

“To Live Thankfully”

Colossians 3:12-17

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Colossians 3:12 begins with the word ‘enduo’, we get our word ‘endued’ from this word.

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In the painting [back] a Roman woman works at a weighted loom on a tunic, [foreground] loom weights.

The Romans loved clothing and were accomplished weavers. They actually used 3 types of looms and a specialty loom for weaving garments in a seamless manner, Jesus had such a tunic [John 19:23].

Colossians 3:12-17 [ESV]

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, **compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,** 13 **bearing 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.** 14 **And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.** 15 **And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.**

Colossians 3:12-17 [ESV]

16 Let the word of Christ **dwell in you richly**, **teaching** and **admonishing** one another in all **wisdom**, **singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs**, with **thankfulness** in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks** to God the Father through him.

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Romans loved their fashion. For fabric they used silk, cotton, linen, wool, nettle and hemp. Leather was also used but not as a primary material. There were a wide range of colors. Most slaves generally wore a tunic of plain color [often brown]. Slaves wore jewelry and women wore expensive jewelry but most men wore little except a signet ring.

A Roman loom weight in ceramic

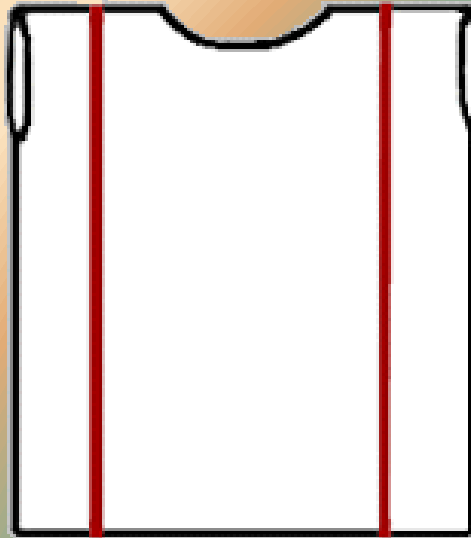
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Roman tunic of a nobleman, note the narrow stripes, generally less than $\frac{1}{2}$ " in width.



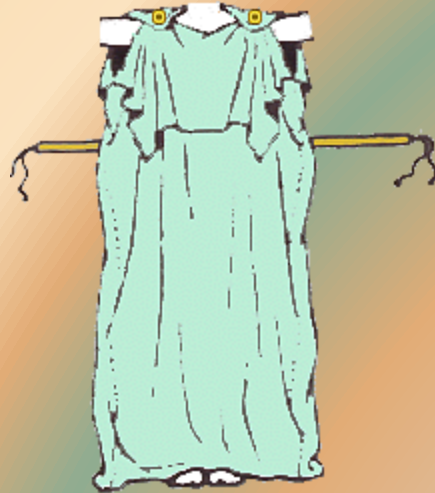
Roman tunic of Senator or equal rank, note the broad stripes, more than $\frac{3}{4}$ " in width.

No Roman would be seen in the street without some type of cloak or cape. Slaves could be seen in public with just their tunic, but a citizen needed a cloak. Only Roman citizens could wear a toga which was an exceptionally long semi-circular stole. Your garment signified your station. Men elected as magistrates wore red socks in public to identify themselves.

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A Roman woman's dress was commonly the 'peplos' or...



A Roman woman wore generally one of 3 types of garments, a tunic [lower classes and slaves], a 'peplos' or a 'chiton'. The peplos and chiton were fastened at the shoulders with jeweled clasps. Women's sandals were often inlaid with jewels and embroidered. Women could wear a cloak, cape or a palla which was an elaborate lengthy and wide stole that could serve as a hood for modesty.

The 'chiton'
Both of these dresses could be quite elaborate



Colossians 3:8-11 [ESV]

8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have **put off the old self** with its practices 10 and have **put on the new self**, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. 11 Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

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This Roman woman wears a chiton, under a ‘stola’ and sports a palla. She has an elaborate hairdo and jewelry. The stola identifies her as married.

Only legally married women had the right to wear a sleeveless outer dress called a ‘stola’. It was not a requirement but a privilege. In Colossians 3:9, 10, 12 Paul uses the word ‘enduo’ in verse 9 it is negated and translated “put off”. The word means ‘to put on clothes’. We talk about a person being “endued” for office.

