

## Intro Ask Two Rhetorical Questions

1. How do you Get Dressed in the Morning?
2. What are you wearing today?

Now I happened to be at Rachel farewell brunch and we were all

When I was preparing this message I really felt challenged by the things I was discovering about living this out. If I was to be really honest I didn't feel qualified to bring this message and very much preaching to myself. I believe there is a correlating theme running throughout our messages...The Word Alberto Quiet time Bruce Forgiveness Latana A Growing Christian Gbmero Maturity in Christ Piers & Practising His Presence Dan

## **Title OFF WITH THE OLD ON WITH THE NEW**

Ephesians 4:17-24

*17 So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. 19 Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.*

*20 You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. 21 Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

### **Background Pauls letter to the Ephesians**

We also know that Paul wrote Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon letter while being imprisoned while under house arrest in Rome awaiting trial. We know that Paul had a deep relationship with the Ephesians because he had ministered to them for a full two years AD 55. Most likely the Ephesians letter was a circular letter that went round several other small churches in the Asia minor region. Now at the heart of the message is the process by which God is bringing the church together to its destined purpose in Christ. Basic maturing steps are taken to confront and do battle with dark powers. But before the church can go to war she is taught to walk and before she can walk she is taught where she stands.

This is divided into 2 sections: 1 The Believers position, chapters 1-3 and 2 The Believers practice, chapters 4-6. So the basis in which I want to present this message to you this morning is on Chapter 4 v 22-24 the believers practise.

I'm Hoping to be able to present to you 3 points in which relate to my to putting off and putting on and in the analogy of physically getting and dressed and getting dressed spiritually.

Two Actions Put OFF & Put ON They are opposite Actions

- 1. Removal the old fleshy garment**
- 2. Address the Attitude**
- 3. Dress with confidence**

We are called not walk as the world does in hopelessness and separation and misunderstanding of God. Also in a mindless state that has become de-sensitized and cauterised to living a life in a perverse and distracted manner separated from God with a continual lust for more

Before one can put off on or put on for that matter just dressing isn't enough you have to know that you need a bath or shower if smelling odorous your bit funky or your breath smells got fur on your tongue need to brush ones teeth: it's a poor analogy but lets use it for argument sake, and so you get the picture. Paul address this in verse Ephx17-19

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*22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,*

### **1. Remove the old fleshy garment**

Now what does Paul mean by the former way of life? Basically what Pauls is talking about here is the Sinful Nature

### **Colossians 3:5-10**

*5Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. [b]7You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.*

22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

We are to put off that Sinful nature that Old man that has its very nature of old that was inherited from the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam

### **Romans 6:6**

**Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him**

By the old man is meant the corruption of nature; called a man, because natural to men; it lives and dwells in them; it has spread itself over the whole man; it rules and governs in men; and it consists of various parts and members, as a man does: it is called "old", because it is the poison of the old serpent, with which man was infected by him from the beginning: taken from the first man that ever was; it is as Old as the man is, with respect to it's duration and its continuance: in opposition and contradiction to the new man.

Paul isn't suggesting that we put this old man away from amongst us in the congregation nor is talking about destroying him. It is called a putting off with regards to its government and showing no regard for his rule or dictates or directives. It's a putting off from the former way of life, He is put off but not put out, He no longer reigns He is put out but threatens and rages against the new man.

### **Galations 5:17**

For the **flesh** lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the **flesh** ; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

### **Romans 6:6**

**Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him**

The sinful nature with its sinful desires and lust  
Sin loves to weave its desires and can be to one so attractive but often never will question consequence of one's actions: it promises pleasure, but you end up feeling empty, liberty but brings you into

bondage, secrecy but exposes. Would you like a video screen flashing up with the thoughts you had recently or some actions that you weren't to happy with how would you feel.

*Those that are controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God  
Romans 8:8*

When I became born again or when I got saved that was it I knew that I was saved I knew had given my life to Christ I knew I was that there had been an exchange I gave him my Old life He gave me a new life. creation newly created righteous in him not my righteous but His: it was instantaneous. Now something went away straight away my language got cleaned overnight I was very sensitive to swear words I suddenly had awareness of the Lord's name being taken in vain.

