

**"THE CHRISTIAN'S WARDROBE"****Introduction**

1. This chapter refers to putting off and on.
2. The Christian must put off the habits and sins of his old life.
3. He is then to put on the virtues and graces of the new life.  
**OBSERVE:** This may be called the Christian's wardrobe.  
**ILLUSTRATION:** There are these things to put off and on.

**1. THE THINGS TO PUT OFF ARE UNCLEAN THINGS**

- 1) The non-Christian is called an "old man", the man who is in Adam, without grace.
- 2) The Christian is called a "new man", the man who is in Christ.
- 3) We can only put off and on after we have come to Christ – because without grace we still love sin and hate God.
- 4) The Apostle informs us of the dirty clothes which we are to put off:
  - (i) v.5: "fornication...idolatry"
  - (ii) v.6: we make God angry with these
  - (iii) v.7: we all loved sin previously
  - (iv) v.8: "anger", etc.
  - (v) v.9: lying**OBSERVE:** The believer has put off the "old man", that is the unregenerate man.
- 5) The "old man" is put off:
  - (i) at our regeneration
  - (ii) baptism is a sign of this**APPLICATION:** We are called on to stop bad habits.

**2. THE CHRISTIAN IS CALLED TO PUT ON THE NEW MAN**

- 1) There is a positive and a negative.
- 2) v.10: the Christian, being a NEW MAN (no matter what his nationality: see v.11) is renewed – God's image, lost in Adam's fall, is restored in Christ.
- 3) So these are the new characteristics:
  - (i) "bowels of mercies" + great "kindness" (v.12)
  - (ii) "humbleness of mind" + meekness"
  - (iii) "longsuffering" = patience
  - (iv) "forbearing..." (v.13) = putting up with the weaknesses of one another.
  - (v) "forgiving...": since we offend one another all too easily
  - (vi) "charity" or Christian love – which is the highest of all the graces: v.14
  - (vii) "peace": because we are forgiven in Christ and justified: v.15
  - (viii) "the word of God": is now to rule our entire life: v.16
  - (ix) singing God's praises: v.16
  - (x) acting