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This Roman woman wears a chiton, under a ‘stola’ and sports a palla. She has an elaborate hairdo and jewelry. The stola identifies her as married.



Romans had clothing and insignias that identified a person’s office or station. Paul tells us that we can longer wear the clothing of this world which is marked by: **anger about life, wrath about personal injustice [victimhood], evil intent, slander, or obscenity.** He tells us that such attitudes should be put away in the trunk, not to be worn again. They are a part of the clothing of the old nature.

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This Roman woman wears a chiton, under a ‘stola’ and sports a palla. She has an elaborate hairdo and jewelry. The stola identifies her as married.



Instead, we are to put on the clothing of the citizen of heaven which identifies us as part of God’s family which is not based on our history or family but based on our identity in Christ. **A member of his kingdom is not continually angry about life, nor a victim, nor intent on doing harm, nor slanderous or obscene to other people.** These attitudes need to be sealed away and never to be worn again.

Psalm 100 [ESV]

1 «A Psalm for giving thanks.» Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

2 Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

3 **Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! **Give thanks to him; bless his name!**

5 For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

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Christ Teaches the 12 from around AD 300 in the Catacombs, notice they are all dressed as Roman citizens of status.

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This fresco is really neat. Jesus is darker skinned, some of the disciples are black, some are white, some are Asian. But all are dressed as Roman citizens of standing. When we have put on the identity of Christ, we are citizens of God's kingdom and where we came from doesn't matter as much as who we serve and where we are going. That is why we are thankful.

Ephesians 4:32 [ESV]

Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted, forgiving
one another, as God in
Christ forgave you.

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A group of well-dressed Romans playing dice from a fresco in Pompeii. Notice the wardrobe of the lady who is seated. The man standing to the side is likely a slave because he wears only a tunic.

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A group of well-dressed Romans playing dice from a fresco in Pompeii. Notice the wardrobe of the lady who is seated.

This fresco from Pompeii represents a group of Romans playing dice, the woman and two of the men are wearing clothes indicating they are in public, the man standing to the side only wears a tunic and is likely a slave. The woman wears a palla which was worn only in public.

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A group of well-dressed Romans playing dice from a fresco in Pompeii. Notice the wardrobe of the lady who is seated.

In Colossians 3:12-14 Paul tells us what our Christian citizen clothes should look like: [page 1] **compassion born from our innermost being** – this is 2 words indicating feelings coming from the gut level; **kindness born of character** – a word related to the word for grace; **humbleness** – personal modesty; **mildness of manner** – often translated as meekness; **patience** – long suffering, not easily riled up; **bearing with others who are weak** – being a support;...

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A group of well-dressed Romans playing dice from a fresco in Pompeii. Notice the wardrobe of the lady who is seated.

In Colossians 3:12-14 Paul tells us what our Christian citizen clothes should look like: [page 2]... **gracious toward those who complain about us** – the word “grace” or “forgiveness” [charizomai] here is closely related to the Greek word “thankful”, in fact this word forms its base – this is based on Christ’s grace toward us; **the most important article of clothing is selfless love** – this allows us to focus on the goal of unity in the fellowship of believers.

Romans 15:1-3 [ESV]

1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. 3 For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."

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Christ Teaches the 12 from around AD 300 in the Catacombs, notice they are all dressed as Roman citizens of status.

If we are truly thankful for what Jesus Christ has done for us. We will change our clothes, so to speak. The word for thankful in these verses is ‘eucharistos’ meaning “good grace”. It is a term early Christians used to refer to the Lord’s Supper. Our thankfulness as Christians is based in what Jesus did for us.

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Christ Teaches the 12 from around AD 300 in the Catacombs, notice they are all dressed as Roman citizens of status.

What he has done for each of us must take residence in us and if it does it brings into our lives the peace of God which comes to rule our lives. The word here is a word used for a “referee”. So, as we live our lives clothed in the new identity of Christian our words and deeds begin to line up with who Jesus is. That is what it means to live thankfully.

Psalm 28:7-8 [ESV]

7 The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

8 The LORD is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

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When we live thankfully as Christians there will be real changes in our lives and attitude.

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