

“Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ.” V. 14

Romans 13:9 – 14

As we look at our Saviour in Jesus The Christ, we need to look at Him more seriously than just a Saviour. Paul wrote in **Colossians 2:9 – 10** “*For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. (10) And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*” We sometimes look at this as just the Holy Spirit and the Father, or as the Godhead, but it is more than that, it is not just the Divine excellences, but the Divine nature that is in Him. Not look at **Acts 17:29** “*Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.*” God is a being, a Holy being, He is not something we admire like a statue, or gold or silver, but to us as Christians He is a divine nature, our new nature in this life. We are “are complete in him,” not just saved, but changed to be like Him with a divine nature, the Holy Spirit resides in us. When God said, “Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ.” The thought is like unto clothing, it is like wearing your new nature as a clothing in your life. It means various Christian qualities in our life, V. 12 of our text says, “*The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and **let us put on the armour of light.***” or instruments of war in this world to live in our divine nature we have in Christ. We see them in Eph. 6:11-17 listed as wearing “The Whole Armor of God” Eph. 6:11 “*Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*” Wear the armor of God, so that when temptation, trial, tribulations, and persecutions come from Satan and his workers, you can survive as Christ did. Jesus said to Satan, **Matthew 4:10 - 11** “*Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.*” God told us if we wear our “armour of light.” Rom. 13:12 and “Put on the whole armour of God” Eph. 6:11 we to can resist Satan because we have “*Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ.*” V. 14 of our Text. Our contentment in life must be our happiness being clothed in Christ, because seeking more will cause kinks in our armor.

A. What it means to “put on Christ”.

1. It make you a completely different person. **Galatians 3:26 - 29** "*For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. (27) For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. (29) And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." This is what we are when we put on Christ.*
 2. Putting on Christ is living in righteousness. **Galatians 3:10 - 12** "*For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. (11) But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. (12) And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them." Not for salvation but because of our salvation, the law is not a justifier but a schoolmaster, but after salvation it should be our way of life.*
 3. The thought of living in the word of God as Christ did may seem overwhelming and impossible, but there is no excuse in the work of it. It is a necessity of a believer.
- B. What is this New Garment of Christ we are to wear.
1. **1 Corinthians 15:53 - 54** "*For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. (54) So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.*" – it is true this is our resurrection to glorify our new bodies, but what about our already glorified soul and spirits?
 2. Putting on Jesus Christ is wearing His merit and righteousness. This is part of our justification, so is our living in Christ, not just faith but also works of faith. **James 2:14, 17 - 18** "*What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? (17 – 18) "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works."*

3. Christ's Spirit and Grace is part of our garment. **1 Thessalonians 5:8** "*But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*" – These are also mentioned in Eph. 6: 14, 7 but why these two?
 - a. The two arms - the breastplate to protect the heart, and the helmet to guard the head; they are both defensive weapons.
 - b. The heart of a Christian needs to be guarded against the assaults and influences of Satan's weapon of evil in the world.
 - c. And the breastplate guards the heart of the earthly warrior in the battle of this evil world.
 - d. A Christian wearing the righteousness of Jesus Christ needs all the armor of God, but it starts here with the head and heart.
 - e. Our weapon is "*...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*"
Ephesians 6:17 - Not just to fight the evil with, but as part of our personal wardrobe and a guide for our personal life.
 - f. **Hebrews 4:12** "*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*" – "quick" means alive – the bible is Word of God, here, the body of revealed truth and powerful enough to turn the hearts of man. It is the most powerful weapon in the world because it not only condemns but also can give life, eternal life, it has God's power in the Holy Spirit.
 - g. But we must remember it starts with the breastplate to protect the heart, and the helmet to guard the head. Putting on Jesus Christ as clothing.
4. Justification and sanctification are the believers two greatest necessities. However, neither is possible without wearing Jesus Christ.
 - a. Our justification is – our acquittal – or our sin pardon. Making us righteous so we can be like Christ.
 - b. **Romans 4:24 - 25** "*But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; (25) Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.*"

- c. His blood alone satisfied God for our sinfulness. We must do more than believe in Jesus, we must believe His death, burial, and resurrection and what it was for. We must also believe in His blood and what it was for. We must believe in His birth, life, death, blood, resurrection, and ascension. And what they stand for, He is our Saviour and our life.
- d. His blood must be put on and worn understanding its power.
- e. Understanding that, He is our righteousness and acceptance to God.

