

Putting on the Lord Jesus Christ Romans 13:11-14 (NKJV)

11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

How often have you seen a young child try to walk around in their parents shoes. Why that is such a fascination for young children I don't understand.

When I was a child, I was 4 years older than my younger brother and 13 years younger than my older brother. Unless something was bought just for me it would not fit.

It is amazing to me to see what people wear today. I saw a clip on facebook the other day that said because of the severe cold the people should wear 2 sets of pajamas to Wal-Mart.

But today in our text Paul is not talking about the clothes that we wear but the lives that we live.

The Bible teaches us that if the Lord's return is near then we should behave like it.

2 Peter 3:11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

So let us look at these final words from Romans 13 this morning.

I. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness.

A. Lay aside (cast off) here carries the idea of forsaking, or renouncing, and in this context obviously refers to repentance from the deeds of darkness, a general term that includes all sins in which a believer may indulge. *John MacArthur, MacArthur New Testament Commentary – Romans 9-16, (Chicago: Moody Press, 1994), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, 263.*

B. Scripture

1. Ephesians 4:22-30; 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. 26 "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil. 28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. 29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but

what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

2. Colossians 3:8-9 (NKJV) 8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,
3. Hebrews 12:1 (NKJV) 1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
4. 1 Peter 2:1 (NKJV) 1 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,
5. James 1:21 (NKJV) 21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

C. While the appetites of sin remain until the glorious day of our complete transformation into the likeness of Christ (1 John 3:2; Phil 3:21), we are to deny them any opportunity of expression. We are not even to consider the possibility of allowing them to fulfill their evil intentions through us. **Robert H. Mounce**, *Romans*, vol. 27, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), 249.

II. Let us put on the armor of light.

- A. Evil flourishes in darkness because its perpetrators assume, although incorrectly, that what they are doing cannot be seen. The desire for darkness is itself an admission of the wrongness of the act. **Robert H. Mounce**, *Romans*, vol. 27, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), 248.
- B. Jesus said that His followers were the light of the world. And that as any light we are not to hide or conceal it for that is counter productive.
- C. A call to conflict. “Let us put on the armour of light” (ver. 12). We are to wage war with our own temptations, and with the evil that is in the world. Let our armour be the armour of light. Let us not fight the world with its own weapons—with hatred, or bitterness, or deceit. Let our weapons be good weapons—the weapons of truth, justice, love. **H. D. M. Spence-Jones**, ed., *The Pulpit Commentary: Romans*, *The Pulpit Commentary* (London; New York: Funk & Wagnalls Company, 1909), 397.

III. Let us walk properly

A. As in the day

1. Let us conduct ourselves properly. Christians are “walking advertisements” for the Faith. *Ice*
2. We hear a great deal about night life. The believer is identified with day life. He walks as one who belongs to the day. **J. Vernon McGee**, *Thru the Bible Commentary: The Epistles (Romans 9-16), electronic ed., vol. 43 (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1991), 91.*
3. The idea is that in the light, in the day, people act differently than they do in the dark.
4. For us we know that the Lord knows not only our actions but our thoughts.

B. Not in revelry and drunkenness

1. This was the life of the pagan as it is still today.
2. The Roman Christians had been saved out of that but it had a terrible pull on them.
3. Satan my loose subjects to the King but he does not give up, he keeps working on the.
4. If Satan cannot have our soul he will try to take our lives and destroy our families or at least our witness.
5. “Rioting” is komos (κομῶς), “a revel, a carousal, in the Greek writers, a nocturnal and riotous procession of half-drunken and frolicsome fellows, who after supper, parade through the streets with torches and music in honor of Bacchus or some other deity, and sing and play before the houses of their male and female friends; hence used generally of feasts and drinking-parties that are protracted till late at night and indulge in revelry” (Thayer). *Kenneth S. Wuest, Wuest’s Word Studies from the Greek New Testament: For the English Reader, vol. 2 (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997), 229.*

C. Not in lewdness and lust

1. “Chambering” is koitē (κοιτη), “sexual intercourse.” “Wantonness” is aselgeia (ἀσελγεια), “unbridled lust, excess, licentiousness, shamelessness, insolence.” *Kenneth S. Wuest, Wuest’s Word Studies from the Greek New Testament: For the English Reader, vol. 2 (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997), 229.*

D. Not in strife and envy.

1. It is interesting that Paul includes these with the previous four items.

2. We usually do not think of these as HARD sins but of a milder form.
3. The trouble is that all sin is sin and we must cast it all aside.

IV. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ

- A. The expression, “put ye on,” can have reference to the theater. Actors and actresses “put on” the character they attempt to portray. It is sometimes called “getting into the character.” The true actor literally “becomes” another person. We are not play-acting—this is real—but we are to “become” the living representation of the Lord Jesus. How shall we do this if we do not know “the script”? We have a copy of it—the New Testament—in which is found the eyewitness account of our Lord by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Many actors and actresses memorize as much script copy as is in the New Testament to portray one of the prostitutes or drunkards spoken of in Rom_13:13. College Press
- B. To “put on” the Lord Jesus Christ means to become more like Him, to receive by faith all that He is for our daily living. We grow on the basis of the food we eat. This is why God warns us not to make provisions for the flesh. If we feed the flesh, we will fail; but if we feed the inner man the nourishing things of the Spirit, we will succeed. *Warren W. Wiersbe, The Bible Exposition Commentary, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 558.*
- C. In conclusion, the apostle returns to his figure of putting on clothing (cf. v. Rom_13:12), but now the garment is personalized. He urges his readers to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. This amounts to appropriation—the deliberate, conscious acceptance of the lordship of the Master—so that all is under his control—motives, desires, and deeds. *Expositor’s Bible Commentary*
- D. Ephesians 4:22-25 (NKJV) 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

V. Make no provision for the flesh

- A. To fulfill its lusts.
 1. Colossians 3:10 (NKJV) 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
 2. Colossians 3:12 (NKJV) 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;
 3. Colossians 3:14 (NKJV) 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.