

LIVING AS THE NEW TRUE YOU

At salvation ...

*We are made completely new. We have a **NEW-SELF** which is created in the Image of God ...*

*And we can live in that **NEW SELF** –*

Ephesians 4:24 Good News Bible **SLIDE**

*... **Put on the NEW SELF, which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.***

'PUT ON THE NEW SELF'

*Our New Self is found in our **New Spirit** ...*

*But notice here in this verse ... we can **PUT THIS NEW MAN ON.***

*This means: **TO PUT ON THE OUTSIDE** ... the New Man that **LIVES ON THE INSIDE** – **TO WEAR THE INWARD MAN ON THE OUTSIDE. SO THAT ...***

THE INWARD MAN BECOMES THE OUTWARD MAN AS WELL

God wants our *Inward* and *Outward* to BE THE SAME ...

TO LOOK THE SAME ... TO ACT THE SAME ...

IT'S LIKE PUTTING ON THE RIGHT CLOTHES

THAT SHOW THE REAL PERSON YOU ARE INSIDE

**SLIDE MOST OF US DON'T LOOK LIKE THE PERSON
WE REALLY ARE**

SLIDE *When my step-grandmother died, we found in her cupboard many beautiful new clothes she had bought and never worn ... It seemed such a shame ... especially as the clothing she wore was often quite old.*

So it is with us ...

We are such a wonderful New Creation in Christ.

But too often, WE KEEP OUR TRUE SELF LOCKED AWAY IN THE WARDROBE OF OUR INNER LIFE.

AND LIKE 'GRANDMA' WE STILL WEAR THE OLD CLOTHES OF OUR OLD LIFE ...

NOBODY SEES THE PERSON WE REALLY ARE ... OUR NEW SELF.

Are your beautiful new clothes still in the cupboard ... like my grandmother's new clothes?

Ephesians 4:24 Good News Bible **SLIDE**

... *Put on the **NEW SELF**, which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.*

God wants us to 'REVEAL' THE TRUE YOU & ME **ON THE OUTSIDE**.
GOD WANTS US TO PUT ON OUR '**BRAND-NEW-YOU**' CLOTHING.

Do you know about these Brand-New-You clothes?
Did you know ... you already have them?
Are you wearing them?

SLIDE **IT'S TIME FOR US TO BE DRESSED AS WHO WE ARE**.
IT'S TIME TO **DRESS-UP** IN OUR SPIRITUAL FINERY ...
DECK OURSELVES IN THE GLORIOUS LIKENESS OF THE FATHER.

GOD WANTS HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS TO NOT ONLY BE ON THE
INSIDE OF HIS PEOPLE ... IN THEIR NEW SPIRITS ... BUT TO BE
DISPLAYED ON THE OUTSIDE ... FOR ALL TO SEE ...

GOD WANTS US TO **WEAR** OUR ROBES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Revelation 19:8 KJV

*And to her (the church) was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: **for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.***

GOD WANTS OUR NEW SELF TO SHOW ...
BE DISPLAYED TO THE WORLD.
HE WANTS US TO **SHINE FOR HIM!**

Jesus said,

Matthew 5:16 NKJ

... *Let your light so shine before men, that they may **see** your good works and glorify your heavenly Father.*

LET WHAT'S INSIDE OF YOU SHINE OUT ...

SLIDE CLVersion – 'LET YOUR **INTERNAL** LIGHT ... SHINE ON **THE OUTSIDE** ... SO PEOPLE CAN **SEEEEE** YOUR GOOD WORKS ...

WE HAVE **INTERNAL LIGHT**.

NOW SHOW IT.

NOW SHINE IT.

LET YOUR LIGHT **SHINE** ...

CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES

ARE WE LIVING IN THESE BLESSINGS?

ARE WE WEARING OUR NEW CLOTHES?

DO WE EXPERIENCE ALL THESE BLESSINGS IN OUR LIVES?

ARE WE SEEING GOD'S **GLORY** SHINE OUT IN OUR LIVES?

**DID YOU EVEN KNOW THAT YOU CAN WEAR ON THE OUTSIDE,
THESE BLESSINGS WE HAVE ON THE INSIDE?**

MANY OF US ARE STILL WEARING OUR OLD HOLEY CLOTHES

– not holy as in God is holy ...

But we're still wearing the same old holey clothing we wore in the Old Nature ... the old holey clothing OF the Old Nature ...

We haven't changed them since we came to Christ ...

We haven't really noticed ... We're so used to what we have and wear... what we do ... our old behaviour ...

SLIDE *I have heard that Chris has these old, old shorts.*

They're are so worn out

They've got holes through them

And threads dangling ...

But now his daughter Gabby lives with him. And she hates these old shorts so much she bought him 2 lovely new pairs from her work for Christmas.

