

Morning Sermon April 21, 2019

“Raised by Christ’s Resurrection” Colossians 3:1-25

I. Use 1 - Look up, seek and set your mind on Heavenly things

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. (Colossians 3:1 NKJ)

1. Higher Heavenly things!

2. The things of Christ, those things that are where Christ is –

¹⁷ for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Romans 14:17

3. Set your mind on those things –

Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. **3** For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. (Colossians 3:2-4 NKJ)

A. We need to set our minds, because sin makes them unstable, draws them constantly toward earthly and even sinful things.

B. We need to set our minds on things above because we are “dead” to this world! **3** For you died... Colossians 3:3

C. We need to set our mind on things above which are hidden from the world – But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” (1 Corinthians 2:9 NKJ)

• Because our life is “hid” it is difficult even for us to see – For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. (1 Corinthians 13:12 NKJ) -

For we walk by faith, not by sight. (2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJ)

• “hidden with Christ in God” means “our life” is in a safe place – “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; **20** “but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. (Matthew 6:19-20 NKJ)

Why spend all effort preserving and enjoying a life that is in no such way hidden or safe – “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose.” Jim Elliot

4. We need to set our minds on this above because when Christ returns our “hidden life” will appear with Him – **4** When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Colossians 3:4

II. Use 2 - Look down into self & kill your sins –

1. Christ waged a passionate war against our sins, at Gethsemane, at the cross ... **5** Therefore put to death... Colossians 3:5 A

²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

2. We are commanded to put our members DEATH –

A. They are our members, belong to us, intimately so - put to death your members... Colossians 3:5 B

B. They are our member which are on the earth – put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Colossians 3:5 C These are natural and earthly things, not spiritual and Heavenly ...

3. They we bring eternal wrath on the unconverted –

6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience

4. They are what we walked in BEFORE CHRIST –

7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. (Colossians 3:7 NKJ)

III. Use 3 - Look better by putting off (like filthy rags) your Adamic nature –

⁸ But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. **9** Do not lie to one

another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, (Colossians 3:8-9 NKJ)

1. Notice the difference between this list of sins, and those listed in :5 – 7 were primarily internal, these EXTERNAL
2. Like clothing, these sins involve our appearance, even our witness, and they tend to destroy it –
3. The old man here is (a.) Adam from whom we inherited our sin nature (b.) the sin nature itself ... “Adamic”

IV. Use 4 - Look your best by putting on (like a new suit) Christ –

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. (Col 3:12-14 NKJ)

1. The NEW MAN is a reference to Christ –

10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, Colossians 3:10

A. :10 renewed in knowledge – :10, also in Righteousness and holiness – and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. (Ephesians 4:24 NKJ)

2. In Christ old divisions are eliminated – 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all. Colossians 3:11

3. We are to dress as God's elect (chosen) holy and beloved - :12-14
12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. (Colossians 3:12-14 NKJ)

A. What are mentioned here are fruits of God's Spirit -

B. These characteristics imply SIN remains in the church militant – and forgiving one another – Colossians 3:13

C. “as Christ forgave” :13 implies we are held to an extremely HIGH STANDARD!

D. :14 love, which is the bond of perfection. Holds the entire ensemble together

8 And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins." (1Peter 4:8 NKJ)

V. Use 5 Look for God's peace, look into God's Word – And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Colossians 3:15-16 NKJ)

1. The peace of God “rules” like an umpire/ judge in our hearts
2. The Word of God dwells richly, finding its home sweet home in our hearts ...
3. We are commanded to teach, admonish and sing (in our hearts) to the Lord ...

VII. Use 6 Look to Christ's Name, everything is to be done in Christ's Name, meaning for His glory – And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. (Colossians 3:17 NKJ)

1. This is outward again
2. Word (speech) Deed (actions)
3. All refers to everything –

A. Resurrected living in the home -

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them. 20 Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. 21 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. Colossians 3:19-21

B. Resurrected living in the work-place -
Colossians 3:22

C. Resurrected living in the sight of God, even God Who judges -
(Colossians 3:23-25 NKJ)

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