

Scripture: Colossians 3

Series: *One Another #6*

Singing: 449:1-2 – 175:1-4 – 298:1-3 – 48:3, 4, 7, 8

**And above all these things, put on charity,
which is the bond of perfectness. (Col. 3:14)**

A. Love is most distinguishing characteristics of Christianity (John 13:34-35)

1. Charity is the crowning grace of all salvation virtues

2. Charity is the bond into which all graces hinge

B. Our love is always to be rooted and fed out of God's love in Christ (Ch. 1-3:4)

**FIVE DIRECTIONS BY OUR CAPTAIN OF SALVATION ON
"HOW TO SECURE AND STRENGTHEN THE BODY?"**

I. LET PEACE OF GOD RULE OVER YOU AND OVER EACH OTHER

A. *Peace of God* is blessed benefit of faith in Jesus Christ (John 1:12; Rom 5:1)

B. This peace of God exists even though *we are not perfectly obedient children!*

1. Though we 'fail Him daily' He remains in *harmony with* (Rom. 8:33-34)

2. though we 'fail each other' we are to remain in harmony: vs. 15a

a. definition of *rule* is 'act like a referee among players' (Eph. 4:3)

C. Seek this by keeping our eyes on the Prince of Peace: Rom. 15:2-5

II. LET THANKFULNESS BE PRACTICED

A. The expression of thankfulness is God's will (Eph. 5:20; 1 Thess. 5:18)

B. Yet thankfulness for the *peace of God* always promotes harmony

III. LET THE WORD OF CHRIST BE YOUR DAILY DIET

A. Word of Christ is *Christ's teachings as given in His Walk and Talk*

1. Christ's teaching and interpretations of OT Scriptures were *enriching*
2. Christ's teaching about the *character of God* were enriching

B. What happens when such Words of X **dwell richly** in you? (Eph. 5:18)

IV. LET PROFITING EACH OTHER BE YOUR MAIN WARFARE

A. Every true Christian is called to *fight the Lord's battle* (Eph. 6:10-11)

1. The enemy to Christ's Kingdom is not only *outside the body*

B. Each member of the body is to *teach and admonish each other*

1. refer to *positive teaching to profit others – not to prove yourself* (Eph. 4:29)

2. the call to teach & admonish each other is the **4th office in NT Church**

- a. compare Rom. 15:14; 1 John 2:20

b. Puritans referred to this as *the holy conferences*

V. LET SINGING BE YOUR ATMOSPHERE

A. Whatever the nature of the 'songs', they are to meet 3 requirements

1. they are to teach/admonish others in *Scriptural truth*

2. we are to sing them **with grace** in your heart

3. we are to sing them to the LORD

People's spiritual quality is to be judged by their graces and not their gifts.

You are only as spiritual as you are Scriptural.