But the other day, she was just horrified to see, that despite her going to the trouble of getting him nice new shorts, he had on the horrible old worn out ones again!!

He is just so used to them he didn't really notice ...

Friends, **OUR OLD CLOTHES NEED TO BE CHANGED** ...

WE HAVE COME TO LIVE IN A NEW PLACE ...

WE NEED TO HAVE NEW CLOTHES FOR THIS NEW LIFE ...

If we keep wearing our old clothes – the clothes from our old nature – they start to smell bad ...

They have the bad smell ...of our old nature which is dead

Old habits ... old language ... old ways ...

WE HAVE BEEN WEARING OUR OLD HOLEY CLOTHES FOR SO LONG ... WE DON'T EVEN NOTICE ...

- WE'VE GROWN USED TO THEM
- THEY ARE COMFORTABLE ...

BUT THEY SMELL OF THE OLD-MAN ... AND IT'S TIME TO CHANGE ...

There are two things we can do ...

SCRIPTURE TELL US TO PUT-OFF / TAKE-OFF
THE OLD STINKING CLOTHES OF THE OLD NATURE
AND PUT ON
OUR BEAUTIFUL NEW CLOTHING OF THE NEW MAN
CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

WE NEED TO START TO LIVE-OUT OF THE LIFE WE HAVE WITHIN

SLIDE START TO LOOK LIKE WHO WE REALLY ARE

1. PUT OFF THE OLD

Ephesians 4:22&24 NIV **SLIDE**

*You (have been) taught, with regard to your former way of life, **TO PUT OFF YOUR OLD SELF**, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²⁴and to **PUT ON THE NEW SELF**, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

HERE ... SCRIPTURE INSTRUCTS US TO DO SOMETHING –

'TO PUT OFF YOUR OLD SELF' ... and 'PUT ON THE NEW SELF'.

'But,' you say, 'why do we have to do anything when God has already done the work for us? Grace teaching tells us we already stand Righteous and Perfect in Jesus Finished Work.'

YES ... EVERYTHING IS DONE FOR US IN JESUS ...

WE ALREADY HAVE ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

Ephesians 1:3 NKJ **SLIDE**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with **every spiritual blessing** in heavenly places in Christ.*

ALL OF THE INSTRUCTIONS IN SCRIPTURE, ARE BUILT ON THAT UNDERSTANDING – THAT WE ALREADY HAVE ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN CHRIST YET, THERE ARE STILL MANY INSTRUCTIONS IN THE BIBLE ABOUT **HOW TO LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE ...**

THE BIBLICAL INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT OUR PATH TO GET THE BLESSINGS

It's not like God is saying, 'Do these outward actions right ... and then I will give you my blessing.'

WE ALREADY HAVE ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

SLIDE THE BIBLICAL INSTRUCTIONS ARE SO WE START TO LIVE IN ... EXPERIENCE ... AND ENJOY ... ALL THESE WONDERFUL BLESSINGS THAT ARE OURS ALREADY.

THESE INSTRUCTIONS SHOW US THE WAY TO LIVE OUR NEW LIFE TO THE FULL

GOD IS SAYING, 'IF YOU FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS –

- YOU WILL BEGIN TO EXPERIENCE THE BLESSING I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN YOU ...
- YOU WILL BEGIN TO APPEAR OUTWARDLY LIKE WHO YOU ARE INWARDLY **SLIDE**
- YOU WILL BEGIN TO ENJOY OUTWARDLY WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY GOT SPIRITUALLY – IN YOUR NEW SPIRIT

NOTHING WE DO BRINGS US THE BLESSING

CHRIST JESUS IS ENOUGH!

HE HAS DONE IT ALL FOR US!

WE ALREADY HAVE ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS!!

THE ADMONITIONS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT ARE SIMPLY THE MEANS OF **BRINGING OUT IN US THE BLESSING WE ALREADY HAVE.**

It's like the song, 'THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE'

2nd verse – ‘HIDE IT UNDER A BUSHEL – NO!’

Don't leave your light hidden inside of you where no one can see it - and you forget it ...

THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE THERE TO HELP US TO SHINE OUT THE BLESSINGS THAT ARE ALREADY OURS!!

HOW DOES THIS WORK?

‘TO PUT OFF YOUR OLD SELF ... and PUT ON THE NEW SELF’

The Key is that it's all one action ...
The way to PUT OFF YOUR OLD SELF
IS TO **PUT ON THE NEW SELF.**

*There's No Neutral Naked in this ...
You don't take off all the clothing of the Old Self and stand around naked and shivering looking for the clothes of the New Man ...*

To PUT ON THE NEW SELF will replace the Old Self.

Look at this example that speaks of both Jesus and us ...

