



**May 12, 2024**

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**Colossians 3:1-14 (NIV)**

**“The Robe of Christ’s Righteousness”**

## **SUMMARY**

This chapter of Colossians encourages the Christian to remember who they are in Christ. “To set your minds on things above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God; not on earthly things.”

Paul is in tune with the minds of his flock; he knows their struggles and temptations. So, he reminds them that they, like Christ, have died to an old way of life and have been raised to the new. And, just in case they aren’t understanding exactly what he is getting at, he lists some of the sins that need to be put to death to live this new life. They fall into two categories: sexual sin and sins of speech. Both types of sin are deadly for the sinner and ones who are affected by the sin.

Sexual sin is often singled out by Paul because of the era in which he lived. In many places Paul had visited, there were pagan temples that held up temple prostitution as sacred. It polluted the lives and bodies of the people in those cities; idolatry overwhelmed the population. But then, Paul goes on to point out verbal abuses which kill the soul. Words spoken in anger, rage and malice, lying, slander and filthy language are all designed to damage the one receiving these words.

At this point, Paul uses the metaphor of taking off these old grave clothes of sin and putting on the new self—the Robe of Righteousness...A spiritual closet cleaning that rids one of long cherished rags replacing them with the kingly robes of Christ. It’s as if we are leaving our grave clothes in the cemetery of sin and moving into the anteroom of the king where the attendants lovingly wrap us in a rich, soft, golden robe of love and unity. Christ is all in all and that is how God sees us—wrapped in his righteousness.

## **NOTES**

## **QUOTES/THOUGHTS FROM THE SERMON:**

“The robes of the king bring him as close to divinity as it gets. He is robed in the anointing gown for purity, the crowning gown, and then, his kingly attire, The Robe of Estate.”

“The transition to new life is abrupt! We were dead; now we are alive.”  
Eugene Peterson.

“Take off the old self with its practices and put on the new self which is being renewed.... clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness humility, gentleness, and patience.” Col. 3: 10 & 12

## **QUESTIONS**

- When you think of “being royalty” what comes to mind? How is that different from being a part of Christ’s kingdom in the reality of your Christian life?
- How do the Resurrection and Holy Spirit impact the words in Col. 3 from Paul to the church? To our personal lives?
- Have you experienced trying to “put off” the old sins and put on the new self? Have you been successful? What or who helped you change your ways?
- If we are all one in Christ regardless of ethnicity or nationality, how do we live that out in our family? Church? Personally?

## **CLOSE IN PRAYER**

Lift each other up in prayer by name, trusting God that we can get rid of the old self and put on the new.