

SPIRITUAL CLOTHES

Part Three

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FIRST THE PHYSICAL THEN THE SPIRITUAL

1 Cor 15:46

46 However, **the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.**

Do you know that old Israel's physical exodus from Egypt and their forty year trek in the wilderness was a shadow of our individual spiritual walk with God as well as the combined spiritual walk of the family of God? To properly see and understand this however, we must try to look through the eyes of our spirit.

God heard old Israel crying out for salvation, so He led them from Egypt for a much better land. They had to make a long walk through the wilderness to get

there however. We leave the world for a much greater land also, the Kingdom of God. They went through the Red Sea, red being symbolic of Adam and the sea symbolic of humanity. We experience the red sea by resurrecting from our death at baptism. In other words we leave our life in the world (Egypt) to be born again, a new creature, no longer connected to Adam and his race (the red sea).

As newborns we are dressed in our first spiritual garments (swaddling clothes).

Side Note: If we are born again from within Sion (the spiritual mountain of God), the swaddling clothes are to make us secure and bind us to God. However, if we are rescued and born again from the world, our previous swaddling clothes that we received at our physical birth must be removed in the deliverance ministry of Isaiah 61 before we can have our new ones. Rather than being a swaddling cloth, they are more like grave clothes that bind us to Satan. As in the parable of Lazarus, we must be set free of these clothes to enable us to make our walk.

John 11:44

44 And he who had died came out **bound hand and foot with graveclothes**, and his **face was wrapped with a cloth**. Jesus said to them, "**Loose him, and let him go.**"

As a little side note: the cloth, if you look in the Strongs Concordance, that was on Lazarus' face was a "sweat cloth". If not removed it symbolized his toil and work would be for this world and its master. Remember, when Jesus was resurrected, the cloth was neatly folded and "set apart" from the other grave clothes in the tomb, signifying His work would be for God's Kingdom only.

John 20:7

7 and the handkerchief (sweat cloth) that had been around His head (His government and their ministry), **not lying with the linen cloths** (cloths soiled by death), **but folded together in a place by itself** (they could now be set apart for the Kingdom only).

As new creatures we must feed only on the tree of Life (Jesus) and our navel cord to Adam must forever remain severed. We cannot return to the tree of good and evil (Satan, his world or people). If the blood of Adam is washed off in the water of separation and purification that we studied about earlier, and we are baptized or have experienced the red sea, the eye of God will always be watching over us as we wander through this world (wilderness). He will spread His protective wing over us to cover our spiritual nakedness until we are old enough and mature enough to want to be properly dressed. Like any newborn we are naked "but not ashamed". We have to mature in the things of God enough to even know we need to be further clothed. Apostle Paul was one who saw the need for these clothes.

2 Cor 5:2-4

2 For in this we groan, earnestly **desiring to be clothed** with our **habitation which is from heaven,**

3 if indeed, **having been clothed**, we shall **not be found naked**.

4 For **we who are in this tent** (body) groan, being **burdened**, **not** because we want to be **unclothed**, but **further clothed**, that **mortality may be swallowed**

up by life.

At Deuteronomy 29: 5 we see again a prototype in old Israel of the newborn being covered by God. This was after she was baptized in the Red Sea.

Deut 29:5

5 "And I have led you forty years in the wilderness. **Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn out on your feet;**

He covered and preserved her physical clothes, so she would manifest a picture for us in the natural of what we will one day have happen in the supernatural. We will finally have spiritual clothes that won't wear out. We will then be immortal!

1 Cor 15:53-54

53 For **this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.**

54 So **when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has**

**put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written:
"Death is swallowed up in victory."**

JUST LIKE THE DAYS OF NOAH

We put on immortality when we put on Christ. We have His blood when we are born again, and life is in the blood. Life swallows death as light dispels darkness. This is a fact "positionally", but "experientially" immortality will not be for us until we are fully clothed. Here is why. As we mentioned earlier, when we are spiritually naked, even as God's Bride we are as vulnerable to the fallen angels (the demons and Satan) as were the women in Genesis six before the flood. Remember, God was so angry over this very situation that He destroyed all of wicked mankind along with the whole earth, sparing only Noah who was righteous.

