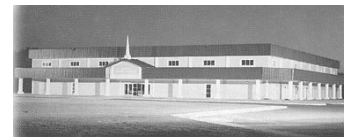


NAME _____



Bethel Baptist Church
Walls, Mississippi
662-781-7777

MARCH 2010 “THE BEST IS YET TO COME”

“The New Man”

Ephesians 4:22-24,

Daily practicing God's command to put off the old and put on the new is vital to resisting the devil's temptations. A London businessman and broker was well-known for his expert eye in seeing potential in older buildings. He once bought an old bread factory and transformed it into one of the most luxurious group of apartments in all of London. He also bought an Old Victorian style house and transformed it into a restaurant with a unique dining experience. Later in life, he resorted to buying old buildings and fixing them up to sell. He no longer wished to keep such properties, but rather wanted to pass on his vision so others could profit from it. One property he acquired was a run-down warehouse near the edge of town. Once used to store items from the nearby port, the warehouse had been abandon years before and was overrun with trash and cobwebs. Local children had broken the windows with rocks and had left soda cans everywhere. Dirt covered the place and the warehouse was no more than a dump. Before the businessman could renovate the building, a buyer approached him interested in the warehouse. Wary at first, the businessman agreed to walk through the building. While showing him around, the businessman was careful to dismiss the broken windows and dust-covered flooring by describing his plan to gut the place and build on the buildings foundation. The buyer stopped the businessman and said, " Oh I don't want this place to fix up. Forget all the repairs. When I buy this place, I'm going to build something completely different. I don't want the building; I want the site." The buyer wasn't interested in building on the old; he wanted to complexly transform the site. In the same way, when we are saved, God doesn't desire to build upon our old nature, but he wants to completely transform us. He wants us to become a new creation.

Ephesians states this principle this way. " That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lust; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." After salvation, there must be putting off and putting on

Putting off— Before salvation we were servants of sin with no choice but to follow sin and temptation. Once we are saved, though, we have a new nature. We no longer must follow sin, but now have God's power to resist sin and follow God. We must pit off the old sin nature, the natural tendency to sin. God has given us new life that replaces the old corrupt life we once followed.

Putting on— Not only does God desire for us to put off the old sin life, but he also wants us to put on a new life. Our new man desires to follow God, to live righteously, and to seek things that are above. " And he renews in the spirit of your mind." Even our thought patterns should be different after salvation, because of the new life God has given us. As you travel on your Christian journey, sometime the old man can sneak back into your life. You desire to follow God, but some of your former desires resurface. Putting off and putting on are a daily practice. The devil is constantly seeking to insert pieces of your old man back into your life. For this reason, you must daily seek God's help in denying your old self and following His new life path. Is your old nature dead today? Or have you allowed pieces of your old life to come back to life? Daily practicing God's command to put off the old and out on the new is vital to resisting the devil's temptation. If you haven't already, take time now on deny your old fleshly desires, and commit to following God's new life today.

Epistles	The Law	History	Psalms	Poetry	Prophecy	Gospel
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Genesis 32-35	2 Judges 17-21	3 Psalms 24-26	4 Job 17-18	5 Isaiah 51-55	6 Matthew 26-28
7 I Corinthians 3-4	8 Genesis 36-39	9 Ruth 1-4	10 Psalms 27-29	11 Job 19-20	12 Isaiah 56-61	13 Mark 1-2
14 I Corinthians 5-6	15 Genesis 40-43	16 I Samuel 1-5	17 Psalms 30-32	18 Job 21-22	19 Isaiah 62-66	20 Mark 3-4
21 I Corinthians 7-8	22 Genesis 44-47	23 I Samuel 6-10	24 Psalms 33-35	25 Job 23-26	26 Jeremiah 1-6	27 Mark 5-6
28 I Corinthians 9-10	29 Genesis 48-50	30 I Samuel 11-15	31 Psalms 36-38			