

Union with Christ
WALKING IN NEW CLOTHES

1

The Supremacy of Union with Christ

One Main Point: Because Christ and his work are sufficient, those who have received him should walk in him, and in him alone.

- Walking in Christ (vss. 6-7)
 - Receive, walk—rooted, built-up, established (cf. 2:5)
 - Thanksgiving: the secret seasoning in joy
- DO NOT (vs. 8)
 - Be “taken as plunder” by *empty* teachings
 - Human tradition and “principles” of this world
- WHY?
 - **In him**, the *fullness* of deity dwells (vs. 9)
 - **In him**, you have been filled (vs. 10)
 - **In him**, you were circumcised (vs. 11)

2

The Supremacy of Union with Christ

- **With him**, you have been buried in baptism (vs. 12)
- **With him**, you have been raised through faith (vs. 12)
- **With him**, you were made alive (vs. 13)
- Christ, cross and cancellation (vss. 13-14)
 - **In him**, the spiritual forces of darkness were shamed and triumphed over (vs. 15)

• **Bottom line:** Jesus Christ + Nothing = Everything

3

Walking as Resurrected, Debt-Free Christ-followers

- Why do we struggle to *feel* forgiven and free from our sin debt?
 - o Our distorted views of God—God as holy enforcer rules our thought-lives
 - o Our own bitterness—we struggle to forgive others from the heart
 - o Our pride—forgiveness feels like a handout, and we need to carry our load
 - o Our self-condemnation—we don't need Satan to condemn us, we'll take care of it for him
 - An insecure, performance-based sense of worth and value