Romans 6:10-11 NIV

*The death (Jesus) died, he died to sin once for all; but the life He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹In the same way, **count yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.***

Do you see that this is the one act?

We **count ourselves dead to sin ...** and at the same time **alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

It's replacing the one with the other.

We are dead to sin ... **‘BUT alive to God’** ...

It's not one OR the other ...

It's the one replacing the other ...

It's like loving righteousness and hating evil.

When you love righteousness, you can't help hating evil.

‘TO PUT OFF YOUR OLD SELF ... and PUT ON THE NEW SELF’

You choose to turn your back on the old,

And face toward the new.

Follow your godly desire ...

2. PUT ON THE NEW-TRUE-YOU

Let's choose to PUT ON the Beautiful New-True-You Clothes
Father has gifted to us.

Ephesians 4:24 Good News Bible **SLIDE**

... *Put on the new self, which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.*

We choose to put on our New-True Self that has been created
righteous and perfect like God.

Our '*New Self*' that is pure, beautiful and spotless.

We choose to live out of our Pure New Spirit ...

It's like all the beautiful clothes in my Grandmother's cupboard

SLIDE *They were hers ... they belonged to her ...*

BUT SHE HAD TO ACTUALLY PUT THEM ON –

*TO TAKE OFF THE OLD HOLEY CLOTHES & PUT ON THE NEW
ONES ...*

Until Grandma wanted to wear her new clothes ...

Until she picked them up, and put them on ...

They may as well not have been hers at all ...

TO LIVE IN ALL WE ARE ... WE NEED TO MAKE THESE BLESSINGS
OUR OWN ... OWN THEM ...

WE NEED TO OPEN THE CUPBOARD WHERE IT'S BEEN HIDDEN

INSIDE US ... AND PUT THE CLOTHING ON ...

MAKE ALL OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS OURS – AND COME INTO ALL
WE CAN KNOW IN GOD ...

THIS REQUIRES AN ACT OF OUR WILL

**We have to choose it ... set our hearts toward this ... desire it ...
seek God for it ...**

Philippians 2:12-13 NIV **SLIDE**

... *Continue to **work out** your salvation with fear and trembling,
¹³for it is **God who works in you** to will and to act in order to fulfill
His good purpose.*

IT IS GOD WHO WORKS IN US ...

SO LET US WORK TOGETHER WITH HIM ...

Colossians 1:29 Christian Standard Bible

I labor for this, striving with His strength that works powerfully in me.

Notice this – ***'I LABOR ...'***

This is our work ... our doing ... our action ...

'... Striving with His strength that works ... in me'

In the past, for many of us, it was ONLY US striving ... struggling ...
Working for God ... but not with God.

But GOD IS WORKING IN US ...

IT'S GOD'S WORK IN US THAT GIVES US A DESIRE **TO BE WHO WE**
ALREADY ARE IN OUR NEW SPIRIT ...

OUR DESIRES TO START TO ACT BETTER ... TO LIVE BETTER ... **ARE**
FROM GOD ...

IT'S TIME TO APPLY THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS THAT ARE OURS,
BY WELCOMING THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WITHIN US ...

What wonderful Blessings are ours in Christ.

*What **glory** we can experience by coming into what is already ours.*

I encourage you to **PUT ON YOUR NEW SELF –**
WITH ALL THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS THAT BELONG TO YOU.

Things like **'PEACE THAT PASSES UNDERSTANDING'...**

(Philippians 4:7)

JOY UNSPEAKABLE & FULL OF GLORY ... (1 Peter 1:8)

LOVE WHICH SURPASSES KNOWLEDGE ... (Ephesians 3:19)

And all the Fruit of the Spirit ...

We have available to us –

THE POWER OF GOD

THE STENGTH OF GOD

THE KNOWLEDG OF GOD

As we live in Him ... and work for others in what He's doing ...

GOD HAS GIVEN US COMPLETE RIGHTEOUSNESS ...

HOLINESS ...

WISDOM ...

A FUTURE HOPE ...

And so much more ...

THERE ARE SO MANY NEW-TRUE-YOU-CLOTHES FOR US
TO LEARN ABOUT ...
EXPLORE ...
DISCOVER ...
AND TO CLOTHE OURSELVES IN.

This next passage speaks of our clothing as a complete costume and even perfume ...

Isaiah 61:1&3 Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

The Spirit of the Lord God is on Me ... to console the mourners in Zion – ³to give them a crown of beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and a garment of praise for a spirit of despair.

Have you been in despair ... have you known poverty and mourning?

Our Father has the answer for you in this verse ...

See it speaks of '*a garment of praise*'

These New-True-You-Clothes are happy-clothes –
They make us want to Praise God.

SLIDE We are instructed to PUT ON our shining new '*garment of praise*'.

