

# PUT ON THE NEW MAN

## COLOSSIANS 3:5-11

Text: Colossians 3:10

### **Colossians 3:10**

<sup>10</sup> And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Introduction:

I saw a quote the other day that grabbed my attention: “The Christian is not ruined by living in the world, but by the world living in him.” At no other time in Christian history has this statement been more true, for the lines between Christian and non-Christian, between the church and the world, have become blurred in our day.

That’s why, every once in a while, we need to be reminded that we have been called to be a distinct people in the world. Certain actions and certain attitudes that belong to the lifestyle of the world do not fit in the lifestyle of the Christian. In other words, while we live in the world, we are not to allow the world to live in us.

In our text Paul identifies some things that needs to be removed from our lives.

# 1. UNDISCIPLINED DESIRES

## Colossians 3:5

<sup>5</sup> Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

There are five specific desires noted here.

Fornication – *harlotry* (including *adultery* and *incest*)

Uncleanness – Every kind of impure act  
Inordinate affection

Inordinate Affection – Inordinate lust or affection

Evil Concupiscence – *longing* (especially for what is forbidden)

Covetousness – eager for gain or greediness

# 2. UNHOLY TEMPERAMENT

## Colossians 3:8

<sup>8</sup> But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

There is more to sin than just the sins of the flesh. There are also sins of the temperament, sins of the disposition.

It was a sin of the temperament that marked the prodigal's older brother as being under the disfavor of God.

It was a sin of the temperament in the proud Pharisee praying in the temple that Jesus contrasted to the saintly humility of the publican.

Many Christians who proudly put out of their lives the undisciplined desires can still stink up their lives by allowing these unholy attitudes to remain.

Paul identified these sins of the temperament – the sudden flame of anger, the settled spirit of animosity, and the smoldering hatred of our fellow man – as things that needs to be put out of our lives.

### **3. UNTAMED SPEECH**

#### **Colossians 3:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

We also need to put out of our lives untamed speech. Paul specifically identified the problem as: slander, abusive speech or filthy speech, and lying.

Slander is insulting speech directed at other people. An example is a woman who said to her friend, "My

mother taught me never to say anything about anyone unless it was good. And boy is this good!”

Filthy language can be cursing or it can be abusive speech or speech that is questionable or speech that not appropriate in a mixed crowd.

We know what lying is.

Lying has become a part of American culture, partly because of its pragmatic value. We even categorize lies by referring to them as different colors.

But Paul said, “Don’t lie at all. Tell the truth.” To walk in truth with the One who is the truth demands that we speak the truth.

Slander, filthy speech, and lying are things that need to be put out of our lives.

## **4. UNWARRANTED PREJUDICE**

### **Colossians 3:11**

<sup>11</sup> Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all.

Paul spoke in verse 10 of the renewal that is going on in the life of the Christian. He added in verse 11 that this is a renewal in which “there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian,

slave or free, but Christ is all, and in all.” Christian love also reminds us that the outward differences that make so much difference in our world do not make any difference at all in Christ. And they shouldn’t to us.

Close:

### Lessons

We need to remember that the Christian life does include negatives. It is a dangerous thing when the pendulum swings too far in either direction in our understanding of the Christian life, when we become so caught up in the positives that we forget the negatives, or when we become so obsessed with the negatives that we neglect the positives. The key is balance. But balance demands that we remember the negatives.

There are some things as Christians we should not do,

- Some words as Christians we should not say,
- Some places as Christians we should not go,
- Some attitudes as Christians we should not have.

In our text it doesn't address these things in others but rather in ourselves.

Too many today are so concerned with the problems of others that they fail to see their own.