

Putting on the Lord Jesus Christ Joseph's Three Coats

Romans 13:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

- *The Greek word for “put on” is ἐνδύω endyō and it means “to dress, clothe”.*
- *We are to put on the Lord Jesus Christ or be clothed with the Lord Jesus Christ.*
- *This is not referring to justification but sanctification and living out that which is already in us through the new birth.*

Ephesians 4:21–24 (NKJV)

²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:

²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

- *We are no longer to be wearing the “old man” which is our former way of living in selfishness and lusts but we are to take that off as one takes off a garment.*

²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

- *When we renew the attitude of our thoughts and the way we evaluate life we will remove the old ways of thinking and living and replaced them with our new identity in Christ.*

²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

- *We will clothe ourselves with the new man which is Jesus Christ in our reborn spirits and it is the source of true righteousness and holiness.*
- *We can see a principle in Ephesians 4:21-24.*
- *If we want to be clothed with the new man we must first put off the old man with its lusts and corruption.*

- *Many Christians are very frustrated because they are not able to walk victoriously in Christ but one of the reasons is that they don't first remove the old man and thus they are trying to serve God while still continuing to engage in a lustful selfish lifestyle.*
- *What are the things we are to put on when we put on the Lord Jesus Christ?*

Colossians 3:12–14 (NKJV)

¹²Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

¹⁴But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

- *We are to clothe ourselves with tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering and above all we are to clothe ourselves with love.*
- *As Christians we see clearly the principle of having to remove the old so that we can put on the new.*
- *We are to put off the old man with his corrupt ways and put on the new man, which is created by God in true holiness and righteousness.*
- *In the story of Joseph found in Genesis we see that he had to have three coats removed in order to be clothed in such a way as to fulfill God's will for his life.*
- *In the story of Jesus Christ we also see that He had to have three coats removed so that He could fulfill His Father's will and be the Saviour of all of mankind.*
- *For each garment that is removed it makes way for a new garment to be worn.*

1 Corinthians 13:13 (NKJV)

¹³And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

- *The three eternal garments that must be put on to replace the old corruptible garments are faith, hope and love.*

Hebrews 5:8 (NKJV)

⁸though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

- *Suffering is not always a result of sin but sometimes we face suffering or painful circumstances so that we can learn and grow as we respond in obedience and surrender.*
- *The First Coat that Joseph had to have removed was the coat of a son and that dealt with his identity.*

Genesis 37:23–27 (NKJV)

²³So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him.

²⁴Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry them down to Egypt.

²⁶So Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?

²⁷Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh.” And his brothers listened.

²³So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him.

- *Joseph was the favorite son of his father and he was given a special ornamented robe that signified this.*
- *His brothers envied Joseph and they decided to betray him and the first step of their betray was to strip him of the coat that their father had given him.*
- *By Joseph’s brothers stripping him of the robe that his father had given him, they were in essence saying, “We no longer accept you as part of our family and we no longer consider you our brother.”*

²⁴Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it.

- *It can be a very lonely and desolate experience to be rejected by people and especially those that we consider close to us.*

²⁵And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry them down to Egypt.

- *“And they sat down to eat a meal.” – When we are rejected we are isolated and no longer included in fellowship and while others are enjoying being together we are ignored.*

²⁷Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh.” And his brothers listened.

- *“Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites” - When we are not accepted we can feel betrayed and maybe in some ways we are betrayed.*

- *This could have caused Joseph to dwell the rest of his life in the memories of this rejection and betrayal and he would have been an emotional cripple.*
- *Joseph had to give up his right to be accepted.*
- *Joseph had to hold onto the promises that God had given him.*
- *If we do not give up our right for acceptance it will not only result in our emotions being damaged but also it will result in us rejecting others.*
- *We don't choose to take off the coat of a son and be rejected; others around us do that but we must choose to give up our rights and not demand that we be accepted.*
- *We must learn to continue to accept even those that have rejected us.*
- *Jesus is our perfect example that we need to follow and in His suffers we can see these same three coats that Joseph had to have removed being removed by Jesus and in the same order.*

John 19:1–5 (NKJV)

¹So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him.

²And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe.

³Then they said, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they struck Him with their hands.

⁴Pilate then went out again, and said to them, “Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him.”

⁵Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, “Behold the Man!”

- *Jesus was stripped of a purple robe of royalty representing the people rejecting Him as the Messiah, their King and the Son of God.*
- *Just as Joseph wore his coat of many colours as a sign he was the father's favourite, the soldiers had put on a royal robe on Jesus to mock Him and then to strip it off of Him.*
- *Jesus did not cause the people to reject Him but He allowed them to reject Him and He did not demand that they accept Him as their Saviour and King.*

John 1:11 (NKJV)

¹¹He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

Isaiah 53:3 (NKJV)

³He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem

Him.

