Putting on Mercy Sunday Morning, August 3, 2014

Thesis:

Learn to Put on Mercy For Christ Has Been Merciful to Us! Therefore, Live in Him!

Introduction:

Ever had to get dressed for work in the dark? You tried not to turn on the lights so you wouldn't wake your spouse. You rush out the door and arrive at work and walk in and someone points out a spot on your shirt. You go to look at yourself in the mirror in the restroom and discover that your clothes are wrinkled too. How embarrassing is that? Maybe you even find out you have mismatched colored socks on. It's amazing what a little light will do. You can see so much more when the lights are on. The light in our bedroom provides a mercy to us. It protects us from going out with clothes that are dirty. God's light provided through Jesus sheds Mercy in our spiritual lives. Much in the same way, we as Christians, should shed that light of Mercy on others as we go out in the world.

I.) The Benefit of Mercy (Proverbs 3: 3 – 4)

3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, 4 And so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man.

(Proverbs 21:21)

He who follows righteousness and mercy Finds life, righteousness, and honor.

II. How to Focus on Applying Mercy to Our Lives (Colossians 3: 1 – 17)

1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

5 Therefore <u>put to</u> death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

8 But now you yourselves are to <u>put off</u> all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

10 and have <u>put on</u> the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

(More of Passage on the next page)

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, <u>put on</u> tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

14 But above all these things <u>put on</u> love, which is the bond of perfection.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be 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.

17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

God's Mercy Teaches Us to Live New Lives in Him (Galatians 2:20)

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

<mark>(Romans 6: 4 – 5)</mark>

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Conclusion:

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Invitation & Lord's Supper (Matthew 26: 26 – 29)

²⁶ And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."

²⁷ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you.
²⁸ For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.
²⁹ But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."