

A Wardrobe that Fits God's Chosen Ones

Colossians 3:12-17 ESV

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved: compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Getting properly dressed each day:

1) Each day **in prayer put on** the virtues of Christ empowered by the Holy Spirit

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved:

- a) **Compassion**: *sympathy, empathy – felt deep in the gut*
 - b) **Kindness**: *friendly/helpful, seeks to meet practical needs*
 - c) **Humility**: *proper estimate of self/recognizes weaknesses*
 - d) **Meekness**: *teachable, strength under control, non-reaction*
 - e) **Patience**: *waiting 'well' in unpleasant circumstances*
 - f) **Perseverance**: *(bearing with one another) putting up with and enduring difficult people without bitterness*
 - g) **Forgiveness**: *releasing someone from a debt, a wrong*
- ^{13b}...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also **must** forgive

2. The **belt** that holds them all in place is **love**

¹⁴And **above all these put on love**, which binds everything together in perfect harmony

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails...” 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

3. Dressed in these clothes allows/**Lets** a few things to happen:

- a) The **peace** of Christ will **rule** in our hearts:

¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

b) The word of God will dwell in our hearts/minds

^{16a}Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...

c) Conversations will be instructive, corrective, & edifying.

^{16b}...teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

4. The 'last look' final approval before saying or doing anything is Jesus!

¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.