

PUTTING ON THE PROPER SPIRITUAL CLOTHES

Marc W. Gibson

We invest a lot of money and time in our clothes. Fashion and fit are important considerations. We want to put on clothes that are appropriate and enjoyable for an occasion, whether we are going to worship God, attending school, working in the yard, or just relaxing with a good book. The clothes we put on tells a lot about ourselves and what we are doing.

It comes as no surprise that the Bible emphasizes our spiritual “clothing.” In fact, the Bible uses the word “clothe” or “put on” (Gk. *enduo*) several times in regard to our spiritual garments. If you don’t think what we wear is important to God, remember the parable about what happened to the man who came to the wedding feast who did not have on a proper wedding garment. He was cast into outer darkness (Matt. 22:11-13)!

Consider what the following passages have to say about our spiritual clothing:

1) ***Galatians 3:26-27*** – ***“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”*** To be a Christian we must be “clothed” with Christ. This change of clothes from sin to Jesus takes place when we are baptized into Christ. Without water baptism, we will not be dressed for eternal life!

2) ***Ephesians 4:22-24*** – ***“...that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in righteousness and true holiness.”*** When one is converted to Christ, he takes off the old filthy clothes of sin and puts on the new clothes of righteousness and holiness. There is no true conversion of heart if this “change” of clothing does not take place (see also Col. 3:9-10, 12).

3) ***Romans 13:12, 14*** – ***“Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light...but put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.”*** Since we live in a world of temptation and sin, we need to keep ourselves “clothed” properly to protect ourselves from evil. The armor of God provides that protection against the wicked schemes of the devil (see also Eph. 6:11; 1 Thess. 5:8).

4) ***1 Corinthians 15:53*** – ***“For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.”*** This looks to the future when God will “clothe” our bodies with an incorruptible and immortal nature at the resurrection. We will wear this glorious “clothing” for an eternity!

What spiritual clothes are you wearing today?