In other words, Noah had on his robes of righteousness, and he in turn was the covering for his family. Combined there were only eight people in all. This number eight in itself by the way is symbolic. It foreshadows the eighth

day children that will be spared in the next judgment day because they too are made righteous through being born again, separate from the cursed race and therefore covered by Christ. Peter speaks of Noah and this time in history in 1 Peter 3: 20-21.

1 Pet 3:20-21

20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited **in the days of Noah**, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, **eight souls, were saved** through water.

21 **There is also an antitype which now saves us-- baptism** (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), **through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,**

In other words, when we are baptized into Christ, He becomes our Father, far greater than Noah, and our covering. We are protected through Him from the wrath of God at the end of this age.

Side Note: Jesus like us, was born through a human mother that was of the

Adamic bloodline. Jesus also had to be born again because His body, like ours, was corruptible. It carried defects from the sin of Adam and would one day die, even though His spirit and soul were immortal. In other words, He had to be born again so His body could be spiritually clothed and He could gain the victory over the enemy. An Adamic body cannot be clothed in spiritual clothes. Remember the skins God put on Adam and Eve? Even though Jesus allowed Himself to be killed in order to pay our death penalty, death itself could not hold Him captive. His body was spiritually fully clothed, incorruptible and therefore immortal.

JESUS BECAME LIKE US SO WE COULD BECOME LIKE HIM

He had to endure temptation and affliction just like us however to acquire His spiritual clothes. This meant He was faced with situations where He could have been prideful and yet He remained humble and gained the victory over pride to be dressed in humility. He had to be depressed at some point and unhappy, to be covered in the garment of praise, etc. The word tells us He was tempted in all things just as we are.

Heb 4:15

15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

The best part of His victory over sin and temptation however was His resurrection. He actually defeated death. Look what this victory did for us!

Rom 6:3-5

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? (We actually die to this world and its people at baptism if we truly separate before we are put in the watery grave.)

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (have our grave clothes removed along with our face cloth and so on through deliverance).

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Jesus gave us the chance to be born over again and shaped, molded and dressed spiritually to become like Him, immortal.

1 Cor 15:22

22 For as in **Adam all die** (the cursed race), even so **in Christ all shall be made alive** (the new generation).

1 Cor 15:42-44 says it this way:

42 So **also is the resurrection of the dead**. The **body is sown in corruption** (as Adam), it is **raised in incorruption** (in Christ).

43 It is **sown in dishonor** (because of Adam's fall, and we are in his image), it is **raised in glory** (because of Jesus' victory, and we are born in His image).

It is **sown in weakness** (we live by soul power), it is **raised in power** (we are now guided by our spirit).

44 It is **sown a natural body** (without our spirit man), it is **raised a spiritual body** (our spirit is alive). There is a **natural body** (with the soul and intellect), and there is a **spiritual body** (with the spirit that operates through the gifting of the Holy Spirit and the mind of Christ).

Now maybe we can understand how vital it is to be separate from Adam and born through God at baptism to be given a body that can wear spiritual clothes and become immortal.

IN CLOSING

Here is something for those of us that are born again to think about. The outside of a person reflects what they are on the inside. Remember the scripture we opened with?

1 Cor 15:46

46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.

We must ask ourselves, in the natural, do our actions, speech, decisions, and yes, even our clothing, reflect a soulish person or a person guided by their spirit? For instance, are our actions self-centered, all about what we want, or do we look out for the needs of others? Is our speech coarse? Are off-colored

jokes funny to us? Do we hurt others' feelings just because we are angry?

These are all soulish reactions to life's situations, and the language of our soul man.

When we make decisions, do we consider what the Lord would have us do?

Do we check that our decisions are in line with the truth found in the Word?

Our spirit humbly would seek direction from God, our soul intellectually would not.

I leave us with this thought, when people look at our apparel or clothing, what is reflected? Girls, do we wear tight, revealing clothes that will attract the lust and perversion of others that are guided by their soul man also? Guys, do we like to be in style with the world's trends that have Satan as the trend setter? Are we into clothes and jewelry that highlight our flesh, and make it appealing, or do we dress in such a way that people will see our inner spiritual clothing of righteousness, humility and regal, quiet dignity?