

“Becoming the New Man Together”
Colossians 3:9-11

I. The New Man is (also) Corporate.

- A. “Putting on the New Man” is not just an individual endeavor.
- B. It also means striving together to become a fellowship that’s united (Col. 3:11) and sincere (Col. 3:9). See also...

Ephesians 4:13 - until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

II. The New Man is not Divided.

- A. Racial (Jew/Gentile), Cultural (Greeks/Barbarians), and Social (Free/Slave) divisions should have no relevance in the life of the church.
- B. We must labor to root out all inappropriate distinctions among believers today.
- C. Paul does *not* say:
 - 1. That Christians should apologize for their ancestors’ racial sins, bemoan their “privilege”, etc.
 - 2. That all cultures and cultural expressions are equal in value.

Titus 1:12-13 - ¹² One of Crete’s own prophets has said it: “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons.” ¹³ This saying is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith.

- 3. That Christians should ignore all social distinctions *outside* the church.

III. The New Man is Christ (Rom. 13:14)

- A. Christ is *in* all – Jesus indwells every believer.
- B. Christ *is* all – Reflecting Jesus is the goal of individual *and* corporate holiness.

Ephesians 4:15 - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...