

1. Tonight we will continue our study of the Book of Colossians at verse eleven of chapter three. Last week I completed the exegesis of Col 3:11 and then we continued our study of The Doctrine of The Essence of God.
2. When time expired we were about to begin a study of what the Bible teaches about the Omniscience of God.
3. Before we continue that analysis you may want to take advantage of God's protocol for fellowship by silently naming your sins to God as we pray.
4. Now that the decks have been cleared for action let's look at an expanded translation of Col 3:5-11.

**Ethical Imperatives:**

**Col 3:5 Therefore we must put to death the facets of our old sin natures, the dastardly diamond will if we let it, dominate our thoughts and actions in time ... The nature of which can certainly lead to demon possession/control;**

**Col 3:6 it's because of the existence of these abominable things in the life of many of you that divine discipline will soon come;**

**Col 3:7 it wasn't long ago that you were doing all of these abominable things and you really couldn't help it;**

**Col 3:8 but now that you are a Christian with access to the teaching ministry of God the Holy Spirit you must rid yourselves of God's coming discipline by putting off anger as a display of indignation, wrath as a display of rage, emotional turbulence leading to acts of evil, the maligning of others, filthy and obscene speech;**

**Col 3:9 and lying to one another--after all, the old man has been disarmed together with his evil practices,**

**Col 3:10 since you are now positionally in Christ, you must again and again put on the new man by means of a full knowledge of God; you must conform yourselves to the image of Jesus Christ Who made possible your regeneration;**

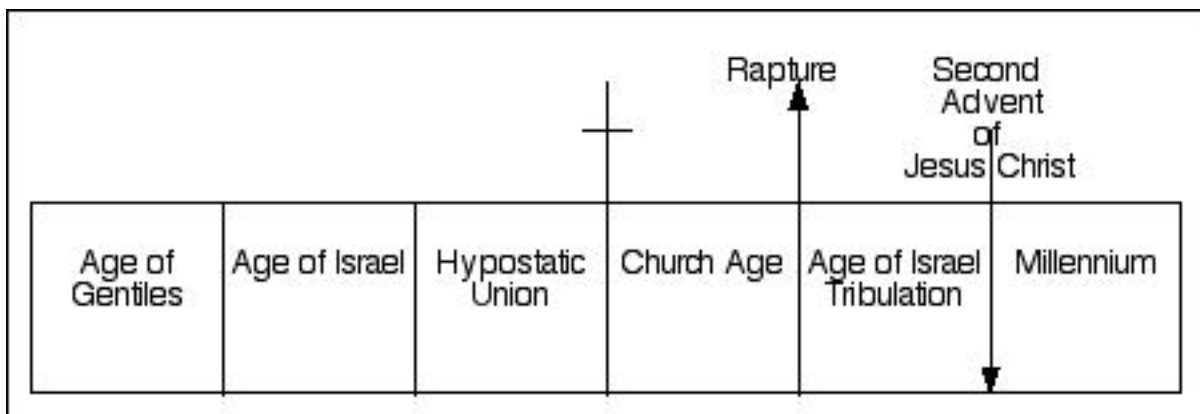
**Col 3:11 inside the body of Christ there is neither Gentile nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarians (those who do not speak Greek) nor Scythians (a nomadic people originating in northern Mesopotamia), slaves or freemen but most certainly Christ occupies the whole sphere of life and permeates all of life's developments.**

5. How does Christ do this? The Doctrine of The Essence of God is perhaps the best way to understand how Christ is all and in all. After a brief review we will begin where we left-off last week at point 8 page 2.

6. The 10 essences of God are:

- Sovereignty
- Righteousness
- Justice
- Love
- Eternal Life
- Omniscience
- Omnipresence
- Omnipotence
- Immutability
- Veracity

7. So far we have studied five of the ten essences of God--sovereignty, righteousness, justice, love and eternal life. Now we are ready for Omniscience. To introduce Omniscience, another look at our simple dispensation chart will help.



8. **Omniscience** -- God knows all things; He is all knowing and is not limited by time or choices.

8.1 God knows the end and the beginning as we have seen, nothing has been hidden from Him.

Psa 147:4 He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

Psa 147:5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; **his understanding has no limit.**

Isa 41:26 It was God who told us of the coming of the Assyrians and their ultimate destruction, we were told of this event beforehand, so we could say, 'He was right'? **No one told of this, no one foretold it, no one heard any words from you.**

Isa 41:27 I was the first to tell Zion, 'Look, here they are!' I gave to Jerusalem a messenger of good tidings.

