

Colossians Chapter Three - Christ's Preeminence Demonstrated

Chapter Three Outline

1. In personal purity 3:1-11
2. In Christian fellowship 3:12- 17
3. In the home 3:18-21
4. In daily work 3:22- 4:1

In verses 1-11 Paul tells us to

1. Seek the heavenly
2. Slay the earthly (flesh)
3. Strengthen the Christian life within you

Vs 1-4 Seek the Heavenly

- We died with Christ
- We live in Christ
- We are raised with Christ
- We are hidden in Christ
- We are glorified in Christ

Seeking that which is above where our hearts, desires and ambitions are to focus.

Our affections are toward heaven

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life^[c]—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

We are dead and our life is hidden in Christ – Romans 6-8

- He died for us (our sins)
- We died with Him – Romans 6: 1-5 – our identification
- He bore the penalty for our sins – Romans 6
- He broke the power of sin – Romans 6
- Our life is hidden in Christ – Romans 8:28ff

Two Deaths

1. Physical death – our soul departs from our dead body
2. Spiritual death – our soul is separated from God eternally – Rev 20:6; 14

Appearing with Christ when He appears 1 Thess 4:17; I Cor 15:52

VS 5-9 Slaying the Earthly

Put to death the works of the flesh: (Also note Galatians 5:19-21)

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------|----------------|--------------|---------|
| Immorality | impurity | passion (evil) | evil desires | greed |
| Idolatry | anger | wrath | malice | slander |
| Abusive speech | lying | | | |

Vs 6 – the wrath of God

- 11 times in Book of Revelation (chapter 15 – 7 bowls of wrath)
- 10 times in Book of Romans – Romans 1: 18-32; Proverbs 1:24-32
- For the disobedient – Ephesians 5:6
- For the unrepentant
- For those who reject the gospel – John 3: 19-21

VS 10 – 11 – New Man in Christ

Into His image – Christ is all in all

- We were made in His image
- We were deformed from His image through sin
- We are transformed into His image again
 - 2 Corinthians 3:18 – transformed by the Holy Spirit
 - Romans 12:2 – renewed minds
 - John 8: 31-32 – transformed by the truth

God is no respecter of persons – all one in Him

VS 12- 17 Our Relationship with Others

- Put on: compassion kindness humility gentleness patience
- Bear with one another (30 one another's)
- Forgive one another
- Love one another
- God peace in your heart to rule (umpire)
- God word to do the work
- Live to please the Lord

VS 18 – 21 The Family

- Wives – Submit – Ephesians 5
- Husbands – Love – Ephesians 5
- Children – Obey
- Fathers – Lead loving

VS 22 – 4:1 In Daily Work

- Servants – yield
- Work as unto the Lord – He is the one you must answer to.
- Eternal reward
- Eternal inheritance
- Doing wrong and right will be evaluated by Jesus

Crowns Promised

1. Crown of Life (Rev 2:10) for those who suffered for Jesus
2. Crown of Righteousness (2 Tim 4:8) for those who loved His appearing
3. Crown of Glory (1 Peter 5:4) for those who fed the flock
4. Crown Incorruptible (1 Cor 9:25) for the steadfast
5. Crown of Rejoicing (2 Thess 2:19) for those who win souls