

18. COVENANT COLLEGE, (1998) THE BELIEVER'S SPIRITUAL WARDROBE

An Introductory Note: This series is not complete in these notes—I have lost at least two outlines and don't ask how it happened! But the earlier talks looked printable and that is what I have done. There was also a 4th of July talk for which I have the outline and may include it in the Appendix. Alan Parks was the other speaker and worked a good bit in the book of James. Rex Trogden handled the afternoon sessions and it was a very nice week for all of us. I was able to sing again with the choir under Troy Boone's direction and this has always been a blessing to me. There were a few sad points: Welcome was gone, the Murphy's were not well, but the Lord gave us assurance of His ultimate victory and we rejoiced in what He had done and what He allowed us to do. Otherwise I had been studying Colossians and was impressed with what the Apostle told us to take off and what he advised us to put on! So you can see how the title developed.

The Ministry:

- 1. As you walk in the world: wear the garments of grace**
- 2. As you go to serve: wear the garment of humility**
- 3. As you go to witness: wear the armor of God**

The Idea:

We are often told how to dress for different functions. I am often told to wear a different tie since I seem to be indiscriminate in the choice of such things. So it seemed appropriate to ask how we will appear in the various phases of activities that are ours in the world where we live. The "putting off" and "putting on" both in Colossians 3 and some parallel ideology in Ephesians 4 impressed me with the concept of a right appearance in the world of our serving. I am not speaking of literal clothing, of course, but of the spiritual materials with which we actually robe ourselves and these should reflect us for what we are. So the idea is a matter of dress and the application is how we show ourselves in the course of our activities in life.

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MESSAGE # 1: AS YOU WALK IN THE WORLD, WEAR THE GARMENTS OF GRACE

Biblical passage: Colossians 1:1-17