Job 37:16 Do you know how the clouds hang poised, those wonders of him **who is perfect in knowledge?**

8.2 Certainly the Scriptures teach His before knowledge; all being part of His omniscience.

9. **Omnipresence**--God is ever present, a difficult concept beyond both empiricism and rationalism.

9.1 God is not limited by time or space.

9.1.1 God is both a product of effects outside the mind; inherent within all and beyond the limits of experience.

9.1.2 God is therefore in the heavens and the earth simultaneously.

9.1.3 Jesus' agreeing to become human involved the imposition of many self-imposed restrictions; not the least of which was spacial limitation.

9.2 Two sobering thoughts:

9.2.1 You cannot escape the presence of God.

9.2.2 He therefore does not ever leave you, even in times of great distress.

Jer 16:17 **My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from me**, nor is their sin concealed from my eyes.

Jer 23:24 **Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the LORD. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?"** declares the LORD.

1Ki 8:27 "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, **even the highest heaven, cannot contain you**. How much less this temple I have built!

Isa 66:1 This is what the LORD says: "**Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool**. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be?

Deu 4:39 Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the **LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below**. There is no other.

Pro 15:3 **The eyes of the LORD are everywhere**, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.

10. **Omnipotence** -- God is all-powerful and limitless in ability.

10.1 For example:

- God is mighty to save and to keep those who believe;

Rom 5:6 **For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.**

Rom 5:7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

Rom 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, **how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?**

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, **neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.**

2Ti 2:13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: **he cannot deny himself.**

Gal 3:26 For **ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.**

Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, **to them gave he power to become the sons of God,** even to them that believe on his name:

1Pe 1:4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

1Pe 1:5 Who are **kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time.

Col 1:18 And **he is the head of the body,** the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

1Co 12:21 **And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.**

1Co 12:22 Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:

2Co 1:21 Now he which establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;

2Co 1:22 **Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit** in our hearts.

Eph 2:8 For by grace **are ye saved** through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

- no one can remove us from the earth until it is the Lord's time.
- there is nothing too hard for God.
- there is nothing impossible with God.

Psa 147:5 **Great is our Lord and mighty in power;** his understanding has no limit.

Psa 93:1 **The LORD** reigns, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and **is armed with strength**. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

Isa 55:11 **so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.**

Eph 1:19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. **That power is like the working of his mighty strength,**

1Pe 1:5 **who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation** that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Jer 32:27 "I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. **Is anything too hard for me?**

Job 42:2 "**I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted.**

Luk 1:37 For **nothing is impossible with God.**"

Isa 46:10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and **I will do all that I please.**

11. **Immutability**--God is absolutely stable, He has never been in a slump and He never changes.

11.1 You can count on God to never change.

11.2 His Word is unchangeable.

11.3 His works are unchanging.

11.4 The person of Christ and His thinking are immutable.

11.5 You and I are totally unstable and desperately in need of the stability of His mind.

11.6 God is faithful to always deliver us from pressure and testing.

11.7 God is faithful in the administration of His Plan for us and in His provision for us.

1Pe 1:25 **but the word of the Lord stands forever.**" And this is the word that was preached to you.

Isa 40:8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but **the word of our God stands forever.**"

Ecc 3:14 I know that **everything God does will endure forever**; nothing can be

added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that men will revere him.

1Th 5:24 The **one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.**

12. **Veracity**--God is absolute truth, an expression of His righteousness.

Rev 15:3 And they sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb: "Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. **Just and true** are your ways, King of the ages.

12.1 God's veracity therefore is manifested in His ways.

Psa 25:10 **All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful** for those who keep the demands of his covenant.

12.2 God is said to be full of grace and truth.

Joh 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, **full of grace and truth.**

Joh 17:17 **Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.**

12.3 Man is a liar but God is truth.

Rom 3:4 Not at all! Let God be true, **and every man a liar.** As it is written: "So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge."

12.4 Wisdom has always existed even before the name of God. Wisdom and truth and doctrine are synonymous. Let's conclude our doctrine by reading in part what has come to be known as the "Wisdom Proverb:"

Pro 8:22 The LORD possessed wisdom in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.

Pro 8:23 I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, before the earth was.

Pro 8:24 When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water.

Pro 8:25 Before the mountains were settled, before the hills were I was there:

Pro 8:26 While as yet God had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.

Pro 8:27 When He prepared the heavens, I was there: when God set a compass upon the face of the depth:

Pro 8:28 When He established the clouds above: when He strengthened the fountains of the deep:

Pro 8:29 When He gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when He appointed the foundations of the earth:

Pro 8:30 Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight,

rejoicing always before him;

Pro 8:31 Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the angels.

