “exhort - instruction”).

(2) Not fulfilling the proper role of the husband to the wife:

(a) Unfaithful: Heb. 13:4; Matt. 5:28-30

(b) Unloving: Eph. 5:25

(3) Not setting the proper example: **1 Cor. 11:1:** “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.”

(a) Love for money: 1 Tim. 6:10 (e.g., Working overtime more important than attending gospel meeting.)

(b) Love for the world: Jas. 4:4 (e.g., Colt’s game more important than attending services.)

**B. 9** Wives who have put on the devil are:

(1) Not providers for the husband:

(a) Spiritually: Gen. 2:18, **Job 2:9:** “Then his wife said to him, ‘Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!’”

(b) Physically: 1 Cor. 7:3b

(2) Don’t portray traits of a godly mother: **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.”; Prov. 31:10-31

(3) A terror to their husbands and children: **Prov. 21:9:** “Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, than in a house shared with a contentious woman.”; **Prov. 27:15:** “A continual dripping on a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike; 16 Whoever restrains her restrains the wind, and grasps oil with his right hand.”

**C. 10** Children who have put on the devil:

(1) Disobey and disrespect 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.”

(a) Deut. 21:18-21: stubborn, disobedient children were stoned; nothing more ugly than a household ran by the children!

(b) It negatively reflects on your parents, your family, on God and on YOU!

(2) Don’t 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.”

(a) Don’t do well in school; **Prov. 13:1:** “A wise son heeds his father’s instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.”

(b) It negatively reflects on your parents, your family, on God and on YOU!

(3) Run with the wrong crowd: 1 Cor. 15:33; **Prov. 13:20:** “He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.” It negatively reflects on your parents, your family, on God and on YOU!

(4) Try to fit in with 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.”; You think you’re cool when, in fact, you look like a total dipstick! It negatively reflects on your parents, your family, on God and on YOU! Dare to be a Daniel!

D. **II** A home of those wearing the devil is:

- (1) Never hospitable: Heb. 13:2: entertain strangers; **Rom. 12:13**: “given to hospitality”
- (2) Neglect training of their children: (i.e., Producing children that are hell bound; **Prov. 22:6**: “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”; A good result insofar as a godly child does not happen by accident!).
- (3) Not spiritually focused as a family: **Josh. 24:15**: “...as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” (gospel meetings!)

3. **12** Wearing the Devil Among Those in the World:

- A. It means your love and loyalty will be to the things in the world (1 Jn. 2:15-17); Instead of being separate from sin and sinners you fit right in; you are more at home with the people of the world than with the people of God.
- B. It means you are an enemy of God (Jas. 4:4).
- C. It means you are unprepared to meet God (2 Cor. 5:10).
- D. It means you are a hypocrite: **Titus 1:16**: “They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.”; **Matt. 23:14**: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.”; **Matt. 24:45-51**
- E. It means you are doing untold damage to the cause of Christ! 2 Pet. 2:2

### III. CONCLUSION: **13**

1. If you are not a Christian you are already clothed in Satan's garment of sin. Cast them off!
2. If you are a Christian who is having troubles in what you ought to wear you need to pray, study, and seek out your loving brethren to help you clothe yourself with righteousness (Rev. 3:17-21).
3. Put God first in your life and all other things will fall into place (**Rom. 8:28**: “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”).

Adapted from a sermon by Brian A. Yeager.