

***“Changed!”***  
***Colossians 3:8-11***

**Introduction:**

1. Please Go Back With Me In Your Bibles This Morning:
    - To Colossians 3 - Where Last Sunday:
      - God Used The Apostle Paul:
        - To Address With Some Of The Major:
          - Temptations & Sins That We Still, As Christians, Need To “Mortify” - And “Put To Death” In Our Lives!
    - Well - In The Last Verse We Looked At:
      - Last Week - 3:7 - Paul Reminds Us That:
        - Those Sins & Those Desires:
          - Are In Our Past!
            - **IE:** They Are In Our Rear-View Mirror!
        - “In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them!”
          - Those Sins - Which Really Are **All** Expressions Of Idolatry - Reflect The Way You **Were**:
            - If You Are A Christian!
              - Not The Way You **Are**!
  2. But Why? What Happened?
    - Why Is There To Be Such A Difference Between:
      - A Christian & The Rest Of The World?
        - Because - **You’ve Changed!**
          - And You’ve **Been** Changed:
            - By The Lord Jesus Christ!
    - And This Change:
      - Is Not Only To Be Reflected:
        - In Your Deepest **Desires**:
          - It Is Also To Be Reflected:
            - In Your Innermost **Disposition**!
              - And This Is What Paul Deals With Next In:
  3. 3:8-11 - Which Says:
    - “But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. / Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; / And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: / Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all!”
      - If You Are In Christ, This Morning - We See From These Verses - That
        - There Needs To Continue To Be:
- 1. A Change In Your Practices!**
- And This Ongoing Change Is Found In:
    - 3:8-9a - “But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. / Lie not one to another!”
      - Here - We Have Another:
  - Command To Change!
    - In 3:5 - Christians Are Commanded To:
      - “Mortify” Our “Members Which Are Upon The Earth!”
        - This Means That You Are To:
          - Do Whatever It Takes To **Deprive Your Lust From Its Life!**
            - Have You Been Doing This - This Week?
              - But Here:
    - In 3:8 - We Are Commanded To:
      - “Put Off” Other Sins And Practices:
        - That - Once Again - We Know About:
          - All Too Well!
    - When Paul Commands Us:
      - To “Put Off” - He Wants You To Think:
        - In Another Way - As You Deal With Your Sins!
          - He Wants You To Think Of Your Sin As An Old Garment:
            - That Is Worn & Torn & Has Outlived Its Usefulness!

- **IE:** Some Of Us Have A Hard Time Letting Go Of Old & Worn Out Things! Perhaps Its Time To Go Through Your Closet & See What I Mean!
  - It Is No Different In Your Spiritual Lives!
    - There Are Still “Works Of Darkness” That Have No Place In The Closet Of Your Soul!
- It Is Time For Them To Be Changed!
  - It Is Time For You To:
    - Take Those Old Rags Off:
      - And Throw Them Away!
        - **IE:** And Not Just Given Away To A Thrift Store!
  - You Need To “Put Them Off!”
    - And Then - Paul Once Again:
      - Gives Us A List & Identifies The:
- Character Of Change!
  - You & I Need To Put Off:
    - “All These – Anger, Wrath, Malice, Blasphemy Filthy Communication Out Of Your Mouth – And Lie Not One To Another!”
  - Now - Is There Any Connection:
    - Between The First List Of Sins & Vices:
      - And This One?
    - The First List:
      - Has To Do With:
        - Your Unclean Desires:
          - And Your Lusts!
    - This Second List:
      - Has More To Do With:
        - Your Unclean Disposition:
          - Your Anger & Wrath!
  - It Seems Like Paul Is Telling Us:
    - That - When You Strive To:
      - “Mortify” Those Old Members Of Sin:
        - They Are Not Going To Die Off Without A Fight!
    - In Fact - When Your Old Lusts & Desires:
      - Are Starved & Strangled:
        - It Can Lead To Expression Of Frustration & Disappointment & Disgust!
    - And That Frustration:
      - Can Stir Up All Of These:
        - Different Stages Of Anger:
          - From The Inside Out!
  - I Think James Connects These Things For Us Well:
    - In James 4:1-2 - “From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? / Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not!”
      - So - You Need To Keep:
        - Putting These Off As Well!
- Put Off Your Anger!
  - The First Word In This List:
    - Is The Same Word Translated In 3:6 - To Describe The “Wrath Of God!”
      - But - The “Wrath” Here Is Not At All Like God’s! It Is An Unclean, An Unholy & An Unrigheous Anger!
  - But It Is An Anger:
    - That Lurks In Your Heart!
      - **IE:** Like A Smoldering Fire - Its Not Full In Its Flame - But Its There - Ready To Burst Forth At The First Provocation!
  - Is There This Kind Of Anger:
    - Or Any Kind Of Bitterness:
      - In Your Heart Today?
    - Remember James 1:20 - “For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God!”
      - But Also:
- Put Off Your Wrath!