WE CAN PRAISE GOD for who He is,
PRAISE GOD for all He's done for us,
PRAISE GOD for the incredible Hope that is ours ...

And as we do that, we become aware that despair and unhappiness have melted away ...

And there's a crown to complete the outfit,
'A crown of beauty' that makes us even more beautiful ...

It's called a Crown of Righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8)

A Crown of Glory (1 Peter 5:4)

A Crown of Life ... (James 1:12)

God wants us to PUT ON this beautiful new crown –

Replace the ashes of mourning that have been on our heads –

In Bible times, when people were in mourning, they sat in the dust, wailed loudly and threw ashes on their heads.

But God wants us to replace the ashes of mourning for His '*crown of beauty*'...

And look –

There's sweet-smelling oil to make us smell pretty as well ...

It's the '*oil of joy*' ...

The Father is with us to help us choose joy and not continually dwell in mourning.

Joy unspeakable and full of glory is ours ... (1 Peter 1:8)

And the JOY of the New Man is a sweet-smelling oil ... a pleasing aroma to God ...

He delights in us being beautiful **in all our blessings**.

We have so much to praise God for ... to rejoice in ... in our New-True-You-Clothes.

Let's start to wear them.

CHOICE

Do you know the song that comes from this verse?

SLIDE *Put on the Garment of Praise for the spirit of heaviness
Lift up your voice to God
Praise with the spirit and with understanding
Oh magnify the Lord.*

Notice there's '*The Garment of Praise*' and '*The spirit of heaviness*'

IT'S NOW MY CHOICE AS TO WHICH CLOTHES I WILL WEAR TODAY ...

Will I choose to put on '*The Garment of Praise*'

Or will I let '*The spirit of heaviness*' roll over me ...?

I HAVE THE CHOICE

THE GARMENT OF HEAVINESS is the old holey clothes of the Old Man –

Grumbling and complaining ...

Depression ...

Negative talk ...

Focusing on morbid things ...

Talk Like –

Do you know many people died of Covid-19 today?

*Did you hear that 5,000 were infected by it?
What about that new mandate? Isn't it awful?!
It's only going to get worse ...
They'll probably lock us all down ...*

**THESE ARE OUR OLD GARMENTS OF HEAVINESS
AND THEY SMELL OF DECAY ... OF THE OLD MAN ...**

***BUT NOW IN CHRIST YOU CAN CHOOSE TO PUT OFF THE OLD
MAN OF HEAVINESS***

**THROW AWAY THOSE OLD HOLEY SHORTS
SWAP YOUR OLD HOLEY CLOTHES FOR HIS NEW PURE & HOLY
CLOTHING –**

PUT ON THE GARMENT OF PRAISE

**TURN YOUR BACK ON THE HEAVINESS OF THE OLD MAN.
LET IT GO!**

REPLACE THAT HEAVINESS WITH *PRAISE* –

**You can focus on all the Spiritual Blessings that are ours in Christ
Jesus ... in our new self ...**

Think of all He's done for you ...

Read the Scriptures and see all the Father has made you to be ...

Look at the good things God is doing in people's lives ...

Share your testimonies with people ...

Ring someone up to talk about the good things of God ... the

Blessings he has given us ...

Encourage each other ...

Praise him ...

***THIS IS THE BEAUTIFUL NEW CLOTHING OF PRAISE THAT GOD
WANTS US TO PUT ON***

- SO THAT THE BEAUTY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IS SEEN IN
OUR LIVES ...***
- SO THAT WE CAN LIVE IN ALL WE CAN BE IN HIM***
- SO THAT WE CAN ENJOY TO THE FULL ALL WE HAVE IN
THIS LIFE ...***
- AND WE'LL TRULY BECOME WHO WE ARE IN OUR NEW-
TRUE-SELF***

**GOD WANTS US TO
LIVE AS THE NEW PERSON HE HAS MADE US**

**TO EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS OF ALL THAT IS OURS IN JESUS
TO BE FILLED TO THE FULL WITH THE JOY OF LIVING LIFE AS
OUR **NEW-TRUE-SELF****

Ephesians 3:19 Amplified Bible

*... That you may be **FILLED UP** [throughout your being] **TO ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD** [so that you may have the richest experience of God's presence in your lives, **COMPLETELY FILLED and flooded with God Himself**].*

All that He is ...

All the things HE has for us

All that we could experience ... here and now

Are beyond anything we could imagine –

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

... Eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.

¹⁰But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.

My prayer today is

- THAT WE WILL EXPERIENCE MORE, ALL OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
- THAT WE WILL ENJOY TO THE FULL ALL WE MIGHT BE IN GOD
- AND THAT OUR **GREAT AND GRACIOUS GOD** WILL BE GLORIFIED