

SIN NO MORE

What Not To Wear, Part 2

Pastor Ken Ritz * April 30, 2017 * New Life Vineyard Church

Don't lie to one another. You're done with that old life. It's like a filthy set of ill-fitting clothes you've stripped off and put in the fire.

Now you're dressed in a new wardrobe. Every item of your new way of life is custom-made by the Creator, with his label on it. All the old fashions are now obsolete...

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

Colossians 3:9-14 MSG

Early the next morning Jesus was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.

"Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the act of adultery. The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?"

They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!" Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust.

When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?"

"No, Lord," she said.

And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."

John 8:2-11 NLT

What do we learn from this story?

- Every sin comes prepackaged with a penalty.
 - Sin kills you.
 - It kills your conscience, your mind, your self-respect, your self-control, your relationships, families, marriages, and on and on.
- Jesus allowed our sin to kill him.
 - A few weeks after this story, Jesus would die for this woman's sin (and yours).
 - Your sin already killed Jesus... there's no point in allowing your sin to also kill you.
- Jesus tells this woman (and you and me) "Sin no more!"
 - but his focus is on consequences, not condemnation.
 - He was for sinners, not condemning sinners.
- The consequence of sin is the reason Jesus urges the woman to leave her life of sin.
 - Sin no more, not because "if you do, God will get you," but because sin will kill you.
 - Sin no more, not because if you do, God will be angry at you, but because God loves you so much that he's already paid for your sin, and he doesn't want you to bear the consequences of sin.

**All scriptures from NIV unless otherwise noted*