

Put Off Put On



Standing

Strong In Christ

PUT OFF PUT ON, BECOMING A SWITCH FLIPPER

Power surges are common in many areas of the country. **When more electric current flows through a circuit than what it was designed to carry the electric breaker box switch flips off.** Sometimes we allow the circumstances of our lives to produce doubts in our thinking **concerning our relationship with the Lord.** Our thinking about being loved, accepted and forgiven by God **flips off.** Many difficult situations and relationships test us. Financial challenges and health problems all are real life experiences that have the possibility of pulling us down. Often they cause us to doubt God's Word about His unconditional love, acceptance and forgiveness of us. Our mental circuit breaker **flips off!** The Holy Spirit prompts us, by faith, to become **"Switch Flippers."** Then and only then, will He restore His thinking to us about our afflictions.

The spiritual tension in our life did not start until we were born of the Spirit. When we put our faith in Christ, we were born again, we were given brand new God-centered desires that began **tension between the flesh and the Spirit.** In our flesh, Old Adam ruled our humanity, we operated independently of God! There was not any tension then between the flesh and the Spirit! Now that we have become a spiritual alive people in Christ, we are in continual tension between worldly thinking and Godly thinking. By faith and the act of our wills, we can choose to have the Holy Spirit become our **"Switch Flipper,"** thus eliminating stress, worry and tension.

1 Corinthians 10:13 says, ***No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.***

VICTORY THROUGH THE CROSS

Have you ever thanked God for tension? Tension in our lives means we are alive in our spirit. No wonder James said, ***“Count it all joy when you have various trials and temptations.”*** That is where our spiritual growth and stability exist! We grow by learning to operate out of the Spirit’s knowledge rather than by trusting our soul’s thinking and feeling. As we mature in Christ centered thinking, we come to a place in life where **we know that temptations and trials are an intended part of our life.**

When these difficult situations unexpectedly happen, **we recognize that we are in an hostile engagement FOR God.** The battle is the Lord’s. He has chosen to have His Spirit work in and through us victoriously. The battle is won or lost at the threshold of the mind, as we choose to have the Holy Spirit ***Flip Our Thinking Switch, from stinking thinking*** to God’s thinking about our challenging life situations.

We need to know that our life-controlling battles are won only when we KNOW that our spirits are dead to sin! That is why we have to know the difference between the soul and spirit. God has not declared your soul or your body completely off limits to Satan. There is only one place that is off limits, our ***“safe place!”*** That is our spirit in union with Christ. Satan has no access to our spirits, though he does have limited access to our soul (our minds, emotions and wills). It is amazing that the enemy knows how to keep on showing up where we are extremely vulnerable.

This may be a difficult statement to receive: **Our many temptations and trials are absolutely necessary in our lives!** When we understand this statement, we begin to see Satan from God's point of view as a necessary prerequisite in our lives for building our faith.

But, without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb 11:6

Satan is alive, powerful and present; however, the Lord Jesus Christ disarmed him at the cross and impowered us with His resurrection power.

Colossians 2:15 says, ***And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.***"

The adversary, the prince of this world, no longer has any power over our spirit. It is amazing when we truly understand that he no longer has any power except what we give him. We have been instructed, ***"Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."*** (Galatians 5:16) It is then that we stop acting as if he has power over us.

Our undegenerated spirit died on the cross with Christ. **Old Man Adam is dead and buried.** Our unregenerate Old Adam has been put to death to sin and made alive in Christ Jesus the Lord through the Gospel of the Grace of God!

1 Corinthians 15: 1-4, ***For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,***

It is not enough for an habitual thief to tell God that he is sorry every time he steals. For true change to take place, the thief must first believe and receive the Gospel of the Grace of God. Secondly, my faith and the act of his will he must put off stealing and become an habitual laborer and gift-giver. Ephesians 4:28 says,

“Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”

It is not enough just to **Put Off** the old man, OLD ADAM. We must also **Put On** the new man for true and lasting change to take place. **Nature naturally abhors/resists a vacuum.** So does natural man! Our minds are being renewed when our desires are motivated by the Holy Spirit working in us and through us as us. Our attitudes and thoughts become more Christ-like.

