

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.
Romans 13:12-14 (NIV)

Put Off, Put On

You live in a world filled with darkness. You are surrounded by people who love darkness and are attracted to evil. This is not true of you, at least not now. You have put off darkness and evil as if they were stinky smelly old clothes. You are no longer attracted to your old life and its values, patterns and practices, is that true? Yes, I have put off darkness and evil. They no longer attract me like they once did. At one time I was like a sleepwalker walking through the sin and evil of this world. I knew nothing else. I was attracted to evil and darkness. My thoughts, words, and deeds were continually evil. **You didn't say evil and darkness have no attraction to you, did you?** No, I did not. **It is good that you realize that you will always be subject to temptation and evil as long as you are in this life.** Why is that? **Your awareness will keep you on guard against evil and darkness. Do you know where evil and darkness will attempt to attack most often?** Yes, I do. **Tell me.** Evil and darkness will first attempt to attack me in my thoughts. **Yes, that's right.** Evil and darkness will try to corrupt my thoughts, words, and deeds. But the entry that evil and darkness will seek into my life will most often be through my mind. **So, what won't you do?** I won't allow myself to entertain thoughts about how I might gratify the desires of my sinful nature. **I like how you used the word entertain, why did you choose that word?** An evil thought may enter my mind. I won't let evil stay in my mind by showing it hospitality by entertaining it. Evil will be shown the door the second I become aware of its presence. **Will you have the same attitude toward evil words and evil deeds?** Yes, I have and will continue to separate myself from anything that I know is not pleasing to you. **So, you will put off every evil thought, word and deed?** Yes, That's right. **That will be very good.**

You must realize that you are not alone in putting off evil thoughts, words and deeds from your life. You can never win your battle by your own strength. You must rely on my word and my Spirit to fight in you, with, and for you against evil. You must rely on me. You don't have to convince me. I have fought and lost many battles against evil by using my strength alone. I know that will never work. **What will you put on?** I will put on the armor that you have given to me. I will put on the new life of righteousness that you have given to me wear. I will allow your word to dwell in me richly. I will allow your word to strengthen and sustain me against every attack of evil and darkness. I will live the life that you have called me to live. I will live and walk in the light with you. My eyes will be fixed on you. I will be drawn to you and drawn away from evil and darkness. I will put on good thoughts, words, and deeds that you have given me to think, say, and do. **Then you will be living fully in the light with me.** Yes, I will. **That will be very good.**

Lord, I will put off deeds of darkness. I will put on the armor of light you provide so I will be able to stand against evil in the world. I will clothe myself with your righteousness so I will be able to live and walk in the light with you. Amen

Let Us *Put Aside Deeds Of Darkness*

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

NIV Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Remove Your Dark Deeds Like Dirty Clothes*

The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living. Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

NLT Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Lay Aside The Works Of Darkness*

the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

NRSV Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Drop The Works And Deeds Of Darkness*

The night is far gone and the day is almost here. Let us then drop (fling away) the works and deeds of darkness and put on the [full] armor of light. Let us live and conduct ourselves honorably and becomingly as in the [open light of] day, not in reveling (carousing) and drunkenness, not in immorality and debauchery (sensuality and licentiousness), not in quarreling and jealousy. But clothe yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah), and make no provision for [indulging] the flesh [put a stop to thinking about the evil cravings of your physical nature] to [gratify its] desires (lusts).

AMP Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Lay Aside Deeds Of Darkness*

The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

NASB Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Cast Off The Works Of Darkness*

The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

ESV Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Cast Off The Works Of Darkness*

The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

NKJV Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Be Up And Awake To What God Is Doing*

The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

MSG Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Quit The Evil Deeds Of Darkness*

The night is far gone, the day of his return will soon be here. So quit the evil deeds of darkness and put on the armor of right living, as we who live in the daylight should! Be decent and true in everything you do so that all can approve your behavior. Don't spend your time in wild parties and getting drunk or in adultery and lust or fighting or jealousy. But ask the Lord Jesus Christ to help you live as you should, and don't make plans to enjoy evil.

TLB Romans 13:12-14

Let Us *Stop Doing Things That Belong To Darkness*

The "night" is almost finished, and the "day" is almost here. So we should stop doing things that belong to darkness and take up the weapons used for fighting in the light. Let us live in a right way, like people who belong to the day. We should not have wild parties or get drunk. There should be no sexual sins of any kind, no fighting or jealousy. But clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and forget about satisfying your sinful self.

NCV Romans 13:12-14

Put Aside Deeds Of Darkness

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Let Us – Romans 13:12-14

In Context: Read Romans 13

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

Romans 13:12-14 (NIV)

Considering The Words: *(What words speak to your heart?)*

The night | is nearly over; | the day | is almost here. | So | let us | put aside | the deeds | of darkness | and | put on | the armor | of light. | Let us | behave decently, | as in | the daytime, | not in | orgies and drunkenness, | not in | sexual immorality and debauchery, | not in | dissension | and | jealousy. | Rather, | clothe yourselves | with | the Lord | Jesus Christ, | and | do not | think about | how to gratify | the desires | of the | sinful nature. Romans 13:12-14 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Lord, I will put off deeds of darkness. I will put on the armor of light you provide so I will be able to stand against evil in the world. I will clothe myself with your righteousness so I will be able to live and walk in the light with you. Amen

What It Means: *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

How is your awareness of the times you are living in giving urgency and purpose to your life?

How are you putting off the deeds of darkness so you can live and walk in the light with Christ?

How are you putting on the armor of light so you can stand against evil?

Why must you monitor both your attitudes and actions if you want to live and walk in the light?

Why will thinking about gratifying your sinful nature always lead you into sin and darkness?

How will clothing yourself with Christ keep you from gratifying your sinful nature?

How are you awake to all that Jesus Christ wants to do in and through your life?

Living It Out: *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Put off deeds of darkness and put on Jesus Christ so you can live and walk in the light with Him.

Seeing It Happen: *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that as you put off deeds of darkness you will be able to put on Christ and walk in the light with Him.

Get Ready To Share: *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group how you have put on Christ and are walking in the light with Him.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you put off deeds of darkness so you can live and walk in the light with the Lord.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will put of deeds of darkness so I can live and walk in the light with you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I live and walk in the light with you today?