Ephesians 1:6 - 7 *"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. (7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"*

- f. We must put on His merits and righteousness.
 - g. We must come to God in His name.
5. Not just justification but also sanctification.
- a. **1 Thessalonians 4:3 - 6** *"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: (4) That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; (5) Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: (6) That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified." – the word sanctification means – purification that is for us as Christians in Christ to be in the state of purity. –*
 - aa. This is the will of God. – the will of God is twofold, the one is the determinant of God - His decree – this will of God is always accomplished, without question. The second is His desire, that in which he delights in us. Some people do not believe in the second, but the ordained will of God is never failed. God cannot fail and neither can man cause Him to fail.
 - bb. God's will for us as Children is for us to walk God commanded in, **Galatians 5:16 - 17** *"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. (17) For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would." – is this a commandment of the Lord or a*

suggestion from the Lord? If it is a commandment or suggestion, it is still “the will of God”. The fact that God commanded it makes it God’s will for us, if we fail that God did not fail, we did.

cc. God ordained that we be sanctified or made holy in Christ this is God’s ordained will, God commanded that we walk in this world in a sanctified manner, and this is also God’s will, but both are not ordained will because in that walk we all fail.

dd. Our holiness is the great design of Christ’s death and is the revealed will of God in us as we are in Christ. We are, by God’s ordained will absolutely sanctified in Jesus Christ, cleansed of every sin thru His blood, because God ordained it to be. But is our earthly walk just as cleansed? No, but both are God’s will. Because one is absolute or ordained and the other is not. We are only in God’s will if we are walking in the Spirit which is walking totally in His word.

ee. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 *“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”* Let me ask, have you ever failed in giving thanks for something?

b. Back to **1 Thess. 4:3** the Lord mentioned one specific sin, *“...that ye should abstain from fornication:”* This is God’s will for us, I found this odd, how many believers commit “fornication”? However, you must define the word and put it into this context, so let us do that.

aa. The word “fornication” means, - harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively idolatry – per Strong's Concordance now let’s look at Vines Dictionary of NT Words it means - “illegitimate sexual intercourse,” Vines goes on to say, - metaphorically, of “the association of pagan idolatry with doctrines of, and professed adherence to, the Christian faith, - My question is which thought of definition is fitting to our study in this passage context, it is the second, not to walk “in pagan idolatry with doctrines of the true Christian or biblical faith or doctrines” This is our walking in a sanctified or holy walk on this earth, which is *“For this is the will of God...”* 1 Thess. 4:3 Are we perfect, No, but our goal as Christians is to fulfill God’s will in this life.

bb. This is called “Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ.” Walking in this world as a shining light of Jesus Christ and not walking dark as though we are lost. Remembering God’s will for us, to walk in a holy manner, walking after the Spirit and not the flesh.

c. **Ephesians 4:24** “*And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*” – The new man is also called the “new creature, or the new creation” in Jesus Christ.

