

1. Sons of God because:
 - a. Faith in Christ
 - i. All believers are God's children because OF the faithfulness of Christ AND because of their faith IN Christ
 - ii. Before Christ, only the blood decedents of Abraham were called God's sons. (Deut. 14:1-2) But now, by the faithfulness of Jesus, he extends to everyone who lives by faith in the privilege of being God's son.
 - iii. Faith in Christ brings with it the honor of carrying God's Name
 - b. Baptized into Christ
 - i. The marker in our life that we are no longer the son or daughter of anything that is dead. We are now a son or a daughter of the living God by Faith in Christ. This is what our baptism means to us.
 - ii. Baptism means that we are now mysteriously joined, or in union, with Christ. This means death has come to the old life and new life has come by means of union with Christ.
 - c. Clothed yourself with Christ
 - i. To be clothed with something meant to take on the attributes, qualities and characteristics of that in which one is clothed. (Ps. 132:9,16)
 - ii. In faith, we are clothed *in* Christ.
 1. Share in his divine Sonship (which he is joyful to offer) and take on his character.
 2. Our identity is completely transformed.
 - d. Belong to Christ
 - i. No distinction among believers (1Cor. 12:12; Col. 3:11)
 1. ethnically
 2. Socially - already share equality in Christ. IN the church community, but not necessarily anywhere else, all are equally cared for.
 3. By Gender. Paul is not saying that the created distinctions of gender are no longer in force, but that they are not to bring about division in the church. Both are equal in the church and both equally cared for. Gender can no longer divide and oppress.
 - ii. the most important feature of your identity is your union with Christ Jesus
 - iii. We should reject all other identities for life.
 - e. You have received God's blessing
 - i. His Spirit
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So,

A In Christ Jesus

B You are all children of God through faith

C for all of you were baptized into Christ

D Have clothed yourselves with Christ

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male
and female

d For you all are one in Christ Jesus

c If you belong to Christ

b Then you are Abraham's seed

a And heirs according to the promise

1. Wearing Daddy's Clothes
2. Once before God provided us with clothes (**Gen 3:21-22**)
3. The Bible says we can be clothed or clothe others with *something* - **take on the attributes, characteristics, and qualities of that with which you are clothed.**
 - a. honor and majesty / strength & dignity / salvation / compassion, kindness / humility / righteousness / power.
 - b. worms and scabs, shame, darkness, despair, gloom.
 - c. We have never worn these clothes very well. And the bad ones we only want other people to wear. In fact, we try to force the bad clothes onto people at every turn.
4. Jesus came to us wearing different clothes or a sort:
 - a. **Phil. 2:6-7**
 - b. He wore his clothes perfectly. He was the perfect human being - the real, authentic human being - wearing only regal clothing and never the repulsive rags. In fact, he did all he could to destroy the repulsive rags
5. When we trust Jesus with out very lives we get new clothes
 - a. We are clothed with Christ himself (**Gal. 3:27**)
 - b. **Share in his divine sonship. We are completely transformed.**
 - c. The perishable is already being clothed with the imperishable (**1 Cor. 15: 53-54**)
6. We now live under the attributes, character and qualities of Jesus
 - a. We now wear the clothes of Jesus, not the clothes of Adam
 - b. We now wear clothes that are regal and imperishable, not the repulsive clothes of sin and death
 - c. This is our blessing - the promised blessing of God. Claim it and be free.