

Putting Off the Old Sin Nature

Reference Verses*	Section**	Amplified†
<p>† Colossians 3:8-9 8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices</p>	<p>But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth</p>	<p>But now put away and rid yourselves [completely] of all these things: anger, rage, bad feeling toward others, curses and slander, and foulmouthed abuse and shameful utterances from your lips</p>
<p>† Ephesians 4:31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.</p>	<p>Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds</p>	<p>Do not lie to one another, for you have stripped off the old (unregenerate) self with its evil practices</p>
<p>† 1 Peter 2:1 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.</p>	<p>Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice</p>	<p>Let all bitterness and indignation and wrath (passion, rage, bad temper) and resentment (anger, animosity) and quarreling (brawling, clamor, contention) and slander (evil-speaking, abusive or blasphemous language) be banished from you, with all malice (spite, ill will, or baseness of any kind)</p>
<p>† James 1:21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.</p>	<p>Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings</p>	<p>SO BE done with every trace of wickedness (depravity, malignity) and all deceit and insincerity (pretense, hypocrisy) and grudges (envy, jealousy) and slander and evil speaking of every kind</p>
<p>† James 4:11 Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.</p>		
<p>Other Reference Scriptures Psalm 51:4-5; Romans 5:18; Romans 7:18-19; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 4:22-25</p> <p>Resource(s): Biblios.com http://bible.cc/galatians/3-13.htm</p>		



Background

The definition of sin is the transgression against God’s law and rebellion against Him. Man was born into sin (an inherited sin nature from Adam); therefore, we as humans commit individual, personal sins. Our sin nature separates us from God. Many people believe that after we are saved that God has taken away all of our bad habits. But learning to live righteous is a process. Paul teaches us in Colossians and Ephesians that we have a responsibility to put off all habits that hinder our spiritual growth.

God provided us freedom from the bondage of sin through the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ. As a result of this renewing process, our role as a Christian believer calls for a different/new lifestyle and moral values resisting our sin nature’s temptations.

Explanation

When Paul mentioned “put off”, he may have been imagining the act of taking off and putting on clothing. If we think about it, our every day attire won’t automatically drop off. We usually take the time to undress. Then we make a choice of replacement clothes and make an effort of putting these on.

Therefore, we can use this correlation to work hard at putting off all anger, evil speaking, backbiting, malice, etc. But we must ensure that these unproductive habits are replaced with actions and reactions like: 1) charity; 2) speaking truth; 3) forgiveness; 4) obedience to God; 5) meekness; 6) long-suffering; 7) kindness; 8) peace; 9) gentleness, and 10) self-control.

The sooner we rid ourselves of these unholy characteristics (old sin nature); we can get on with the business of being a new creature controlled by the Spirit.