

Study Notes --

Why do so many Americans adopt New Year's Resolutions? Why do so many fail to follow through?

Thinking back to Sunday's message, what spoke to you, inspired you, encouraged you, challenged you, or confused you?

The idea of putting to death the things that belong to our old life seems rather extreme. Why is it so important that we do this rather than choosing to peacefully coexist with that which God calls us to exterminate?

How do the things Paul lists in verses 5 and 9...

...Hinder our intimacy with God?

...Damage our Christian witness?

...Destroy unity in the church?

God's attitude toward followers of Jesus (according to verse 12) is that we are chosen, holy, and beloved. What do you believe those terms mean?

How would seeing ourselves in this life change our lives and our relationships?

Considering the list of characteristics and virtues that are to mark the people of God, with which of these do you personally struggle the most?

What is Jesus' attitude toward unity and harmony in the local church?

What are some of the challenges to unity and harmony?

How does the harmony within a church affect its ability to win people to Jesus?

Read **Philippians 2:3**.

How difficult is it to put this into practice?

What difference would it make in your life if you did?

GRACE NOTES

Message: Changing Your Clothes

Scripture: Colossians 3:5-14

Date: Sunday, January 14, 2018

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming.

⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Be in p_____ what you are in p_____.

God e_____ us to do what He c_____ us to do.

Behaviors that belong to the old self -

- (1) Hinder our i_____ with God,
- (2) Damage our Christian w_____, and
- (3) Destroy u_____ in the church.

