

## Individual Acts And Congregational Harmony

### Colossians 3:12-14

#### Intro:

- A. The members of this congregation were to follow two courses of action.
  - 1. Vs. 8 They were to put-off the old man.
  - 2. Vs. 10 They were to put-on the new man.
- B. They could not make excuses.
  - 1. Vs. 11 Cultural backgrounds were not to be cited as reasons for bad behavior.
  - 2. Vs. 12 Christ was all for all.

#### I. They Were God's People Vs. 12

- A. "Put on therefore,..."
  - 1. "Put on" = ενδουομαι = "to cloth one's self".
  - 2. "...clothe yourselves with..."
- B. "...as the elect of God, holy and beloved..."
  - 1. "Elect" = εκλεκτος = "to speak out", "to select".
  - 2. "Holy" = αγιοι = "separated from the common condition of the human race." "like God".
  - 3. "Beloved" = αγαπω = "to love", God had bestowed His love upon them. He had not removed it.

#### II. What They Were To Put On The New Man.

- A. "...bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;"
  - 1. "Bowels of mercies" = σπλαγχνα = "the inward parts", "what one feels in one's gut", "tender pity", "compassionate mercy".
  - 2. "Kindness" = χρηστοτης = "benevolence". A very sweet disposition in spite of opposition.
  - 3. "Humbleness of Mind" = ταπεινοφροσυνη = "one whose thinking is low or modest, that is as he evaluates himself, opposite of high minded".
  - 4. "Meekness" = πραυτης = "enduring all things with an even temper", "Not punishing one's antagonizers though fully capable of doing so."
  - 5. "Longsuffering" = μακροθυμια = "long before

becoming angry", "not a person soon agitated".

### III. They Were To Support One Another.

A. Vs. 13 "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any have a quarrel against any..."

1. "Forbearing" = ανεχομαι = "to hold up". This is a positive and does not have in it the idea of putting up with someone's sin or weakness. It means, to support.
2. "Forgiving" = χαριζομαι = "to graciously be kind and to pardon one's wrong."
3. "Quarrel" = μομφη = "fault found," "an occasion of blame or censure".

B. "...even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."

1. "Forgave" = (see #2 above).
2. Just as the Lord has freely forgiven you, so must you also do" - Wms
3. Matt. 6:14-15
4. Matt. 11:24-26

### IV. The Bonding Agent.

A. Vs. 14 "And above all these things put on charity"

1. "Above" = επι = "upon", "to put upon", "or as the final outer garment"
2. "Charity" = αγαπη = "love".
3. "And over all the rest put on the robe of love."
4. "love covers the multitude of sins".

B. "...which is the bond of perfectness."

1. "Bond" = συνδεσμος = "that which binds together".
2. "Perfectness" = τελειοτης = "Completeness", "that which has reached it's full and intended end."
3. "...which binds everything together in perfect harmony" - RSV