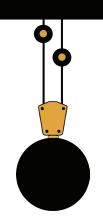


IT IS TIME TO WRECK THE RUINS!

THE DIVINE SEQUENCE FOR LIVING THE RISEN LIFE

- 1 Put to the death what is earthly ...
- 2 Put on the new self ...





OUTLINE ... COLOSSIANS 3:5-11 ...

1 DEATH TO OUR OLD SELF

Any best version of ourselves that we come up will be based on the thoughts and ways of Earth—the ways of death and futility. We must put those ways to death and put on our new life that is being formed in the knowledge of our Creator (3:10), is being conformed to the image of the Creator's Son (Romans 8:29) and has yet to be revealed to us.

• (1 John 3:2 NCV) Dear friends, now we are children of God, and we have not yet been shown what we will be in the future. But we know that when Christ comes again, we will be like him, because we will see him as he really is.

THE SCRIPTURAL PATTERN

LOSE LIFE-FIND LIFE / PUT OFF OLD-PUT ON NEW

• (Matthew 10:38–39 ESV) And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

FOLLOW CHRIST
LOSE LIFE
FIND LIFE

• (Ephesians 4:22–24 ESV) To <u>put off your old self</u>, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to <u>put on the new self</u>, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

PUT OFF OLD SELF

PUT ON NEW SELF

So what do we have? If the "God version" of our lives is beyond us and yet to be revealed, then what do we have to go on?
We have detailed, written instructions from God as to how we are to live.

When we were born into this world, we inherited a mess. Made in the image of the man of Earth, we inherited sin and death from the man of Earth, and all we knew was sin and darkness and the natural, hostile ways of humans.

But now we have been made alive in Christ, and it is time to kick the old ways to the curb. And it is time to serve the Body of Christ by helping our brothers and sisters in Christ overcome the mess of the ruins that they have inherited.

So here is our call to arms so to speak ... to present our bodies as living sacrifices ... to present these bodies which once knew only darkness as servants of righteousness to the Body of our Lord Jesus in service to our King ... thoroughly equipped by the word of God.

- 1. We are to "put to death" our earthly desires which find their roots in sexual immorality and idolatry so that we can use our bodies in a way that honors God, 3:5.
 - (Colossians 3:5 ESV) **Put to death** therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.
 - Colossians 3:5 NASB95) Therefore
 <u>consider the members</u> [μέλος—"body
 parts"] of your earthly body <u>as dead</u> to
 immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire,
 and greed, which amounts to idolatry.
 - (Romans 6:12–13 ESV) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 Do not present your members [μέλος—"body parts"] to sin as instruments for

unrighteousness, but <u>present yourselves</u> to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your <u>members</u> [μέλος—"body parts"] to God as instruments for righteousness.

- (James 3:6 ESV) And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue
 is set among our members [μέλος—"body parts"], staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.
- (Romans 12:1 ESV)1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice**, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.
- 2. <u>It is because of the sins of this immoral, idolatrous, earthly lifestyle that the wrath of God is coming, 3:6.</u>
 - (Colossians 3:6 ESV) On account of these the wrath of God is coming.

These sins and the lifestyle they produce are cause for the coming wrath of God in judgment.

- 3. We ourselves committed these very sins which are typical of the old life according to this world, 3:7.
 - (Colossians 3:7 ESV) In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.
- 4. But now we must put away the unresolved anger and general bad feeling in our hearts that finds its way to our tongues and brings disharmony and disunity to the body of our Lord Jesus, 3:8.
 - (Colossians 3:8 ESV) But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.
- 5. Stop lying to each other—the typical result when we relate to each other in the ways that should by now be past tense, 3:9.
 - (Colossians 3:9 ESV) Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.



- 6. <u>Live our risen life with Christ as we are being</u> renewed by information based on the image of our creator, 3:10.
 - (Colossians 3:10 ESV) **And have put on the new self**, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.
 - (Romans 12:2 ESV) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- 7. Christ is everything—our all and in all—in our risen life, 3:11.

As we live our new life, what was before is nothing, and what is something is Christ—all, and in all.

- (Colossians 3:11 ESV) Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but **Christ is all, and in all**.
- (Colossians 3:3-4 ESV) For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4
 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

WE SHALL BEAR THE IMAGE OF THE MAN OF HEAVEN

The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven.

Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

(1 Corinthians 15:47–49 ESV)

PUT TO DEATH OUR EARTHLY LIFE



OLD LIFE

Inheritance—>Sin & Ruin

TAKE OFF

Put on Our New Life in Christ



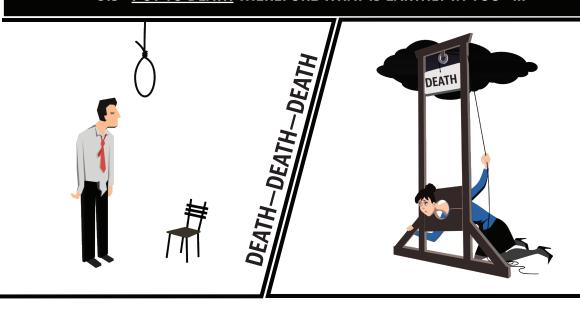
New Life
Inheritance—>Glory of God

Put On

HARD BIBLE FACT:

To live our risen life in Christ ... to walk worthy of the calling with which we have been called ... we must first put to death our old, earthly ways of thinking and living ... and then "put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator" (Colossians 3:10).

3:5 "PUT TO DEATH THEREFORE WHAT IS EARTHLY IN YOU" ...



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