Pro 8:32 Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways.

Pro 8:33 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.

Pro 8:34 Blessed is the man that heareth wisdom, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.

Pro 8:35 For whoso findeth wisdom findeth life, and shall obtain favor of the LORD.

Pro 8:36 But he that sinneth against wisdom wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate wisdom loveth operational death.

13. Now we are ready for Col 3:12 and a new sentence.

KJV-New Sentence

Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

NIV

Col 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

PUT ON THEREFORE, ΟΥΝ ΕΝΔΥΩ

1. The opening phrase **Oun Enduo** is better translated "Therefore in view of what we have just learned you must clothe, adorn and invest yourselves ...,"

2. **Oun** is a continuative illative particle followed by the verb **Enduo** parsed as an aorist middle hortatory subjunctive.

3. The hortatory subjunctive is like an imperative; it is thus a command but the verb also recognizes the believer may or may not do what the protocol demands.

4. ÔPut off,' in verse nine conveyed the idea of divesting, as of a garment, and of passing judgment upon the old man, i.e., by identification with Christ in his death. Verse ten, in contrast, spoke of putting on a new garment--the new man just as our verse twelve speaks of putting on certain other ethical imperatives as: bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness and longsuffering.

5. Our position "in Christ" must increasingly be actualized in the individual Christian as we use the two power options. We actualize our position in Christ when we make manifest the likeness (in part of course) of Christ by actual living.

6. Thus the image of God, which the first Adam failed to realize, is to be fulfilled in the sons of the second Adam. (compare Gen 1:26; Rom 8:29 and 1Co 15:45-49.

Gen 1:26 And God said, **Let us make man in our image**, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Rom 8:29 For whom the Father did foreknow, **he also did predestinate us to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that Christ might be the firstborn among many brethren.

1Co 15:45 And so it is written, **The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a life giving spirit.**

1Co 15:46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

1Co 15:47 The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven.

1Co 15:48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

1Co 15:49 **And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.**

7. This means that believers do not merely put on new attributes, but are to undergo a transformation. Rom 12:2

Rom 12:2 Be you not conformed to this world but be you transformed by the renewing of the mind.

8. At Christ's **Parousia**, i.e., his second coming, we will be seen in our radical and comprehensive character when we will be completely, totally and perfectly changed. (1Co 15:53)

1Co 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

9. We must always be involved in a renewing process.

10. **Enduo** means to "dress yourself" or "to take on virtues of another." Our union with Christ must now be parlayed into temporal sanctification.

11. **Enduo** is virtually always translated, "put, clothe" or "put on." It is used in connection with the crucifixion of Christ in Mat 6:25 and in Mat 27:31 it is used in connection with the watchcare of God over each of us as believers.

Mat 6:25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall **put on.** Is not life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Mat 27:31 After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and **put** his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

11.1 It is used of "putting" on the armor of light in Rom 13:12.

Rom 13:12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and "**put on**" the armor of light.

11.2 It is used of putting on the Lord Jesus Christ in Rom 13:14. As you can see it is translated in the NIV "clothe yourselves."

Rom 13:14 Rather, "**clothe yourselves**" with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

11.3 It is used of putting on a body of incorruption and immortality in 1Co 15:53 and 54. The NIV translates **Enduo** "has been clothed" in verse 54.

1Co 15:53 For this corruptible must "**put on**" incorruption, and this mortal must "**put on**" immortality.

1Co 15:54 When the perishable "**has been clothed**" with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

11.4 It is used of putting on the whole armor of God in Eph 6:11.

Eph 6:11 "**Put on**" the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Eph 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

11.5 It is used of putting on the new man in Eph 4:24. Clearly this use is similar to our verse, Col 3:9

Eph 4:24 And that ye "**put on**" the new man," which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Eph 4:25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another.

11.6 In our verse we are told to put on various Christian qualities or as the NIV translates "clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

12. And now for the phrase "as the elect of God."

AS THE ELECT OF GOD, ΩΣ ΕΚΛΕΚΤΟΣ Ο ΘΕΟΣ

1. The phrase **Hos Eklektos Ho Theos** is better translated "like the elected ones of God ...," or "like what you are: elected ones of God, members of His forever family ...,"
2. **Hos** is a relative pronoun; it is followed by the noun **Eklektos** declined as a nominative plural; next follows the monadic proper noun **Theos** declined as a genitive singular.

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