- *When we give up our right to be accepted we are then able to be clothed with faith.*

Ephesians 1:4–6 (NKJV)

⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

⁵having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

- *Because God loved us Jesus died for our sins so that we are “accepted in the Beloved.”*
- *As long as we are fighting to be accepted by others we will never be able to take hold by faith of the truth that God accepts us because we are in Christ.*
- *Just as the Father loves and accepts His only begotten Son Jesus Christ He loves and accepts all those that have by faith received Jesus Christ.*
- *We need to allow our old identity to be taken off so that we can embrace that new identity that we have in Christ through faith.*
- *After Joseph was stripped of his coat of a son he was given another coat – the coat of a servant or a slave.*

Philippians 2:7–8 (NASB95)

⁷but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

⁸Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- *Jesus left His throne in Heaven to come in the form of a servant so that He could become the Saviour of all men.*
- *Joseph was now dressed as a slave as he served faithfully in Potiphor’s house in Egypt.*
- *The first coat dealt with our identity and who we are and our need for acceptance and deals with our emotions.*
- *The second coat deals with what we do and our need to be understood and it deals with our intellect.*

Genesis 39:7–19 (NKJV)

⁷And it came to pass after these things that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me."

⁸But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand.

⁹There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

¹⁰So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her.

¹¹But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside,

¹²that she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.

- *Joseph's integrity and motivation to be faithful to his master Potiphar and to honour God was something that went beyond just his outward actions but to the very depths of his heart.*
- *Joseph did not want to do anything that would dishonour his master or that would sin against God.*

¹³And so it was, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and fled outside,

¹⁴that she called to the men of her house and spoke to them, saying, "See, he has brought in to us a Hebrew to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice.

¹⁵And it happened, when he heard that I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me, and fled and went outside."

¹⁶So she kept his garment with her until his master came home.

¹⁷Then she spoke to him with words like these, saying, "The Hebrew servant whom you brought to us came in to me to mock me;

¹⁸so it happened, as I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me and fled outside."

¹⁹So it was, when his master heard the words which his wife spoke to him, saying, "Your servant did to me after this manner," that his anger was aroused.

- "So she kept his garment with her until his master came home." – *The very garment that Joseph wore while he faithfully served Potiphar was being used as evidence of his unfaithfulness.*
- *Potiphar was so enraged with Joseph that he was not even given the opportunity to respond to the false accusations but instead he was thrown into prison and exchanged the clothes of a servant for those of a prisoner.*

- *Potiphar’s wife had stripped him of his out garment but Potiphar would have stripped him of his undergarment, as all the quality apparel of a servant would have been exchanged for that of the harsh clothing of a prisoner.*
- *This could have caused Joseph to dwell the rest of his life in the disappointments of being totally misunderstood and slandered.*
- *Joseph could have spent the rest of his life trying to think what he could have done differently or rehashed in his mind what he would have said to Potiphar and his wife on how they had wronged Him.*
- *Joseph had to give up his right to be understood.*
- *Joseph had to believe that his faithful service to God was going to be rewarded even though for the time being men judged him as an evildoer.*
- *If we do not give up our right to be understood it will result in our intellect becoming obsessed with the thoughts of how we have been misunderstood and wronged.*
- *Not only will we become obsessed by thoughts of how we have been misunderstood but it will harden our hearts toward correction when we truly need it because we will begin to think we are always right and others don’t really understand us.*

Proverbs 12:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.

- *Jesus also had to give up His right to be understood and this can be seen in the second coat that was removed from Him.*

John 19:23–24 (NKJV)

²³Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece.

²⁴They said therefore among themselves, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,” that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: “They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.” Therefore the soldiers did these things.

- *The clothes that Jesus had worn day by day as He served the people, as He taught in their synagogues, as He healed the sick and He expressed the love of God were now being taken from Him.*
- *Jesus’ out garment was being torn into four parts even as Potiphar’s wife had torn Joseph’s outer garment as he fled from her.*

- *Jesus' under garment was kept in tact but it was removed also. They tried to accuse Him of many sins but in reality all knew that Jesus was innocent and they could not tear apart His integrity.*

Isaiah 53:4 (NKJV)

- ***4Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.***
- *When Jesus hung on the cross the world looked on and misunderstood and thought He was dying because of He had sinned but in reality He was bearing their sins.*

Matthew 5:39–41 (NKJV)

³⁹But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

⁴⁰If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also.

⁴¹And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

- *Jesus was not just teaching about a principle but was making a prophetic statement of what He was going to endure so He could redeem us.*
- *When we give up our right to be understood we are then able to be clothed with hope.*

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (NKJV)

⁸But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.

- *Even if our efforts to serve God are misunderstood or slandered by others, we can “put on” hope knowing that God is a rewarder of those that diligently seeking Him (Hebrews 11:6).*
- *After Joseph was stripped of his coat of a son he was given another coat – the coat of a servant or a slave.*
- *After Joseph was stripped of his coat of a servant he was given another coat – the coat of a prisoner.*

Genesis 41:14–16 (NKJV)

¹⁴Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him quickly out of the dungeon; and he shaved, changed his clothing, and came to Pharaoh.

¹⁵And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it.”

¹⁶So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, “It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.”

