

I bought a pair of new dress shoes recently, and for me it was a big event. I usually just wear my running shoes wherever I go because they are so comfortable. But for Sunday, and for business meetings, I generally drag out my old cordovan dress shoes. And I do mean old! By my records, my parents bought these shoes for me when I was in high school. And I have grown to hate them over the years.

I never did like the dark reddish color. I am not great at color coordination, but I did sense that these shoes really didn't look good with any thing I wore. And over the years the all of the scuff marks on them had turned them into a sort of multi-colored mishmosh.

They were so worn on the bottoms that there was no tread at all. They were dangerously slick, and I have done the splits several times on my sidewalk when it was wet. I began to fear for my life.

What really bothered me most, though, was that they had stretched so much that I could not lace them up tight. The side pieces with the lace holes met and could not be brought closer together, even though I put arch support inserts inside the shoes. And the shoe laces were the kind that never stay tied.

Well, the question you must be asking is, "Why in the world did you keep wearing them? Why didn't you buy some new ones?" The best answer to that question is that I was too cheap and too lazy; actually I was just being stupid. It was easier just to keep them than to get new ones.

I was on a business trip recently when I realized this fact. I determined then and there that I would spend a few dollars and purchase some new ones. I was able to buy some black Rockport shoes that fit, and didn't have to pay a lot for them. Now I feel a lot better, and maybe even look a little better, if you just look at my feet.

The biggest lesson I learned, though, was that I realized that I am just as lazy sometimes when it comes to my bad habits. There are things in my life that I do that I hate, but it is just easier to let it go and not do anything about them. I need to make a decision to do something about them, and make my life better for myself and those around me.

Maybe we all should look to see if we need new shoes!

*Make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.*

*2 Peter 3:14*