

Put Off - Put On Ephesians 4:25-32

The "new self" provides the spiritual resources for sanctification and obedience.

Acts 20

Paul's Final Meeting with the Ephesian Elders

Acts 20:15-27

Sailing from there...we came to Miletus. For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them, "You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you the whole time, serving the Lord with all humility...I did not shrink from...teaching you publically and from house to house...and now, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. And now, behold, I know that all of you...will no longer see my face. Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.

Acts 20:28-32

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from **among your own selves** men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

1 Timothy 1:18-20 The Rest of the Story

1 Timothy 1:18-20

This command I entrust to you, Timothy, my son, in accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you fight the good fight, keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and **suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith**. Among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan, so that they will be taught not to blaspheme.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

- Addresses the problem caused by the "savage wolves":
 - Disunity & Division— racial, ethnical, cultural, religious, inter-personal
- Addresses the problem:
 - Every Spiritual Blessing (1:1-14)
 - Live Rich in Christ (1:15-23)
 - From Death to Life (2:1-10)
 - Reconciled (2:11-22)
 - We Are One (3:1-13)
 - Strengthened As One (3:14-21)

- (Therefore), Live As One (4:1-16)
- Be Renewed (4:17-24)
- Put Off ~ Put On (4:25-32)

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

- Focuses on "Sanctification"
 - From term for "holy"...
 - Holy Spirit
 - Holy Cow!
 - Saints
 - Sanctuary
 - Sanctify / Sanctity / Sanction
 - Set apart
 - Holi-day
 - Concept...
 - Not common
 - Special
 - Apartness
 - Distinct
 - Note: ≠ sinless

The Three Stages of Salvation

JUSTIFICATION	SANCTIFICATION	GLORIFICATION
Past act of faith in Christ is counted as righteousness	Present process of being set apart for the use intended by the Designer	Future and final act where perfected immortality is bestowed on the justified
Conversion	Christian Living	Heaven
Legal righteousness imputed at moment of faith in Christ	Personal righteousness enjoyed by willing participants	Moral perfection imparted at death; glorified body at resurrection
Establishes Position	Transforms Condition	Matches Condition with Position
Available to all who believe in Christ	Expected but not inevitable to the justified	Inevitable to the justified
PENALTY of Sin	POWER of Sin	PRESENCE of Sin

Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians

- Focuses on “Sanctification”
 - **Positional Sanctification**
 - Our Identity (Chs. 1-3)
 - **Experiential Sanctification**
 - Our Behavior (Chs. 4-6)

Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians

- Focuses on “Sanctification”
 - **Positional Sanctification**
 - Our Identity (Chs. 1-3) - All believers were set apart unto Christ by faith, the youngest as well as the oldest, the most carnal as well as the most spiritual. All enjoy a common identity-- Christ.
 - **Experiential Sanctification**
 - Our Behavior (Chs. 4-6) - Depends upon converting our position into experience. Dynamic. Keys: Our yieldedness to and participation with the Holy Spirit.
 - **Views of Sanctification**
 - **Zap Theory** – God “zaps” us with a robotic desire to obey. Obedience is automatic.
 - **Let Go, Let God** – God does all the work in sanctification. Our goal is to get out of His way.
 - **Legalism** – typically a set of man-made rules to show God and others our “righteousness”.
 - **Dualism/Licentiousness** – unrestrained behavior & morality. Body & Spirit separate.
 - **Asceticism** – severe self-discipline and avoidance of all forms of indulgence.
 - **Participative** – a divine-human cooperation in which both parties choose involvement.

Ephesians 4:25-32

- Continues the “Put Off - Put On” imagery from 4:22-24.
- Combined, they present six sets of negative and positive commands.
- Provides the benefits of and the reasons for obedience.

Negative Command	Positive Command	Benefits/Reasons to Obey
4:22-24 — <u>PUT OFF</u> the old self (old way of living)	<u>PUT ON</u> the new self	Righteousness and holiness
4:25 — <u>PUT OFF</u> falsehood	Speak truth	We are members of one another (community)
4:26-27 — Do not sin in your anger	Be angry righteously	Don’t give the devil an opportunity
4:26-27 — Steal no longer	Labor/work instead	So to share with those in need
4:28 — No unwholesome words	Only words good for edification	It gives grace to those who hear
4:30-32 — <u>PUT OFF</u> all bitterness, etc. for this grieves the Holy Spirit	Be kind and tender toward one another; Forgive each other	God in Christ has forgiven you. Pass it along!

Colossians 3:8-9

But now you also, **put them all aside**: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you **laid aside** the old self with its evil practices,

Colossians 3:10 & 12

(since) you have put on the new self...So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on** a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other...Beyond all these things **put on** love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

Romans 13:11-12

Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.

Therefore, let us **lay aside** the deeds of darkness and **put on** the armor of light

Romans 13:14

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh...

More Pauline Sanctification Imagery:

- Put Off...Put On
- Flee...Pursue

1 Timothy 6:10-11

For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with much grief.

But **flee** from these things, you man of God, and **pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

2 Timothy 2:22

Now **flee** from youthful lusts and **pursue** righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Application

It's Time to "Put On" Our Sanctification CAP

- Community
- Adjustment
- Participation

Acts 20:32

And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.