aa. Let me quote Elder Oscar Mink a former Pastor of our church, and now with the Lord. “*The new man is created in the image of God, regaining that which was lost in the fall, "righteousness and true holiness." "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2nd Cor. 5:17). This is in part what Paul meant when he said to the Ephesian saints, God "hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" Eph. 2:6. So, by faith we walk hand-in-hand with God, and deal righteously with one another, while showing the world that holiness becomes us.*”

bb. This is God’s will for every believer, that we walk in righteousness, putting the old man behind us, “...*while showing the world that holiness becomes us.*” – Mink. That is called “*putting on the new man*”

cc. Elder Mink continued, “*Holiness and righteousness,*” is the proper fruit of a renewed life, for without these fruits it is apparent that the old man is still enthroned in the life. “*Holiness*” spoken of here is not the kind that makes one proud and characteristic, but the kind that makes one humble and grateful toward God.” – our sanctified walk (that is God’s will for us) is in a humbled and thankful manner toward God for His love and grace.

dd. “*which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*” Let us walk as though we are pleasing God.

ee. Elder Mink closed with this, “*Let us close by reminding ourselves that all human righteousness is as filthy rags in God’s sight, and that righteousness which avails before God is wrought in us by the Holy Spirit. Also, that*

holiness which establishes one in the favor of God is based on Christ's work and not our own."

- d. Now let us look closely at, **Romans 6:3 - 6** "*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? (4) Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (5) For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: (6) Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.*
- aa.** What does it mean when God said, "*that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*" So, first let us define the word "*baptized*" then put it into context.
- bb.** The word "*baptized*" baptizō in the Greek and means - to make whelmed (that is, fully wet); -Vines. It means to immerse oneself. – Just because the interpreters used the word Baptized does not mean with water, but it means – to immerse oneself or washing oneself fully into Jesus and His death. Not with water but is actions of your life.
- cc.** Why are we "baptized" or immersed in water after salvation? Because it is an act of righteousness. Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness, we are baptized after Him to fulfill our righteousness, but in life our righteousness is being immersed in Him or putting on Christ and the meaning of His death which is in holiness.
- dd.** **Galatians 3:25-29** "*But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."*

- e. Our sanctification is our purification so our walk can be pure, so we can walk in His likeness and walk as He walked. **Galatians 5:16 - 17** *"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. (17) For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."*
- f. The question is, are we? Are we walking in the will of God, all of God's will?

C. How must we "put on Christ"?

1. We must understand that we are sinners and naked before God's eyes.
 - a. God see's our every part, our actions, thoughts, and works. **Isaiah 29:15** *"Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?"*
 - b. **Luke 12:1 - 3** *"In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. (2) For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. (3) Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops."*
2. Putting on Christ is to walk in righteousness, not in somethings but in everything. Walking in the Spirit and not filling the lust of the flesh of sin.
3. God said, **1 Thessalonians 5:21 - 23** *"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. (22) Abstain from all appearance of evil. (23) And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."* How will Jesus Christ see us when He comes? How will He judge us?

D. Putting on Jesus Christ means you have a clean garment.

1. **Hebrews 7:24 - 25** *"But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. (25) Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."* – The word "uttermost" means – full ended or completely.

2. Putting on Jesus Christ is remembering what He did for us and how He suffered for us.
 3. Remembering that He is our bridge to heaven, and to the Father. Our Mediator which means - a go between or (by implication) a reconciler.
 4. Putting on Christ means when the Father see's us He see's Christ. Otherwise, the Father will not look at man who is a filthy sinner outside of Him.
 5. Only wearing Him are we wearing clean garments. And that garment is sufficient.
- E. Jesus Christ must be our all and in all.
1. **Romans 8:29** *"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."* God the Father, in Christ and thru Christ "conformed" us "to the image of his Son" We did not conform ourselves, but the Father conformed us.
 2. The word "conformed" mean" - jointly formed, that is, fashioned like unto – Strong's. – Vines says it means - signifies "having the same form as another", making a sinner "into the image of His Son"
 3. **Philippians 3:20 - 21** *"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: (21) Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."* Not just our "vile bodies" but our entire tri-being body, soul, and spirit are changed, redeemed and cleansed in His blood.
 4. Our responsibility as God's children is to walk in Christ, walk in the Spirit, to walk in the scriptures, to walk in the will of God. This is putting on the Lord Jesus Christ.