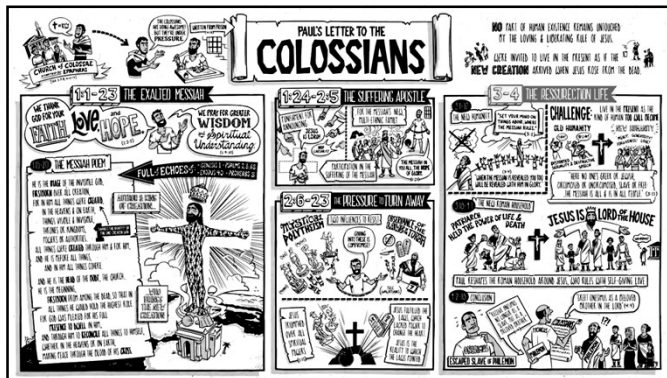


NEW LIFE WITH CHRIST

The Book of Colossians

DRESS CODE FOR THE RESURRECTED LIFE
(3:5-14)

1



2

INTRODUCTION

- Paul's hard push against self-made religion, asceticism, judging one another, "higher" spirituality
- This is a frequent theme in the Christian (and other) books, teachings, and conferences in our own day
- Paul asserts that, because of our union with Christ, we are already in the highest form of spirituality that there is
 - We have received all things that pertain to life and godliness
 - It is now for us to live out what we are in cooperation with the Holy Spirit

3

THE PRESENT CALL TO PUT TO OFF (5-9A)

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you:
sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire,
and covetousness, which is idolatry.

On account of these the *wrath of God* is coming.

In these you too *once* walked, when you were living in them.

But now you must **put them all away**:
anger, wrath, malice,
slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

~~Do not lie to one another.~~

4

THE PAST REALITY OF A NEW PERSON (9B-11)

seeing that you have **put off** the *old self* with its practices
and have **put on** the *new self*,
which is being renewed in knowledge
after the image of its creator.

Here there is not Greek and Jew,
circumcised and uncircumcised,
barbarian, Scythian,
slave, free;

but Christ is all, and in all.

5

THE PRESENT ALL TO PUT ON (12-14)

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
compassionate hearts, kindness,
humility, meekness, and patience,
bearing with one another

and, if one has a complaint against another,
forgiving each other;
as the Lord has forgiven you,
so you also must forgive.

And above all these **put on** love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

6

RESPONSE

- Our unified identity as the people of God in Christ
 - Breaking down all barriers to become one in Him
- Our call is not to put off/on to *become* new people, but because *we are* new people in Christ
- All of these items are relational - be a new creation is not merely about one's relationship with God, but manifests itself in our attitudes and actions with those around us
- Despite appearances, God's wrath is against all sin - He is not indifferent or nonchalant about this world's fall