- This Word Describes What Happens:
  - When The Smoldering Fire Of Your Anger:
    - Is Stoked - By Something Or Someone:
      - That Goes Against Your Own Desires!
- It Is A Rage That Will:
  - Burn Within:
    - Until - It Can't Be Held In:
      - Any Longer!
- Is There Any Kind Of This Wrath:
  - In Your Heart Today?
    - You Also Need To:
- Put Off Your Malice!
  - Malice Is The Outward Expression:
    - Of Your Heart Of Anger & Wrath!
      - If Wrath Is The "Boiling Up" Of Anger:
        - Malice Is The "Boiling Out!"
  - It Will Express Itself:
    - In A Mean Spirit - That Lashes Out:
      - On Anyone That Might Cross:
        - Or Disappoint You!
          - Even - Or Especially - Those Closest To You!
  - Is There This Kind Of Malice:
    - In Your Life Today?
      - You Need To Deal With It & Put It Off:
        - Before It Further Explodes Into These Other Expressions - That Deal With Your Tongue! Also:
- Put Off Your Blasphemy!
  - We Often Use This World:
    - Do Describe Taking The Lord's Name In Vain:
      - But - In General Terms - It Can Be Done Toward Anybody!
  - You Blaspheme Someone:
    - When Rail On Someone - When You Lash Out:
      - On Someone In Anger!
  - Its What Happens When You Say Something:
    - That You Often Immediately Regret!
      - Remember How James Describes Your Tongue? James 3:5-6 - "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! / And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell!"
  - Is There This Kind Of Blasphemy:
    - In Your Tongue Today?
      - When It Gets To This Point, Though:
        - You Need To Remember That There Is Much More Behind It:
          - Than You Might Let On!
  - You Need To Deal With:
    - Your Tongue:
      - At The Earlier Stages:
        - Of Anger & Wrath & Malice!
          - Put Them Off! Also:
- Put Off Your Filthy Communication!
  - Any Kind Of Speech That:
    - May Be Crude & Rude!
      - Words That Are Meant To:
        - Sting & Hurt & Abuse:
          - Someone In Your Life!
  - Instead Of Building Others Up:
    - This Kind Of Communication:
      - Tears Them Down!
        - You Can Speak This Way:

- **To** Someone! Or:
- You Can Speak This Way:
- **About** Someone!
- Remember What Jesus Tells Us:
  - In Matthew 5:34-35 - "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. / A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things!"
  - What Is **Your** Heart Like This Morning?
  - You Can Know It By Your Speech! To Others! About Others!
  - But Even Further:
- Put Off Your Lying!
  - In 3:9a - Paul Adds Another Command To This List:
  - "Lie Not One To Another!"
- Christian - There Need To Continue To Be:
  - This Kind Of Change:
    - In Your Practices!
  - You Are Called To:
    - "Put Off" All Of These Things!
    - From The First Movement Of Your Heart In Anger To The Final Expressions In Your Words!
    - "All These" Sins Do Not Become You As A Christian Any More!
    - They Are The Torn & Worn Garments Of Your Old Flesh!
- You Need To Change!
  - But - We All Know How Difficult This Change:
    - Can Be! And This Is Why Paul Then Tells Us - Not Only **Why** We Need To Change:
    - But **How** We Can Change!
    - You Can Change - Because - There Has Already Been:

## 2

### ***A Change In Your Person!***

- 3:9b-10a - "Seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; / And have put on the new man!"
  - Here - Paul Provides The Basis Of Your Change!
    - In Essence - He Says:
      - You Need To Keep "Putting Off" Your Sin:
      - Because You Have "Put Off" That Old Man!
  - **You Can Change:**
    - ***Because You've Been Changed!***
      - You Can Change Your Practices:
      - Because You've Been Changed:
      - In Your Person!
  - Remember The Truth Of 2 Corinthians 5:17:
    - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new!"
    - **You Can Change:**
      - ***Because You've Been Changed!***
  - So - Think About:
- What You Have Already Put Off!
  - 3:9b - "Seeing That Ye Have Put Off The Old Man With His Deeds!"
    - Those Deeds Include:
      - All Of The Sins Mentioned In This Chapter!
      - Fornication, Uncleaness, Inordinate Affection, Evil Concupiscence, Covetousness, Idolatry, Anger, Wrath, Malice, Blasphemy, Filthy Communication, Lying!
  - When You Put Your Faith In Jesus Christ:
    - You Chose To "Put Off" That Old Man:
      - That Old Nature - Because - By God's Grace - You Were Enabled To Recognize It:
      - As Old & Useless & Fruitless!
  - God Opened Your Eyes:
    - To See That:
      - The New Was Better Than The Old!
      - The Light Was Better Than The Darkness!
      - God's Way Was Better Than Your Ways!

- So Then - Why Would You:
  - Go Back? Why Do You Go Back?
    - Remember - “Ye Have Put Off The Old Man With His Deeds!”
    - But Also - You Need To Remember:
- What You Have Already Put On!
  - 3:10a - “And Have Put On The New Man!”
    - That Is - The New Nature:
      - That Comes From Christ!
      - It Is New & Different!
      - It Is Alive & Vibrant!
      - It Is Beautiful & Fresh!
    - It Is The Life Of Christ Himself:
      - In You!
- And It This New Man:
  - That Will Enable You:
    - To Put Off Any Of The Remnants:
      - Of That Old Man!
  - **IE:** It Is Kind Of What Happens To Snakes - When - Every So Often - They Have To Shed Their Skin - Their Old Skin, Like Our Old Man & Nature, Is Dead - But It Still Surrounds Their Body - Their New Skin, Like Our New Man & Nature, Is Alive - But The Snake Still Has To Put Forth The Effort To Wiggle Out Of That Old, Dead, Useless Skin!
    - And That’s What Christians Are To Do Every Single Day!
      - The Old Man:
        - Is Dead & Useless!
      - The New Man:
        - Is Alive & Well!
      - Keep Wriggling Out Of That Old, Dead, And Useless Nature!
        - Because There’s Already Been A Change In Your Person! But Even Further - There’s Been:

### 3. ***A Change In Your Perception!***

- In The Rest Of 3:10 - Paul Wants You To Know:
  - What Your New Man & Nature Is Like:
    - It Has Been “Renewed In The Knowledge After The Image Of Him That Created Him!”
  - The New Nature:
    - That You Have Been Given:
      - Was Created By The Lord Jesus Christ!
      - And So - Your New Man:
        - Is Constantly Being Renewed In His Image!
  - This Means That:
    - You Will - More & More:
      - Live Like Christ & Look Like Christ:
        - Because Now, You Can Think Like Christ!
        - You Are Being “Renewed In The Knowledge” Of Jesus!
  - And You Will Start To:
    - See Things - More & More:
      - The Way Christ Sees Things!
        - And This Change In Your Perception Is What We Find In:
- 3:11 - “Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free!”
  - You See - In This “New Man” That You’ve Been Given:
    - All Of Those Old Differences:
      - That Often Caused Division:
        - And Discord - Including Those Sins Of Anger & Wrath & Malice:
          - Are No Longer Of Any Significance!
  - Now - You Know The Truth:
    - About Those Differences!
      - And Paul Brings Out Four Pairs Of Differences That Often Brought About Prejudice & Discrimination! And Still Does!
- Distinctions In Race:

