

Genesis 3:7

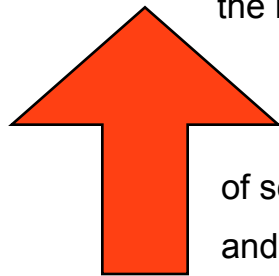
FIG LEAF RELIGION

TEXT: Genesis 3:7b: They knew they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

I do not have to take up precious time to show most of you that all our righteousness is as filthy rags. You are already convinced of your nakedness before God, for it is all too apparent. Conscious of your nakedness and sin, you once showed everybody your attempts to cover up with fig leaf excuses and white-washed disguises of self righteousness. You stitched together the fig leaves of turning over a new leaf -- joining the church, taking catechism, getting baptized in water, and throwing away the old poker chips, the deck of cards, and the beer from the refrigerator.

***Our
righteousness
is as filthy
rags.***

You tried to walk as straight as an arrow. In Christ, every believer is arrayed in the beautiful robe of Divine righteousness. But the fig leaves began to dry out, and to shrivel after they were plucked. You couldn't touch anything or move about, but the brittle leaves of self-righteousness, when touched, would crumble or break off and left you exposed.



Since then you have submitted yourself to the righteousness of God which is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. There is often, however, an apparent question in the Christian's heart as to how far his relationship is to go into that righteousness of Christ. Others do not realize that whether they feel it or not, it is nevertheless covering them in all its glory.

In Christ, every believer is arrayed in the beautiful robe of Divine righteousness, a dress of the Saviour's finished work. It is upon all them that believe and receive Christ as their only Saviour and Master. ***"But now the righteousness of God without the Law is manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith in Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe."*** (Romans 3:21-22a)

In Christ, every believer is arrayed in the beautiful robe of Divine righteousness

Paul speaks of some Israelites who, being ignorant of God's righteousness and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves to the righteousness of God. ***"For Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone that believeth."*** (Romans 10:4)

It is the work of the Spirit of God to cover us with the Robe of Righteousness and clothe us with the garments of Salvation.

Isaiah 30:1a says: "Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel but not of Me; and that cover with a covering, but not My Spirit." It is the work of the Spirit of God to cover us with the Robe of Righteousness and clothe us with the garments of Salvation.

Isaiah 61:10 tells us that this surely is the cause for the rejection of the man from the Wedding who did not have on the Wedding Garment. Jesus spoke of him in Matthew 22:11-13:

Matthew 22:11-13: ¹¹ "And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: ¹² And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. ¹³ Then said the king to the servants.

Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Akron Shalom Bible Learning Center

www.AkronShalomMinistries.org