

Clothed in Christ

Written by Inner Session Ministry

It is said, that to hold the greatest power on earth, is to handle the *spirit* of the word of God.

Being Clothed in Christ is a mystery.

It is a union, by which a person begins to put on the character of Christ.

We are designed by a designer.

To achieve unimaginable qualities...

(the grace/ "power" of God) rarely ever seen displayed through human life.

To be clothed in Christ is to take on the rarest forms of maturity; in places that call us to "put on Light".

Come close to God, and God will come close to you. James 4:8 NLT

Encountering God is determined by our faithfulness, to search and seek out what our "limits" really are. This takes discipline in both *conduct* and *character*.

We are designed with a "human" nature capable of putting on immortal promises; greater than man alone can even conceive of.

Paul begins to reveal "this mystery" in the book of 1 Corinthians. Revealing how human nature is qualified to possess and carry such a powerful gift: God and man as one.

A perfect relationship which "clothes" us in His very nature.

That's an immediate promotion that comes with an assignment... to carry something "greater" with us everywhere we go. The character of Christ. Galatians 5:22-23

The greatness of what we were made to become is the *likeness* of who Christ truly is.

Imagine... if the author of creation, holding all authority over *incomes* and *outcomes*; were to put that kind of authority in us.

This is the mystery.

Paul, an apostle of Christ, speaks to us of the "gifts of the spirit": revealed to those who are seated with Christ in "heavenly places".

1 Corinthians 12:8-10.

At the time of our creation, God places at least one (or more) of these gifts inside each of us.

"In His grace (empowerment), God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well." Romans 12:6 NLT *Giving us abilities that go beyond our own natural ability.*

While our natural talents may seem commonplace, the spiritual gift(s) that Paul refers to are supernatural traits of God Himself. As we are made alive in Christ, that which is of the *mind* and *spirit* of Christ becomes revealed in us.

The very *revelation* of God's word elevates our maturity to a place where our *character* comes into agreement with the conditioning and the training of the Lord to "put on" the action of our faith, *revealing* those gifts.

Nothing of ourselves produces this famous concept of being "gifted" here on earth. It is only produced by being available to "wear" what the "designer" of Creation (John 1:3) has designed.

We are designed to wear God's holiness.

A closet full of clothes doesn't mean we're clothed until we put it on.

To be clothed in Christ is to share in God's holiness and obtain the promises that come with it.

Holiness is the reality that is furnished in your spirit. It is something we become.

Heaven on earth happens inside of you, before it can happen to you.

Our transformation to become holy, takes work. The story of Christ's death and resurrection is pivotal to a pattern we too must follow.

Matthew 20:23 So He said to them, "You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father." (This is our reward! The *preparations* of the Father to those who love Him!)

We must first be delivered from the character of man (the "world" / our fleshly desires) into the character of the Father ("His" spirit/ the Kingdom of God and His righteousness: His moral excellence). *His holiness*.

This is when we truly inherit the Kingdom of God and obtain the promises that spiritual holiness naturally unveils.

The "world" and its ways, acts as a veil of separation from God's *goodness*.

Psalm 145:9, Matthew 7:11

"We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one."
1 John 5:19

As God's spirit becomes *revealed* to us, we incline ourselves to want to become more like He is. To walk with Christ, takes a few trips around 'the word' to understand the depth of where He's taking us and the discipline to obtain His likeness.

He is the image of the invisible God. The firstborn of all creation. Colossians 1:15-16

That's why Jesus said, *"If you've seen me, you've seen the Father. John 14:9"*

When we access who He is, we can access what Heaven has.

What does Paul mean by
"inherit the kingdom of God"?

Paul is not talking about salvation when he speaks of the kingdom of God. He is talking about inheriting what salvation holds - *about being able to experience everything God has for us*. He is pointing out the fact that if you do the works of the flesh, then you are operating under the kingdom of the flesh (the "world").

The Bible says we are the heirs of God!

Children of the King have a right to partake of their inheritance. You have full access to the largest inheritance known to man! Romans 8:17 says, "Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory".

When is a good time for us to consider accessing a new power supply? *By His word*, we have power.

Today's purity is tomorrow's power. Purity and righteousness ("right-action") can only come from Him.

The nature of God is to mature us in His image. To put on "light".

1 John 1:5 "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

Our lives are designed to magnify God in all things. So if He is light, this means we must carry a code of conduct in our everyday affairs that *reasons* and *moves* to encounter life with the same *calling* we also hold in God's kingdom.

This is what it means to be "seated with Christ in Heavenly places." Ephesians 2:6

Our physical lives simultaneously hold the office of being spiritual heirs to the kingdom of God. We're seated with Christ in heavenly places Ephesians 2:6. ***Exactly why we can't be friends with the world.***

2 Corinthians 4:4 "Satan who is the god of this world."

"What should I wear?" is also a good way to frame the ultimate question of my spiritual condition before God. Thankfully, in salvation, besides forgiveness, regeneration, deliverance from judgment, and countless other blessings; God has made us holy, clothing us with the garment of salvation (Isa 61:10). We're saved from the darkness the world wears.

The power of God's invisible qualities changes our brokenness into something much greater.

It is a matter of saying "yes" to God and "no" to ourselves.

God is dealing with us individually as "sons of Light": children that will inherit all that He is!Supernatural traits of God that wait for those who mature into them by faith in the training of the Lord.

"While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." John 12:36

We have all been "called from darkness and into His marvelous Light". 1 Peter 2:9

The honour of following this pattern is called *inheritance*.

When we carry this advantage to our spirit; We carry the very assignment that Jesus did-as "sons of God"- which He now gives to us.

John 14:12 NLT "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father."

The interface between our character and God's is built by the word of God. It applies *to us* as much as it did for the generations God used to tell it through.

Our way of doing things can no longer be by the standard of this current world whose viewpoint is "good"; because the word of God tells us that in these last days, "they will call good evil, and evil good."(Isaiah 5:20)

The space between everyday life and the extraordinary wisdom Jesus makes available to us, is the wild ride of both faith and free-will; and the opportunities we get to magnify God in all things.

The priority of encountering God is greater than all of life's demands and opportunities.

It's not a pass or fail, but what measure of glory can we live under? That's the test, constantly.

The highest reward achievable to human life, is...

God and man: as one.

It is the reason God gives us life.

So let me ask you, are you ready to be a *mystery* revealed for the purpose of God?

Our commitment earns us an inheritance. Ephesians 1:11, 1 Peter 1:4, Colossians 3:4, Hebrews 9:15

Yours will always be waiting for you.

You enter in by faith with hands willing to do the work of God.

Your spiritual sight is developed in God's word

...What we see is where we are.

Pray in one minute:

Heavenly Father; lead me by the greatness with which You sent Your son.

If we are called, help me answer You. Teach me to put on the character of Christ. Help me in all Your ways, to see what is possible in Christ.

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

John 14:23

A person's stoic allies of purity and holiness (*the character of God*) "our new clothes"

... prevails against all darkness
(the character of the world.)

