

## Daily Bible Readings

**Our Read-Ahead for: 19 February 2023**

### **Clothed with Christ**

**Monday:** Setting Aside the Doubt (**Matthew 14:22-33**)

**Tuesday:** Getting Rid of the Old Ways (**Romans 6:12-9**)

**Wednesday:** Living in Love (**1<sup>st</sup> John 3:10-17**)

**Thursday:** Forgiving as You were Forgiven (**Matthew 18:21-35**)

**Friday:** Living in Peace (**John 14:25-29**)

**Saturday:** Living in Gratitude (**Psalms 107:1-9**)

**Sunday:** Living as God's Chosen Ones (**Colossians 3:5-17**)

Clothed with Christ  
Printed Text • **Colossians 3:5–17**  
Bible Background • **Colossians 3:1–17**  
Devotional Reading • **Psalm 107:1–9**

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**Keep in Mind:** *“14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness”. (Colossians 3:14, KJV)*

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**Aim for Change**

“By the end of the lesson, we will: **GAIN** an impression of principles of living in Christ; **IMAGINE** how, because we follow Christ, our life principles and behavior are different from the rest of society; and **EVALUATE** our treatment of others and make changes where necessary as demanded by a life lived in Christ.”

**In Focus**

In our lesson today, Paul exhorts the church at Colossae to take off the old life and put on the new one in Christ. Just like the above examples, the old life no longer is appealing nor does it fit our new life in Christ.

**Focal Verses**  
**Colossians 3:5-17 KJV**

5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

**6 For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:**

7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

**8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.**

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

**10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:**

11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

**12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;**

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man has a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

**14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.**

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

**16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”

### **The Lesson**

#### **I. The People, Places and Times**

- a. **Barbarians:** The Greeks used this as a term for those they deemed uneducated; that is, those who did not speak Greek or follow a Greek pattern of living. In the Old Testament, the word indicated the inhabited world in contrast to the wilderness where the nomads roamed. [More Barbarian Info](#)
- b. **Scythian:** A native of Scythia, the ultimate of barbarism, a savage. The Greeks despised the Jews; a barbarian scorned a Scythian. They were considered the lowest of the low. [More Scythian Info](#)

#### **II. Background**

In the final two chapters of Colossians, Paul challenged the Colossians to make practical application of the doctrines he had been preaching. Paul believed Christians should not just know the truth and be able to defend it, but that truth must be lived out in their daily lives as well. The pagan religions of Paul’s day said little or nothing about personal morality. A worshiper could bow before an idol, put his offering on the altar, and go back to live the same old life of sin; what a person believed had no direct relationship with how he behaved. No one would attempt to correct the person for his behavior. The

Christian faith brought a whole new concept into pagan society. Faith in Christ meant being united with Him. If Christians share His life, they must follow His example. If Christ lives in the believer, he or she cannot continue in sin. Thus, Paul concluded his letter to the Colossians with some specific instructions about Christian conduct.

### III. In Depth

- a. **New Life in Christ (Colossians 3:5–9)** Paul speaks forthrightly about the demands of the new life and our urgent need to curb all the degrading tendencies of the old nature. The old life is dead. The believer must let it “die. We are not simply to suppress or control evil acts and attitudes; we are to wipe them out completely.
- b. **Renewal Procedures (Colossians 3:10–11)** Paul talked about becoming a new creature in Christ and taking off the old self, but how can that be done? Bad habits and ungodly conduct is not simply going to fall away like dirty clothes. Paul used the word “knowledge” to explain how a person changes (v. 10, KJV)— not through knowledge of more rules and laws but the knowledge of Christ. Our minds must be renewed. As believers grow in knowledge of the Word of God, when we learn “read, and study His Word, God’s Spirit changes us. God transforms Christians by washing old thoughts, desires, and intentions out of our minds and replacing them with new ones.
- c. **Walking New (Colossians 3:12–17)** Christians are chosen, set apart, and loved by God. These are privileges God gave to His people in the Old Testament that are made available to Christians as well. Because God gave these blessings to His people, Paul encourages them to walk in compassion (a tenderness expressed toward the suffering), in kindness, goodness, graciousness (a sweet disposition), in humility (thinking humbly of oneself), in gentleness (delicate consideration for the rights and feelings of others), and in patience (self-restraint that allows one to bear injury and insult without resorting to retaliation). “ It also means bearing with and forgiving one another.

### IV. Take Aways

### V. Closing Prayer