2 Corinthians 5:14 & 15 says, ***“For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”***

Each time we choose to replace a sinful desire, attitude or thought with a Biblical one, our thinking is being renewed. This inner renewal leads us to **Putting Off** the old way of life and **Putting On** a new way of life that is pleasing to God. This is a process that takes time and the exercise of our will in the power of the Holy Spirit. For we know it is ***“God who works in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure.”***

Holy God empowers us and through His Spirit to respond by faith to do His will. When we are walking in the Spirit, we are ministering directly to the Heart of God through the Spirit of God who is living within you.

Christians often fail to change their life-controlling problems because they try to change them solely by breaking bad habits. However, change that lasts will not take place until one replaces the bad habit with a godly habit (Ephesians 4:22-24 says,

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that we put off, concerning our former conduct, the old man (Old ADAM) which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of our mind, and that we put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

This process of change is described in the Bible by the terms **Put Off**, **Renew**, and **Put On**. The Lord has provided many examples for us of **Putting Off** the old sinful way of life and **Putting On** the new godly way of life.

We need to keep on keeping on trusting the Holy Spirit to, ***“Work in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2:13)*** Knowing the doctrine of our identity in Christ is majorly important in validating our personal worth. Contaminated, shame-based thinking comes from our adversary, the prince of this world. Knowing who we are IN Christ Jesus the Lord powerfully empowers us to have His thoughts about our temptations and trials. Knowing that our spirit resides in Christ and that His Spirit resides within our spirit provides us the privilege to have God’s thinking about our difficult situations and temptations

Romans 6:6 &7, ***knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

Romans 6:11 14, ***Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.***

FROM LIFE-CONTROLLING PROBLEMS -TO - TO LIFE-DESTROYING PROBLEMS

Romans 6:18, **And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness!**

Before we continue, let us remember that we are unique, unrepeatable miracles of God. According to Holy Scripture, the **REAL YOU** is a **SPIRIT** that lives in a **BODY** that has a **SOUL**. Our spirit is holy, sinless and without accusation. There is no condemnation or separation from God! Why? It is because the Holy Spirit is alive within our spirit and our spirit is alive in Christ.

Colossians 1:20-22 says, ***“And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself; by Him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight.”*** Romans 8:1 tells us, ***There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, (who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. -- OMITTED!!!)***

There is NO condemnation, WOW!

Why does the sin-addiction to wrongdoing seem to be triumphant? Sin indulgence has great power over our flesh. It is deep inside our earth-suits. It effects our flesh, our mind and our emotions. The reason our sins so easily beset us is that they have awesome power, strength and force within our flesh. They exert strong influence on our minds, emotions and wills. Proverbs 23:7 says, ***“As a man thinketh in his heart so is he.”*** Sin exerts strong influence on our emotions. It exerts strong influence on our affections.

Galatians 5:17 says, ***“For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”*** The flesh and Spirit are in opposition and contrary to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. The flesh, our earth-suits, old-Adam are a captured enemy of our adversary. He exerts tremendous power and strength against our flesh. He is a very powerful force. He finds our flesh to be a very willing supporter, a very receptive environment. The sin in our flesh easily entangles us because it is deep within us. It forces its way, both from the outside inwardly and from the inside outwardly. In fact, sin is in our innermost being.

In Romans 7:24-8:1, the Apostle Paul is straight-forward and transparent. He tells us that the key to overcoming the flesh is to **“WALK IN THE SPIRIT.”** ***“Wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus!***

When Christ comes into our spirit, we exchange our history in Old Adam -- the bad news -- for the good news -- our eternal history in Christ. We inherit a new "family tree." We become participants in His death, burial, resurrection and ascension and are seated in the heavenlies in the Mind of God. ***(Romans 6:3-6; Galatians 2:20; (1 John 5:11-13); Ephesians 2:6; Colossians 3:1-4);***

Natures abhors a vacuum and so does mankind. Romans chapter 7:18-19 tells us the very things we want to do, we do not do and the things that we want to do not want to we do. Page 7 of 9

“For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice.”

If you are struggling with one of the life-dominating problems or be-setting sins listed in the Put Off Put On list, you might consider memorizing the put off verse and when you are temped, use the memorized Bible verse to assist you with overcoming that life-dominating problem.

The REAL You is a Unique, Unrepeatable, Miracle of God

The REALITY IS THE REAL YOU IS AN INVISIBLE SPIRIT, that lives in your **body** that has a **soul**, (**mind, emotion and will**). Your mind is your **thinker**, your emotions your **feeler** and your will is your **chooser**. You have only 3 options as to where you can place your trust and faith with regards to your true identity. If you choose to place your faith in what you feel and think or in what others tell you, you are considered a fool, according the Word of God (Jeremiah 17:5 & 9). When you choose to place your trust and faith in the Word of God about your identity IN Christ Jesus, you will be eternally blessed heavens high and oceans deep. When you believe the Gospel of the Grace of God that Jesus Christ died on a cross, was buried and rose again the third as the sacrifice for your sins, you have the Holy Spirit's power living and working in you and through you, uniquely as you!

