Pastor Luke's Weekly Blog

October 29, 2026

The Coats of Skin



Genesis 3:21

Also, for Adam and his wife, the Lord God made tunics of skin and clothed them.

We began this series with the protoevangelium in Genesis 3:15 and walked from that promise through Abraham's ram, Moses' lamb, David's throne, Isaiah's Suffering Servant, Jonah's three days, and Malachi's Sun of Righteousness rising with healing in His wings.

It is fitting that we end where we started, in Eden. Genesis 3:15 gave us the promise of a Redeemer; Genesis 3:21 gives us the first picture of how redemption would cost Him.

Before God clothed them, Adam and Eve clothed themselves. They sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. Our first reflex before God is to manage it ourselves. Fig leaves are the original religion of self-improvement: homemade, hurried, and hopelessly temporary.

Isaiah named this in Isaiah 64:6: ***But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*** Paul gave up his religious achievement so that he might be found in Christ, ***not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ*** (Philippians 3:9). God does not accept a covering we manufacture; He provides one.

Tunics of skin require an animal. An animal died so that people filled with guilt and shame could be covered.

This is the seed of the entire sacrificial system. Abel brought a lamb. Abraham found a ram caught in a thicket. Israel painted doorposts in Egypt. Leviticus builds an altar-shaped theology. ***And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission*** (Hebrews 9:22).

The Lord God made the tunics, and the Lord God clothed them. Adam and Eve are entirely passive. They do not select the animal, prepare the skins, or dress themselves.

They stand there in their shame and let God do for them what they could not do for themselves.

This is Zechariah's vision of Joshua the high priest, standing in filthy garments while the angel commands, ***Remove the filthy garments from him … See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes*** (Zechariah 3:4). It is the father in Luke 15 interrupting his son's rehearsed speech to call for the best robe. In every case, the sinner brings the shame, and God brings the clothing.

When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he said, ***Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*** (John 1:29). Peter tells us we were redeemed not with silver or gold ***but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot*** (1 Peter 1:19). The animal whose death clothed Adam pointed forward to the Lamb who would be slain to clothe the world.

At Golgotha, the soldiers stripped Jesus and divided His garments among them (John 19:23-24). The Son of God hung naked and exposed, bearing precisely the shame Adam tried to hide, so that we might never stand uncovered before God again. He was stripped so that we could be clothed. ***For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him*** (2 Corinthians 5:21).

He has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of righteousness (Isaiah 61:10). The robe is not ours; it never was; it is His righteousness placed upon us. ***For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ*** (Galatians 3:27). ***Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh*** (Romans 13:14). Paul tells the Colossians to put off anger, malice, and lying as one takes off filthy clothes, and to put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, and long suffering (Colossians 3:8-12).

Jesus warned in the parable of the wedding feast about the guest with no wedding garment (Matthew 22:11-12). The tragedy was not that he was unworthy; no one at that table was worthy. The tragedy was that he came in his own clothes when the King was offering better.

The Bible that opens with God clothing only Adam and Eve closes with a multitude no one can number ***clothed with white robes***; robes made ***white in the blood of the Lamb*** (Revelation 7:9, 14). The Bride is ***granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints*** (Revelation 19:8). What began as a covering for shame ends as a garment of glory.



Soli Deo Gloria – to God alone be the glory!
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