- Like - “Greeks” & “Jews!”
  - In Christ - In The New Man:
    - These Kinds Of Differences:
      - Don’t Matter! Or:
- Distinctions In Religion:
  - Like - “Circumcision” & “Uncircumcision!”
    - In Christ - In The New Man:
      - These External Differences:
        - Don’t Matter! Or:
- Distinctions In Refinement:
  - Like - “Barbarians” & “Scythians!”
    - In Christ - In The New Man:
      - These Differences:
        - Don’t Matter Either! Or:
- Distinctions In Rank:
  - Like - “Bond” & “Free!”
- Since You Have Put On:
  - The “New Man” In Jesus Christ:
    - You Have Been Given:
      - A Renewed Heart & Mind & Knowledge:
        - And Vision!
  - Now - You Can See All Things:
    - And All People:
      - Through The Lenses Of Christ Himself!
  - This Kind Of Perspective:
    - Will Bring:
      - Humility:
        - When You See Where You’ve Come From!
      - Compassion:
        - When You See The Needs Of Others!
      - Harmony:
        - When You See The Church The Way Christ Sees The Church!
  - And - When You Have This New Perspective:
    - From Your New Man & Nature:
      - So Much Of The Anger & Wrath & Malice Of That Old Man Will Disappear!
        - Especially When You Remember That You’ve Also Been Given:

#### **4. *A Change In Your Priorities!***

- 3:11b - “But Christ Is All, And In All!”
  - Again - Paul Is Telling Us What:
    - This “New Man” & “New Nature” Is Like!
      - It Is Now - All About:
        - Christ!
  - This Is How:
    - You Will Be Able To:
      - Keep “Putting Off” & “Mortifying” Those:
        - Sins Of The Flesh / Your Old Man!
  - Because - Now:
    - Both In You & To You:
      - “Christ Is All, And In All!”
        - This Means That Your Number One Priority & Desire Is:
- To Please Christ!
  - Now - “Christ Is All” To You!”
    - All That You Once Were:
      - And All That You Once:
        - Prized & Pursued After:
          - You Find In Him!
  - He Is The All-Sufficient One!
    - And He Is The Only One:
      - Who Can Tame Your Lusts:

- And Satisfy Your Soul!
- So - When You Strive:
  - To Please Him:
    - He Will Enable You:
      - To Mortify & Put Off Everything:
        - That Does *Not* Please Him!
    - Your Priority Is Also Now:
  - To Promote Christ!
    - If Christ "Is All" To You - Then:
      - Christ Can Be "All" To Anyone & Everyone:
        - No Matter What Their Superficial Differences May Be!
    - It Will Not Matter:
      - What A Person's Race Or Religion Or Level Of Refinement Or Rank & Station In Life:
        - You Will Promote Christ:
          - To Them All!
            - But Also - Priority:
    - To Portray Christ!
      - That Is - Christ Can Be & Should Be:
        - "In All!" - "In All":
          - Of Your Feelings!
          - Of Your Thoughts!
          - Of Your Desires!
          - Of Your Deeds!
    - As A Christian:
      - You Should Be Able To Say & Sing:
        - From Your Heart:
          - "O I Want To Be Like Jesus!"
            - Because - Now - With This New Man - You Can!

#### **Conclusion:**

1. Remember Today - That In Christ:
  - You've Been Radically Changed!
    - In Christ:
      - Your Priorities Have Changed!
        - And Your Perceptions Have Changed!
          - Because Your Very Person Has Changed!
2. You Have:
  - "Put Off The Old Man With His Deeds; And Have Put On The New Man!"
    - So Now - Keep Changing!
      - Keep "Putting Off" & Shedding:
        - That Old, Dead, Useless:
          - Skin Of Your Flesh!
    - So That:
      - Your New Man Can Shine Through!
        - So That:
          - Christ Himself:
            - May Be Seen In You!

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