Unless and until we know by personal faith from the Word of God, That we have been **co-crucified with Christ** we will not experience that we were crucified with Christ. We will continue to try to live **FOR Christ acceptance**, rather than **FROM His unconditional love acceptance and forgiveness**. We will continue using the methods we learned in our Old Adam self-centered lives. The conflicts stemming from our history in Old Adam will go on plaguing and defeating us. But when, by faith, we take our rightful place at the Cross in union with Christ's death and resurrection, then-and only then can we truly **walk in newness of life where all things truly become new**.

(Put Off and Put ON provides specific Biblical empowerment to overcome any life-dominating problems.

When we know by faith, truly believing, that we were crucified with Christ, we will be set free from the trap of trying to live the Christian life in our own strength. ***“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.*** (Hebrews 11:6)

The conflicts stemming from our history in Adam will go on plaguing and defeating us if we continue using the methods we learned in our old self-lives. But, when, by faith, we take our rightful place at the cross, in union with Christ's death and resurrection, then and only then can we truly ***walk in newness of life with our identity IN Christ where all things have become new.***

THE PROCESS OF RENEWAL

The primary tool God uses is His Word, the Bible. Personal life transformation is the process by which the Spirit of God uses the Word of God and changes us to become like Christ. This is a lifelong process. ***“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth”*** (John 17:17). Our lives are renewed as we continually grasp and appropriate the truths of God's Word.

We have been crucified with Christ: nevertheless we live; yet not us (only), but Christ lives in us: and the life which we now live in the flesh we live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved us, and gave himself for us.

PUT OFF

“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.”

(Ephesians 4:22)

PUT ON

“But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh to fulfill the lusts thereof

Romans 13:14)

When Christ’s Spirit comes into us and our spirit into Him we exchange our history in Old Adam -- the bad-news, for the good-news -- our eternal history and identification in Christ. We inherit a new "family tree!" By becoming partakers of Christ's life, we become participants in His death, burial, resurrection, ascension and seating in the heavens (Rom. 6:3-6; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:6), (I John 5:11-13). We have the Holy Spirit’s power living and working in us and through us, uniquely as us.

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. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. (Roman 6:4-6)

Lack of love..... I John 4:7,8,20	←————→	John 15:12.....Love
Judging..... Matthew 7:1.2	←————→	John 8:9; 15:22.....Let God search my heart
Bitterness..... Hebrews 12:15	←————→	Ephesians 4:32.....Tender hearted and forgiving
Unforgiving spirit..... Mark 11:26	←————→	Colossians 3:13.....Forgiving spirits
Selfishness..... Philipians 2:21	←————→	John 12:24..... Self denial
Pride..... Proverbs 16:5	←————→	James 4:6.....Humility
Boasting (Conceit)..... I Corinthians 4:7	←————→	Philipians 2:3.....Esteeming others
Stubbornness..... I Samuel 15:23	←————→	Romans 6:13.....Brokenness
Disrespect for authority..... Acts 23:5	←————→	Hebrews 13:17.....Honor Authority
Rebellion..... I Samuel 15:23	←————→	Hebrews 13:17.....Submission
Disobedience..... I Samuel 12:15	←————→	Deuteronomy 11:27.....Obedience
Impatience.....James 1:24	←————→	Hebrews 10:36.....Patience
Ungratefulness.....Romans 1:21	←————→	Ephesians 5:20.....Gratefulness
Covetousness.....Luke 12:15	←————→	Hebrews 13:5.....Contentment

