We Are Glad *You* Are Here

Sunday, March 15, 2026

sermon: "Clothed In Christ" - Colossians 3:5-17

Big Idea: In Christ, we leave old ways behind and put on a whole new way of life.

I. Take This Off (vv. 5-11)

A. Paul gets intensely practical here when he admonishes us to put into practice what is true in principle—that we are alive in Christ and have died to sin (cf. Col. 3:3; Gal. 2:20).

B. Since we have been raised with Christ (v. 1), we are called to take off (put to death) behaviors that mark our old life. These behaviors include:

1. Sexual sins (v. 5) - immorality, impurity, and lust.
2. Greed (v. 5; cf. Eph. 5:1-5) – covetousness, idolatry.
3. Evil attitudes (v. 8a) – anger, rage, & malice.
4. Evil speech (v. 8b) – slander, filthy language.
5. Deception (v. 9a) – lying, deceitfulness.

C. Paul also reveals some deeper reasons we are not to be clothed in the preceding behaviors:

1. They incur God's wrath (v. 6; cf. Rom. 1:18).
2. We are a new creation in Christ (v. 9b; cf. 2 Cor. 5:16-19) – A picture of justification.
3. Your new self is being renewed daily (v. 10; cf. Phil. 3:12- 14) – A picture of sanctification.
4. We have unity in Christ (v. 11) – in God's kingdom, we all stand on the level ground of the cross.

II. Put This On (vv. 12-17)

A. As part of clothing ourselves in Christ, it's important to remember that we are God's people, set aside for His purpose and dearly loved (v. 12a). As such, we are to put on:

1. A Christ-like character (v. 12b) – compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience.
2. A Christ-like example (vv. 13-14) – forgiveness and love.
3. A Christ-like unity (vv. 15-16) – Peace, worship, & gratitude.
4. A singular focus on Christ (v. 17; cf. 1 Cor. 10:31) – The goal is always God's glory, the encouragement of His people, and the building up of His Kingdom.

COME AS YOU ARE, BECOME WHO GOD MEANT YOU TO BE.

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