



Edgemont Bible Church
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Colossians

July. 3, 2016

Intro: We have been saved out of this world and yet we are called to reach it with the Gospel. Strangely, we cannot reach it effectively until we leave it. In Gal 1:4, Jesus gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age. We are of God's kingdom, not of this world (Joh 18:36) and we have overcome the world through faith (1 Jo 5:4-5).

Spiritual growth, joy, and fruitfulness are all dependent on a correct understanding of our relationship to the world. In Heb 11:13 we are strangers and pilgrims on the earth; in Heb 13:14 For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come; in Phil 3:20 our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; Peter begs us as sojourners and pilgrims, to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul in 1 Pet 2:11. We are in the world, but not of it. It is only when we understand our union with Christ, being seated in the heavenly places (Eph 2:6), that we begin to understand the utter poverty that the world is in.

Paul calls us to a pre-occupation with our heavenly reality is what true spirituality is all about and the starting point for personal holiness.

XI. Living the Risen Life

A. The Reminder and Qualification - vs 1a

1. If denotes reality, not possibility as in 2:20 means "since"
2. you were raised with Christ,
 - a. Means co-resurrected
 - b. an accomplished fact
 - c. the union of believers with Christ - Ro 6:3-4; Gal 2:20
 - i. through spiritual baptism - Ro 6:3-4; Gal 2:20
 - ii. Has practical significance – Rom 6:11-19; 2 Co 5:15
 - d. True spirituality
 - i. Php 2:12 work out your salvation (that which is true on the inside) with fear and trembling;
 - ii. 2 Pet 1:3 recognizing that God has given us all the resources necessary to do so.
 - iii. The focus is on Christ – with (vs 1), where (vs 1), with (vs 3), when (vs 4), and with (vs 4),
3. The path to holiness is
 - a. not through self-denial
 - b. angelic experience or ceremony
 - c. lived through the power of the indwelling Christ

B. The Responsibility - vs 1b-2

1. seek those things which are above, - **zeteo** – present tense – keep seeking
2. Set your mind
 - a. **phroneo** - have an inner disposition – continuous action
 - b. on things above,
 - i. the character of Christ (the fruit of the Spirit)
 - ii. the concepts of seeking first the kingdom of God causes one to live out their heavenly values in this world
 - c. not on things on the earth – the contrast, it is one or the other Gal 5:16

C. The Resource - vs 1c

1. where Christ is,
2. sitting at the right hand of God.
 - a. the place of honor and majesty
 - i. Ps 110:1 The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."
 - ii. Lk 22:69 Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God."
 - iii. Acts 2:33 "Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God,
 - iv. 5:31 "Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior,
 - v. 7:56 Stephen said I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
 - vi. Ro 8:34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
 - vii. Eph 1:20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
 - viii. Heb 1:3b when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
 - ix. 8:1 We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
 - x. 1 Pet 3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God,
 - b. Because of His exaltation He said -Whatever we ask in His name, God will give to us – Jo 14:13-14; 15:16; 16:23-24,26; 2 Co 1:20

D. The Reason - vs 3

1. The why - For you died
 - a. that union is the basis for what is normal for the believer - Gal 6:14

b. **apothnesko** – to die

i. past tense indicating the death took place at salvation

ii. In what sense – Ro 6:23 the penalty has been paid and has no claim on us – Ro 8:1

2. and your life is hidden with Christ in God

a. with Christ in God

i. on spirit with Him – 1 Co 6:17; 2 Pet 1:4

ii. not easily understood or seen

- Ro 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God

- 1 Jo 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

iii. Eternally secure – Ro 8:31-39

E. The Revelation - vs 4

1. When Christ who is our life appears,

a. He doesn't merely give life - He is life

i. Gal 2:20 - Christ lives in me

ii. Phil 1:21 - to live is Christ

b. Appears - **phaneroo**

i. Rapture - 1 Thess 4:13-18

ii. 2nd Coming - Rev 19:11-13, 15-16

2. then you also will appear with Him in glory.

a. 1Co 15:43 - It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

b. Php 3:21 - who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body,

c. 1Jo 3:2 - Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.