

“Dress as the New Man”
Colossians 3:12-14

→ **Introduction**

- Christian maturity is Biblically imagined as a uniform change.
- We are to be stripping off the uniform of the old man and putting on the uniform of the New Man.

I. The Pieces of the New Man Uniform

- A. Heart of Compassion – a deep sensitivity toward other Christians.
- B. Kindness – active and intentional niceness toward believers in our lives.
- C. Humility – a willingness to forgo one’s own advantage or rights.
- D. Gentleness – a non-abrasive approach in our dealing with other believers.
- E. Patience – readiness to bear with the faults of other Christians (and to forgive their sins against us – v. 13).
- F. Love (v. 14) – a decided commitment to the good of another.

II. The Originator of the New Man Uniform

- A. Heart of Compassion:

2 Corinthians 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort.

Matthew 9:36 - When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

- B. Kindness:

Luke 6:35 - But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.

- C. Humility:

Philippians 2:5-8 - ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

- D. Gentleness:

Matthew 11:28–29 - ²⁸ *Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.* ²⁹ *Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

E. Patience:

Exodus 34:6 - *Then the Lord passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth”*

F. Love:

1 John 4:16b - *God is love.*

III. Is putting on the New Man uniform too much to ask of us?

- A. How can it be when God’s own compassion, kindness, etc. led Him to choose and set us apart for salvation?
- B. How can it be when the other believers in our lives are *also* the recipients of God’s love, compassion, patience, etc.?
- C. The power to put off old man and put on the New must come from God, yet He commands us to put in the thought and effort to do both.