

A NEW SET OF CLOTHES

8/29 & 8/30

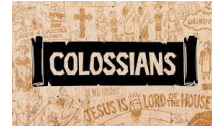
[Colossians 3:12-14](#) – Isn't it nice to have new clothes? There is something about new clothes that makes us feel better, and they say something about us. Paul talks about a new way of living, as if it were a new set of clothes. The old clothes, or habits, were actions that we did when we didn't know Jesus. The new clothes, or habits, are actions we do because we know Jesus. These actions include kindness, compassion, humility, forgiveness, and loving others. There is a part of us that wants to say that we are already living with those habits. The question arises, can we do better and live them out more often?

What does Paul mean by putting on new clothes?

What are some of the actions you need to change?

How are you forgiving others?

Sermon Notes



Our Journey for August 24 – August 30, 2026

How often do you change your clothes? When I was younger, my mother would remind me to change my clothes when I came home from school. Her reason was to keep my school clothes stain-free so that I would not ruin them. If I ruined my clothes, it would take about six months to a year before I could get new ones (think: a new school year means new school clothes). So, I changed my clothes when I came home from school and once more when I went to bed. The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Colossian church, told the people to change their clothes. They had old habits they wore like old clothes, but now they had new ones they should wear like new clothes. The old ones, like anger, rage, and malice, were to be replaced with new ones, like kindness, humility, and patience. These new clothes would show the people around them what it looks like to follow Jesus. They were able to wear these new clothes because the Holy Spirit brought the needed forgiveness to them. As you look over [Colossians 3:5-14](#), ask yourself what clothes do you need to change?

~ Pastor Seth

PRAISE GOD

Mon. 8/24

[Psalm 111](#) – When was the last time you thought about what God has done in your life? The follow-up question to that is, what has God done in your life? The psalmist writes about God's movement and activity in the life of God's people. God provided resources and protection as the people left Egypt and traveled to the Promised Land. God also gave them forgiveness and redemption. His power was seen throughout their history. The psalmist shares this so the people would not forget to thank God for who He is and praise Him for what He has done.

What has God done in your life?

When was the last time you thanked and praised Him for what he has done?

WHAT SHOULD THEY DO?

Tue. 8/25

[Deuteronomy 7:1-11](#) – People say, “Hindsight is 20/20.” What they mean is that when we look back on a situation, we can see what should have been done. In Deuteronomy 7:1-11, God tells the people what they should do with the surrounding nations. They should not intermarry, follow their gods, worship their idols, or interact in any way with them. This seems harsh, and we may wonder, why? Is it because God is mean and harsh? No, it is because God called His people to follow Him. He wants them to be set apart, to be holy as He is holy. As we look through the Old Testament, we see that the people did not listen to God. They intermarried and worshipped the idols left behind. Eventually, they ignored God completely. After the Babylonian exile, the people of God looked back and realized their mistakes. Then, they started to follow God and obey His words.

What lessons have you learned from your past?

What does holiness look like in your life?

WHAT COMES NEXT?

Wed. 8/26

[Isaiah 58:1-14](#) – [Colossians 3:5-14](#) says that we should put aside those actions that take us away from Jesus, and put into practice those actions that lead us to Jesus. The prophet Isaiah says something similar in today's reading. He shares the words of God that point out how far the hearts of God's people are from him. God doesn't stop there; He points out how their actions can lead them closer to God, not away from Him. As the people put into practice what God shared, God will guide them, restore them, and give them joy. Paul isn't sharing anything new with the people of Colossae. He is sharing God's truth differently—a way they can understand and put into practice.

What is God convicting us to do?

What are you doing that says you are following Isaiah 58?

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Thur. 8/27

[John 13:31-38](#) – Conversations tend to stray to different topics than where they started. You can start talking about the Pittsburgh Pirates and end up talking about a show that you are watching. You may not realize that you went from one topic to an unrelated one. The Gospel of John has this happen in John 13. Jesus is talking about leaving the disciples. He then discusses a new command he wants them to follow and concludes by saying that Peter will deny him. The conversation may be disjointed, but the command of loving one another holds it together. Jesus' love for them and us leads him to the cross. Jesus understands that the temptation will be for the disciples to turn on each other, but they need to love one another, which sets them apart from their culture. Peter will deny Jesus, yet Jesus will love him through his denial, and so should the disciples.

How can we love each other as Jesus commanded?

What does loving someone else do to your relationship with them?

REPLACING HABITS

Fri. 8/28

[Ephesians 4:25-32](#) – Habits are hard to stop. There is a lot of research that says not to stop bad habits but to replace them. If you want to eat healthier, then replace the chips with carrots. If you want to be healthier, then replace watching television with walking or reading a book. In most of Paul's letters, he tells the recipients to replace their habits with something else. If you tend to talk badly about someone, start encouraging them or building them up (verse 29), and, as often as you can, forgive each other, just as Jesus has forgiven us (verse 32). Verse 32 is a difficult verse to live out. We want to hold on to the wrongs done to us so that we can justify our anger and actions, but we need to forgive.

When did you forgive someone who wronged you? How hard was it?

What habits need to be replaced? Who can help replace them?