

Putting on the New Man

I. The extended metaphor of the New Man as defined by Scripture.

1. The New Man is the direct opposite of the Old Man (Eph. 4:22-25; Col. 3:8-14).
 - 1) The Old Man includes all of mankind—through Adam.
 - i. Emphasizes the sin nature—propensity to sin.
 - ii. Has as his practice unrighteous acts (Col. 3:9).
 - 2) The New Man includes all New Testament believers.
 - i. Emphasizes participation in the divine nature (2 Pet. 1:4).
 - ii. Has as his practice righteous acts.
2. Positional contrasted to Practical.
 - 1) **Positional** is imputed, counted as so, by God. He counts in the present that which is not, based on what He knows He will come-to-be in the future: omniscience (Rom. 4:17). *“There is no succession or sequence in how God knows, but there is both succession and sequence in what God knows.”* (Doctrines of God, p. 11). God is always present: in the past, present, and future at the same time (ex. Jn. 8:56-58).
 - i. Actual in God’s counting, imputed, positional.
 - ii. **Realm of divine enabling.**
 - 2) **Practical** is how we actually function in time.
 - i. We still have our sin nature.
 - ii. **Realm of human responsibility.**

II. Putting on, like clothes, the New Man.

1. Positionally—imputed, by God to have put on the New Man at the believer’s new birth.
 - 1) The Old Man and his mode of acting was put off, positionally, not practically (Col. 3:9; Eph. 4:24; Rom. 6:6).

- 2) Since the New Man is imputed to us:
 - i. We are being renewed in our mind by the **Spirit** (Eph. 3:16).
 - Mind of **Christ** (1 Cor. 2:16).
 - Participation in the divine nature, **Father** (2 Pet.1:4).
 - ii. In the New Man, all Christians have the same potential, based on same future (Col. 3:11).
2. Practically, it is the human's responsibility:
 - 1) To put on the New Man by reckoning the old man was put off in Christ (Col. 3:9-12; Rom. 6:6).
 - i. Based on God's imputation of us in the New Man.
 - ii. By faith having as its object the promise from God that we can act righteously, free from the sin nature—the Old Man.
 - 2) Resulting in producing fruit from the Spirit (Col. 3:12-13).
 - 3) Developing spiritual maturity (Col. 3:14).