

Sermon Outline: Only Clothes

Prentice Dupins, Senior Pastor Covenant Family Church –Sunday, April 12, 2020

John 20:1-8

6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. KJV

Growing up in the south, Easter was a special time. It meant: Spring Cleaning, Easter Sunday Meal, Easter Speeches, Easter Plays, Easter Eggs and Jelly Beans But Easter also meant, a new suit, tie, and shoes! Shopping was an experience. But so was checking out everybody's new threads! Everybody looked so beautiful. But some might say, it's only clothes. It was more about making sure you were presentable on what was the most holy day for Christians in the south.

And that first celebration was also about clothes. But in this case, it was about what was not on and why it caused an earthquake of change that still rings today! Because what was left behind, changed history and our future forever. Because every parent, wants to make sure their child is at his or her best on Resurrection Sunday, and God is no different!

John 20:1-8

20:1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. 3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. KJV

Some years were lean, and we didn't get the whole new suit. You may have gotten a new tie and shirt to go with last year's suit. But you still had those very worn shoes. And no matter how they complimented your new tie, your mind was on the fact your suit pants had darn where you ripped it running after Sunday School last summer.

Luke 5:36

36 He told them a proverb also: No one puts a patch from a new garment on an old garment; if he does, he will both tear the new one, and the patch from the new [one] will not match the old [garment]. AMP

And sometimes, there was nothing new, but everything worn just a bit.

Isaiah 64:6

6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. KJV

But God, wanted to make sure when you stepped out representing him, there was no patch job.

Let me show you that when Jesus left those burial clothes, it gave you access to be the best dressed every day of the year!

First, He started with a new look! A complete makeover.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. KJV

Then he accessorized it.

Colossians 3:2-16 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. 9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; 10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. KJV

Then the father got into to add his personal touch so you would be known by the look you sported.

Ephesians 6:10-17

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: KJV

Then the Holy Spirit added that touch that sets you off to turn heads everywhere you go. His touch adds a special pep in your step and a glide in your stride.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. KJV

But Trinity Heavenly Fashions is not finished! They have that final makeover that will have the photographers bringing out their cameras and Satan's Patchwork Emporium dropping jaws and closing up shop!

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. KJV

But Pastor, its only clothes.

You see, you don't understand what it's for! The resurrection look is so that on the grandest day yet, you won't look tore up from the floor up!

Revelation 19:6-9

6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. 9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. KJV

So, when that final Resurrection reveal takes place, God has reserved the best outfit for you! He designed it before the foundation of the world, put it on layaway in your name, and has every accessory you need to step out into eternity, sharp as a tack!

- A New Spirit
- Clothed with the Righteousness of Jesus Christ
- Wrapped in the Armor of God
- Destined for a new body, crowns and a throne!
- All made possible by the Blood of the Cross and the Resurrection from the Dead!

All because a burial cloth and head linen were left behind in an empty grave.

Make sure you wear your Resurrection Best every day of the year. It's reminding you of how you will look every day in eternity.