- *The first coat dealt with our identity and who we are and our need for acceptance and deals with our emotions. - Man's acceptance*
- *The second coat dealt with what we do and our need to be understood and it deals with our intellect. – Man's approval*
- *The third coat deals with what we have or what we hold onto and this deals with our will. – Man's justice*
- *“and he shaved, changed his clothing, and came to Pharaoh” - While the first two coats were removed by others but the third one he had to remove it himself.*
- *No one could stand before Pharaoh if they were not dressed appropriately and clean-shaven.*
- *If Joseph had refused to remove his coat of a prisoner he would have been unable to stand before Pharaoh and he would have continued to remain in prison.*
- *When Joseph came before Pharaoh he had only one word for him “It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.”*
- *Joseph could give Pharaoh an answer of peace because Joseph had peace within his own heart.*
- *In the first coat, the coat of a son, he had to give up his right to be accepted.*
- *In the second coat, the coat of a servant, he had to give up his right to be understood.*
- *However, unlike the first two coats that were removed from Joseph, he had to remove the third one himself and thus this deals with an act of the will.*
- *The first two coats he didn't have a choice in them being taken off.*
- *With the first two coats Joseph only had a choice on how he was going to respond to what had happened to him.*
- *For Joseph to stand before Pharaoh dressed in fine clothes and well shaven and well groomed he had to give something up.*
- *Joseph had give up his right for vindication and revenge.*
- *Joseph had to take off his coat of a victim.*

Genesis 50:19–20 (NKJV)

¹⁹Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God?”

²⁰But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

- *When Joseph revealed himself to his brothers he did not tell of his sufferings but of how God had used even the evil they did, to bring about a glorious purpose.*
- *Jesus gave up His right to be accepted as they stripped off of Him the purple robe the soldiers had put upon Him signifying that they rejected Him as the Messiah, their Saviour and King.*
- *Jesus gave up His right to be understood as they strip off of Him the clothes He wore as He had ministered to the people throughout His earthly ministry.*
- *What was the third garment that Jesus Himself had to take off?*

John 20:1–7 (NKJV)

¹Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

²Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.”

³Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb.

⁴So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first.

⁵And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.

⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there,

⁷and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.

- *Jesus had to take off His grave clothes.*
- *Jesus did not appear after the resurrection as a victim but as the Victor.*

Isaiah 53:12 (NKJV)

¹²Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

- *Jesus did not appear before the Pharisees in His blooded grave clothes to demand vindication and revenge but He appeared before His disciples clothed in glory to bring them joy.*
- *The grave clothes were not casually tossed aside but were carefully and deliberately folded and put away.*
- *We must deliberately through the exercise of our will put away our offenses and hurts and give up our right for vindication and revenge.*
- *Even as Joseph could not leave the prison and appear before Pharaoh until he was willing to take off his prison clothes we cannot leave the prison of the torment of our past until we are willing to put away the clothes of being a victim and give up our right for vindication and revenge.*
- *In John 20:6-7 we see the first thing that caused Peter to begin to believe that Christ had been resurrected was when he saw the grave clothes set aside.*
- *Our witness of the resurrected Christ will be unconvincing until we have set aside our clothes of a victim and put on the garments of salvation.*
- *We need to put off our right for acceptance so that we can be clothed with faith knowing that we are accepted in Christ.*
- *We need to put off our right to be understood so that we can be clothed with hope knowing that we have an eternal reward.*
- *We need to put off our right for vindication and revenge so that we can be clothed with love and allow the love of Christ to extend to everyone around us including those that have hurt us.*
- *Christ was vindicated not by the condemnation of those that crucified Him but because many came to putting their faith in Him and were saved.*
- *In our spiritual walk we go from giving up our right to be accepted so that we can truly be servants and we give up our right to be understood so that we can put on our grave clothes and die to ourselves so that we can partake in His resurrection life so that Christ can live through us.*
- *The result of Joseph's willingness to yield to God's personal dealings in his life was that he was crowned with glory and put on the garments of royalty.*

Genesis 41:41–43 (NKJV)

⁴¹And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

⁴²Then Pharaoh took his signet ring off his hand and put it on Joseph's hand; and he clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.

⁴³And he had him ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried out before him, “Bow the knee!” So he set him over all the land of Egypt.

- *Joseph never had to remove those garments of royalty that he had been given.*
- *Joseph’s final coat was the robe of authority.*
- *Jesus Christ has a put on His Glorious Robes forever – the Royal Robe of Authority*

Revelation 19:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Romans 8:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

- *If we are willing to suffer with Him we will also reign with Him.*
- *Let us dress for success. – faith, hope and love.*
- *What are you wearing today?*
- *Those that are struggling with acceptance come and receive the Father’s acceptance.*
- *Those that are struggling with being misunderstood come and share your heart with the Father who understands you better than you understand yourself.*
- *Those that feel they have been wronged and are struggle with letting go of their need for vindication and revenge come to the Father who will give you the mercy and love to forgive and let go of the hurts.*
- *Those that have experienced freedom in victory in some of these areas come to the Father and give thanks for what He is already done in your hearts and lives.*