

*How We Dress Matters*  
*Colossians 3:1-14*

The Apostle Paul taught that how we dress is a reflection on how we \_\_\_\_\_. But he was talking about something other than physical clothing. In Colossians 3, God says that you have been raised with Christ, who is at the right hand of the Father, and your life is now \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ in God. Eph. 2:6 he said it even more plainly: “God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus.”

That we “\_\_\_\_\_” raised up and seated with Christ in the heavenly realms is stunning. God’s \_\_\_\_\_ perspective sees you “in Christ” and that is a \_\_\_\_\_ fact. God knows that if you could see that, it would radically change life. Our problem is that the world, dominated by the evil one, wants to keep you from seeing who you \_\_\_\_\_ and where your real life is in Christ.

Paul’s point is not simply about a new vision of yourself but about a new \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ made possible by your new vision and the realization that you live in Christ and with Christ. He says, “Dress like you’re \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ, seated at the right hand of God—because \_\_\_\_\_!” So, there are some aspects of our pre-Christian nature that, like old, dirty clothes, need to be \_\_\_\_\_ from our lives. In place of these things, we are to clothe ourselves with the clothes, the attributes, of a life \_\_\_\_\_.

These things are hard, but the motive for them is not fear of \_\_\_\_\_ but recognition of how God \_\_\_\_\_ you. And how God sees you and what He says about you is \_\_\_\_\_ than anything you see or anything that anyone in the world sees or says about you. Furthermore, if God says something is true of you, He will enable you to \_\_\_\_\_ what He says you \_\_\_\_\_.

Looking at us, no one would guess that we can be \_\_\_\_\_ by the love of Christ in every situation. But God sees that you are God’s \_\_\_\_\_ people, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ by Him. Let’s dress like it.