**Antidote Shoot** Ben Hume John, Myself and Photographer illust

So to leave that Old life behind that's put off from it's government where going to have to address our attitudes...

## **2. Address the Attitude**

and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; Change of Attitude is a changed mind

**Note the OED** defines "attitude of mind" as:

**attitude of mind** : deliberately adopted, or habitual, mode of regarding the object of thought.

What you Got for Me?

A lot of Hurting people anger, Hatred Racism

Inproper glances that lodge in your mind what are you meditating on  
You are what you meditate on!

Average house hold has TV on 6 -7hrs a day and the average Joe watches tv four hours a day probably an hour in morn and 3 hours in evening. We need to swop that over imaging if we reading and praying in that time. Now nothing wrong with tv just talking about addressing a balance I may not watch as much tv but I got a lot of Dvd's

### ***Philippians 2:5- Amplified Bible (AMP)***

*Let this same attitude and purpose and [humble] mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus: [Let Him be your example in humility:]*

*Who, although being essentially one with God and in the form of God [a]possessing the fullness of the attributes which make God God], did not [b]think this equality with God was a thing to be eagerly grasped [c]or retained, But stripped Himself [of all privileges and [d]rightful dignity], so as to assume the guise of a servant (slave), in that He became like men and was born a human being. And after He had appeared in human form, He abased and humbled Himself [still further] and carried His obedience to the extreme of death, even the death of the cross!*

### **1 Peter 5:5** *New International Version (NIV)*

*Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."*

Emptied himself of all of his glory and takes a form as human being instead of selfish ambition he takes a form of slave

He did not *consider* his equality with God selfishly

We know that even from the age of 12 he was about his fathers business

Ministered for 3 years about his fathers business

Sought quiet times many times he retreated withdrew to spend time with His father

Giving us the greatest example of humility with foot washing going to cross dripping great drops of blood because of the very pressure that he was going to bear

But for this purpose I was born.

Not My Will But Your will be done. **Big Revelation**

### **Romans 8:5-8**

*Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6The mind of sinful man [e]is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7the sinful mind [f]is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.*

#### **It's What the Spirit desires**

On Romans 6:6  Something will guide our thoughts and deeds: either God and noble causes or Sin.  We should "no longer be slaves to sin—" but rather reset our minds so they become "slaves to righteousness"

#### **Your Attitude should be that off Christ!**

The ultimate example of a Christian mindset is the Author himself Christ Jesus, who is the manifestation of the character of God, which God is trying to reproducing in his people so that we might also be truly human.

What is crucial for us to understand is that the exercise of putting of your old self and putting on the new self is done in the mind.

This links in to what Dan was saying last Sunday in his sermon about practicing the presence of God in respect of Colossians 3 that coming close to God is an mental exercise. It means rejecting our old way of thinking and resetting the ATTITUDE of our minds. *Colossians 3 v2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.*

#### **So we deliberately adopt a new way of thinking**

What was Jesus attitude towards the women caught in adultery

Where are your accusers now she said nowhere Lord and he said neither do I condemn you go your way and Sin no more! **John 8:3**

Is our attitude still compartmentalized, it's Ok God I'll give you this area but I'm not ready give this up. Sacrificial that a little bit to much for me. I'm not going to the Mid week meeting I'm tired..i need time for myself!

## **Romans 12:1-2**

Therefore I urge you brothers in view of God's mercy to offer your bodies as living sacrifices; this is your spiritual act of worship: Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. I want to make a distinction here between 12:1 and 12:2

Often we excuse our attitudes and wrong behaviour all too easily stating either that I'm still a bit of a fleshly earthly nature I'm not there yet! God knows God understands... We have to be very careful that we not making excuses to hide behind sin instead of doing what we know as to be right.

But here Paul is saying that the saints are already seated in the heavenly realms and where to come out in testimony of God's character before men, walking as Christ did in love and light.

## **Romans 8**

12 Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. 13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, 14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. [g]And by him we cry, "Abba, [h]Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

With a renewed Attitude and Mind Set where able to....