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Discontent Hebrews 13:5	←→	I Timothy 6:8	Contentment
Complaining/MurmuringPhilippians 2:14	←→	Hebrews 13:5	Praise
Irritation to othersGalatians 5:26	←→	Philippians 2:3,4	Preferring to love
Jealousy Galatians 5:26	←→	I Corinthians 13:4	Trust
Strife/contentmentProverbs 13:10	←→	James 3:17	Peace
Retaliation (getting even Proverbs 24:29	←→	Romans 12:19, 20	Return good for evil
Losing temper Proverbs 25:28	←→	Proverbs 16:32	Self-control
Anger Proverbs 29:22	←→	Galatians 5:22, 23.....	Self-control
WrathJames 1:19, 20	←→	Proverbs 15:1.....	Soft answer
Easily irritatedI Corinthians 13:5	←→	Proverbs 19:11.....	Not easily provoked
Hatred Matthew 5:21, 22	←→	I Corinthians 13:3	Love
Murder Exodus 20:13	←→	Roman 13:10	Love
Gossip I Timothy 5:13	←→	Ephesians 4:29	Edifying speech
Evil speaking James 4:11	←→	Proverbs 15:30	Good report
Critical spiritGalatians 5:15	←→	Colossians 3:12	Kindness
Lying Ephesians 4:25	←→	Ephesians 4:15	Speak the truth in love
Profanity Proverbs 4:24	←→	Proverbs 15:4	Pure speech
Idle words Matthew 12:36	←→	Proverbs 21:23	Bridle tongue
Wrong motives I Samuel 16:7	←→	I Corinthians 10:31	Spiritual motives
Evil thoughts Matthew 15:19, 20	←→	Philippians 4:8	Pure thoughts
Complacency Revelations 3:15	←→	Revelations 3:19	Zeal
LazinessProverbs 20:4	←→	Proverbs 6:6-11	Diligence
Slothfulness (not doing best)Proverbs 18:9	←→	Colossians 3:23	Wholeheartedness
Hypocrisy Job 8:13	←→	I Thessalonians 2:3	Sincerity
Idolatry Deuteronomy 11:16	←→	Colossians 1:18	Worship God only
Worry/fear Matthew 6: 25-35	←→	I Peter 5:8	Trust
Unbelief Hebrews 3:12	←→	Hebrews 11:1, 6	Faith
Neglect Bible studyII Timothy 3:14-17	←→	Colossians 3:1-5	Bible study/meditation

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Prayerlessness Luke 18:1	←→	Matthew 26:41 Praying Faithfully
No burden for the lossMatthew 9:36-38	←→	Acts 1:8 Compassion to witnessing
ProcrastinatorProverbs 10:5	←→	Colossians 3:23 Diligence
Inhospitable I Peter 4:9	←→	Romans 12:13..... Hospitable
CheatingII Corinthians 4:2	←→	II Corinthians 8:21..... Honesty
Stealing Proverbs 29:24	←→	Ephesians 4:28 Working / giving
Lack of moderationProverbs 11:1	←→	I Corinthians 9:25 Temperance
GluttonyProverbs 23:21	←→	I Corinthians 9:27 Discipline
Wrong friendsPsalms 1:1	←→	Proverbs 13:20 Godly friends
Temporal valuesMatthew 6:19-21	←→	II Corinthians 4:18 Eternal- values
Love of money/greed I Timothy 6:9-10	←→	Matthew 6:33 Loyalty
Moral impurity I Thessalonians 4:7	←→	I Thessalonians 4:4 Moral purity
FornicationI Corinthians 6:18	←→	I Thessalonians 4:3..... Abstinence
Lust I Peter 2:11	←→	Titus 2:12 Pure desires
Adultery Matthew 5:27, 28	←→	Proverbs 5:14-19 Marital fidelity
Homosexuality Leviticus 18:22	←→	I Thessalonians 4:4-5 Moral purity
Incest Leviticus 18:6	←→	I Corinthians 7:2, 5 Moral purity
Pornography Psalm 101:3	←→	Philippians 4:8..... Pure thoughts
Immodest dressProverbs 7:10	←→	I Timothy 2:9..... Modest
Flirtation Proverbs 7: 21	←→	I Peter 3:4..... Gentle, quiet spirit
Worley entertainmentProverbs 21:7	←→	Galatians 5:6 Spiritual pursuits
Fleshly musicEphesians 4:29, 30	←→	Ephesians 5:19 Edifying music
Bodily harm I Corinthians 3:16-17	←→	I Corinthians 6:19-12 Glorify God in Body
AlcoholismProverbs 20:1	←→	Proverbs 23:30 Abstinence
Astrology/horosopes . Deuteronomy 18:10-11	←→	Deuteronomy 6:5 Worship God only
Gambling Proverbs 28:20, 21	←→	Luke 16:11 Good stewardship
Preferential treatment James 2:1- 9	←→	Luke 6:31-36 Love thy neighbor as thy self