

Wearing The “Jesus Uniform”

Lesson 9

The Bible talks about how Christians are “in Jesus” – surrounded by Jesus’ righteousness, dressed up in his goodness. If you’ve ever stressed yourself out trying hard to keep up an image of goodness, listen to God’s invitation.

Zechariah 3:1-7 – Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. The LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?”

Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. The angel said to those who were standing before him, “Take off his filthy clothes.” Then he said to Joshua, “See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put rich garments on you.”

Then I said, “Put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the LORD stood by.

The angel of the LORD gave this charge to Joshua: “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘If you will walk in my ways and keep my requirements, then you will govern my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you a place among these standing here.’”

Galatians 3:25-28 – Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law. You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 22:10-14 – The servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. “Friend,” he asked, “how did you get in here without wedding clothes?” The man was speechless. Then the king told the attendants, “Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are invited, but few are chosen.

- Have you ever worn something that made you feel different and act differently? Can you think how the “Jesus uniform” can help you in the way you think and live? (See Step 2: “We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.”)
- Trying to make it on your own efforts doesn’t work (see Step 1: “We admitted we were powerless...”). How is “wearing the Jesus uniform” different from trying hard to be good?
- Some clothes look good, but they’re “high maintenance” – they stain or wrinkle or rip or fade, etc., and need constant protection and upkeep. Trying hard to live right can be like wearing high maintenance clothes. How is the “Jesus uniform” different?