### **3. Dress with confidence**

The Phrase Dress for Success or Dress to Impress: The world's value system is based on appearance materialism idolatry Wealth and keeping up with the Jones: Who you are the latest fashions film idols. We live in an Iconic age and ect

**Putt on** comes from greek word endyo in a sense of sinking into a garment.

## **New Man New Nature New Nature New Man**

I am an avid my marvel fan in my early childhood I grew on spiderman, Ironman Xmen Fantastic Four Captain America Incredible Hulk and I used to sit for ours in my room drawing these heroic characters that were out to save the world in their fight against good v evil. What struck me about these characters is not just their costumes and what they were wearing, but what intrigued more was their stories of origin the way in which they got their powers it was always through some freak accidents of nature radioactive spiders or labotory test that went wrong and suddenly you have this infusion of half Robot & half man or whatever...or this super being.

But to put on Christ the New Man the new nature A new Creature a new creation after his image which appears in perfect holiness and righteousness is a garment, pure and spotless...infused put into the hearts of men. It's not an upgrade of the Oldman because that nature is corrupt and rotten. Infused something that was never there before new eyes new ears mind and heart a new everything.

In Ephesians we've already been taught there been that exchange the confession of faith so that exchange has already happened. A new man is created in God's own image according to his mind and will. It's a genuine work of the Holy Spirit's on going process of sanctification upon our hearts. Now tell me something why wouldn't you be clothed in righteousness his majesty his splendor his humility.

**Ep4:24** and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and **holiness** .

### **1 Peter 2:9** (New International Version)

#### **New International Version (NIV)**

9But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

### **Colossians 3:10**

and have put on the **new self** , which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

### **2 Corinthians 5:17-18** (New International Version)

#### **New International Version (NIV)**

17Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 18All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

### **Colossians 3**

12Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

15Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## **2. FOLD APPLICATION** 1. The Cross Examination (get it)

Walk Humbly before your God under Cross Examination under the microscope of God's Word in the presence His Holy Spirit.

For those who are continually lead by the Spirit are the sons of God if you are led by the Spirit. *Work out your Salvation with fear and trembling*

Be prepared to be examined David said <sup>23</sup> *Search me*, O God, and know my heart; *test me* and know my anxious thoughts.

<sup>24</sup> See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. **Psalm 139:23**

He also said I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you **Psalm 119:11**

Just as you would check yourself out in the mirror before going to work or going to some important engagement pay attention to details to areas of your body and how you'r dressed.... Sometimes you may come across spot or blemishes or hair out of pla ce and you think o crumbs what's that! O boy that ugly that's nasty Their may be even pain in a certain area of your body.

Well God's word is that mirror as you spend time looking into it and reading the word of God, God is reading you. You have to be prepared to make changes in your character or an area in your life that God has highlighted through his word through his Spirit.

### **Hebrews 4:12**

*12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

Now no one likes to be shown faults especially me but correction is different and discipline is necessary in the ongoing process of a Christians walk, we all at different stages but Paul said do not despise the Lord's rebuke as chastens those he loves as Son and daughters

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, 6because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." [a]

7Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? 8If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. 9Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! 10Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. 11No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

The ongoing process of Communion with God and praying allows Romans 8 talks about being led by the Spirit.

2. Die to Self      Be prepared to die to self.  
                                 Not my will but Your Will be done

Jesus say pick up your cross and follow me. Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise -- the fruit of lips that confess his name." The disciples made an offering when they left everything to follow Jesus. We die to self when we are prepared to offer up our agendas and plans for our lives, our hopes and dreams, in order to let God do with us as He wants.

### **Conclusion**

We remove our Old self by putting off the fleshy garment which is corrupt by nature and rotten and cannot change and we do not serve it. And to do this we have to Address our Attitude and adopting a new mind set which is the Attitude of Christ, because we are lead by the Spirit being sons of God which in turn allows us to put on the nature of the new man which is Jesus Christ God man appearing in flesh humbly submitting himself to the Fathers will, in the ultimate example of righteousness and holiness. We are seated with him in the heavenly realms. [16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.](#)