

Structure

From Anne:

1. Put to death sinful desires (3:5)
 - a. What: Sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness (3:5)
 - b. Why: These things bring on the wrath of God (3:6)
2. Put away sinful actions (3:7–9)
 - a. What: Anger, wrath, malice, slander, obscene language (3:8–9)
 - b. Why: You are a part of God's new people (3:9–11)

From Mary:

(3:5a) Therefore (i.e. because of your new identity and future hope in Christ)—

Command: **put to death what is earthly in you**

(3:5b) Clarifying what must be put to death (with representative examples)—*emphasis on sexual passions*

(3:6–7) Explaining why they must be put to death—*imminence of God's wrath; characterized pre-conversion self*

(3:8a) Reiteration of command: **put away all vices**

(3:8b) Clarifying what must be put away—*emphasis on relationship-killing speech practices*

(3:9–11) Explaining why they must be put away (with representative example and with concluding focus on Christ)—*new identity through union with Christ, to whom every believer has equal access and in whom every believer is filled*

Unifying-Theme Sentence

From Anne: Paul tells us that because God has already accepted us through Christ's death on the cross and His resurrection, that we are already filled in Him and able to "**put off the old self**" in our earthly desires and practices and "**put on the new self**" which is maturing daily in the perfection and fullness that Christ gives us.

From Mary: Because of your (pl.) new identity and future hope in Christ, put to death what is earthly in you because these passions and practices bring God's wrath and characterized your old self before receiving your new self in Christ, in whom you are being renewed and already are filled.

Author's Aim Sentence

From Anne: Paul aims to **remind** believers in Christ of their previous condition of being dead in sin and then **encouraging** them to be alive in God, through Christ's perfection, by **putting off** their previous sinful desires and actions and to **put on the new self**; that is, their new identity in Christ.

From Mary: Paul aims to **clarify** what it looks like to "walk in Christ Jesus the Lord" by **fleshing out** the implications of believers' new identity in Christ with respect to what they now must put to death—not least those sinful passions and practices in which they *used to walk* that destroy corporate unity in Christ among the church—and **urging** believers to live out this new identity.

