

# Heavenly Garments

*Put on the whole armor of God.*

If prayer is believing God, (for without faith it is impossible to please him Heb 11:6) then believing God for his heavenly armor is of the utmost importance. Yet we find it is the least practiced of all the prayer disciplines. It is the one step that is most often overlooked, left out, or ignored all together. Perhaps that is because it is the least discovered truth in these disciplines.

Jesus told the parable of the man invited to a wedding banquet, who came ill dressed for the occasion. His evil was not his poverty, but his presumption to enter the King's palace without care for his appearance. Jesus similarly scold the church of Laodocia for the same fault, "Do you not know that you are naked... I counsel you to buy of me white raiment that the shame of your nakedness does not appear." (Rev. 3:18)

The fable "The Emperor's New Clothes" is one of my favorite children's stories for its moral is nearly biblical. Pretending, or better yet, presuming that you are clothed when you are in reality quite naked, is folly!

Someone recently asked a teacher on prayer whether one can lose his righteousness in Christ. Their position was "I am righteous automatically and permanently before God. Therefore I cannot lose my righteous standing even when I sin." What folly! It is as logical as the Emperor's imaginary clothes, to think that once dressed one never soils or needs to clean or freshen up his clothes. It stands in opposition to a vast array of Scriptures that urge us to confess sin and turn from wickedness or suffer God's discipline. Rev. 3:18 "I counsel you to buy white raiment that the shame of your nakedness does not appear" was written to Christians. We have no "teflon" righteousness to which sin cannot stick.

The apostle Paul echoes this truth again and again in the epistles. He cries, "Put off the old and put on the new" making it an obligation of saints to change clothes, exchanging our dirty, tattered garments for his provided robes of righteousness. Thus it cannot be presumed to be an automatic act of God for us. We must do it. We must reckon it to be so, thus putting on his provision of righteousness – our white garments. God provides them. We must put them on. This is the act of believing prayer.

There are two aspects to this act of "putting on" the Lord Jesus Christ:

- One is positional,  
the other is practical.
- One is wear-fare,  
the other is warfare.
- One is believing,  
the other is receiving.

## Positional Attire

Our positional garment is the act of reckoning what God has said as being so in heavenly realms. It is accepting God's truth at face value, and declaring his facts to be absolutely true for us.

### With Regard To Sin

It begins with believing what God has said about our sins, that they are forgiven, atoned for, covered, cast into the sea, removed as far as the east from the west, forgotten, washed, blotted out, and never to be remembered again.

We cannot believe what God has said without first discovering it, then believing it to be true, and finally stating it, or declaring it to be fact. We need to know it, embrace it, and declare it. We need to hear from God himself (with our heart and ears) a loud "Not guilty!"

These are healing bandages of the soul. They need to be kept close at hand, and used often. I wrote them in the flyleaf of my Bible so as to never lose these truths. I recommend that you do the same, otherwise you will lose them, like misplaced glasses or the keys to your car. Memorizing them is even better so you can argue the case before demonic accusers. You have ten fingers. Let each one represent the Gospel gloves that cover your naked, bloodstained hands.

1. They were blotted out – Isaiah 44:22
2. They were cast in depths of sea – Micah 7:19
3. They were cleansed by blood of Jesus – Hebrews 9:22/ 10:4
4. They were covered – Psalm 32:1
5. They were forgotten forever – Jeremiah 31:34
6. They were laid on him – Isaiah 53:6
7. They were paid in full - Romans 5:11 / Isaiah 53:6
8. They were pardoned – 1 John 1:9
9. They were removed as far as east from west – Psalm 103:12
10. They were washed whiter than snow – Isaiah 1:18

### With Regard to Sonship

I have not only been forgiven, but have been transformed. All things have become new. My position before God is "accepted in the beloved." I am no longer a worm, an outcast, a foreigner, or stranger to God. I am a son! God has provided fitting clothing for a son of the King of Kings. Our titles are numerous. Our position shines untarnished for all to see. But again, we must discover our positional coverings and put them on by declaring them to be God's truth in heavenly realms.

I am not what I feel like I am. I am what God says I am. So I wear my sonship with pride. Declare your heritage! Let principalities and powers know who you are. You are known at the throne!

#### I PRAISE YOU FATHER THAT ...

- I am God's possession, owned lock, stock and barrel. Genesis 17:8/ 1Cor 6:20
- I am God's child, born again, kept by his power. John 1:12
- I am God's workmanship and he is not yet finished with me. Ephesians 2:10
- I am God's friend, and he holds my hand. James 2:23, Is 42:6
- I am God's temple, holy and without blemish. 1 Corinthians 3:16/ 6:16
- I am God's vessel, sanctified and ready for the Master's use. 2 Timothy 2:2
- I am God's co-laborer with Christ; hand in hand we work together. 1 Timothy 5:18
- I am God's witness using the word of my testimony and overcoming Satan. Acts 1:8
- I am God's soldier clothed in the armor of God and ready for battle. 2 Timothy 2:3
- I am God's ambassador, chosen by Christ to represent him in this world. 2 Corinthians 5:20
- I am God's building, made by his own hands. 1 Corinthians 3:9
- I am God's husbandry, planted by him therefore my fruit is good. 1 Corinthians 3:9/ Gal 5:20
- I am God's minister/instrument called and ordained by him. Acts 26:16 / 1 Tim 4:6
- I am God's chosen, selected, hand picked, before the foundation of the world. Ephesians 1:4
- I am God's beloved, loved and cared for by the Creator. Romans 1:7/ 2 Thess 2:13
- I am God's precious jewel, shining forth and reflecting his image. Malachi 3:17
- I am God's inheritance so don't touch me Satan! 1 Peter 5:3

#### I THANK YOU LORD THAT ...

- I am complete in him, no half-way job here. Colossians 2:10
- I am free from sin's power and control. God's in control now. Romans 6:14
- I am sanctified wholly, spirit, mind, body and blameless forever. 1 Thess 5:23/ 1 Cor 6:11/ Heb 10:14
- I am meet for the Master's use, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 2:21
- I am loved eternally, nothing can separate me from his love. 1 Peter 1:5 / Rom 8:35
- I am eternally kept in the palm of his hand. That's safety! John 10:28
- I am kept from falling, and presented in him faultless. Jude 1:24
- I am kept by the power of God, that's a lot of power. 1 Peter 1:5
- I am not condemned, don't even think about it! Romans 8:1-2
- I am on my way to heaven, he is building my mansion. John 14:1-6
- I am quickened by his mighty power, I've been made alive! Eph 2:1
- I am a new creation in Christ, everything is brand new. II Cor 5:17
- I am a light in the darkness, a city set on a hill. Matthew
- I am the head and not the tail. I'm no loser! Deut 28:13
- I am preserved in Jesus Christ, kept by the power of God. Jude 1:1