

“Sin Needs To Be Slain”
Colossians 3:5-7

Introduction:

1. Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles This Morning:
 - To Colossians 3:
 - Where - Last Sunday - As We Started Looking At:
 - This New Chapter - Paul Reminds Us:
 - Of Our Special & Intimate Union With Christ As Christians!
 - You See:
 - Not Only Did Jesus:
 - Die On The Cross For Your Sins:
 - You Died ***With*** Jesus:
 - On That Cross!
 - And Now - 2:20 - You Are “Dead With Christ From The Rudiments Of The World!”
 - Also - Not Only Did Jesus:
 - Arise From The Dead At His Resurrection:
 - You Rose ***With*** Jesus:
 - From Your Own Spiritual Death!
 - And Now - 3:1 - “If / Since ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God!”
2. Do You Believe These Truths?
 - If So - Then You & I Have Been Called To:
 - Pursue After & Prize:
 - 3:1 - “Those Things Which Are Above!”
 - And The Lord Has Provided Everything We Need To Do So!
 - But - How Often:
 - Do We Struggle With:
 - This Pursuit! How Often Do You Fail To:
 - 3:2 - “Set Your Affection On Things Above, Not On Things On The Earth!” (?)
 - It's Like Signing Up For:
 - A Once-In-A-Lifetime Ride:
 - In A Hot-Air Balloon! Have You Ever Done This?
 - Imagine Being All Excited About Soaring Into The Sky - High Above This World - And Being Able To See Everything From A Birds-Eye View!
 - **IE:** In Up-State New York - Where I Attended High-School, Every Year - The County Sponsored A “Balloon Rally!” On The Warm, Summer Day Of The Rally, I Remember Seeing Dozens Of Bright & Colorful Balloons Dotting The Sky! It Was Beautiful! But - Imagine If You Were In One Of Those Balloons - Ready To Fly Over The New York Countryside - And All Of A Sudden - As You Started To Ascend - There Was A Jolt! And You Stopped Rising Higher! You Stopped Moving Altogether! You Look Down - And Realize That Your Balloon Is Still Tethered To The Ground With Ropes!
 - The View Is Still Pretty Up There! But You Want More! So - What Do You Do? You & Your Pilot Need To Start Getting Rid Of Those Ropes! Only Then - Can You Be Released To Float Off Through The Sky!
3. This Is A Picture:
 - Of What The Christian Life:
 - Often Feels Like!
 - Your Heart Has Been Changed & Transformed:
 - By The Grace Of God!
 - And You Can Sing From Your Heart - “Things That Are Higher, Things That Are Nobler, These Have Allured My Sight!”
 - You Are Starting - More & More:
 - To Prize & To Pursue After:
 - “Those Things Which Are Above!”
 - Yet - As You Are Ascending Higher & Higher - All Of A Sudden:
 - There Is A Jolt!
 - You Look Down - And Realize:
 - That Your Life & Heart:

- Is Still Tethered Down To This Earth:
 - With Those “Weights” & “Sins” Which “Doth So Easily Beset Us!”

4. What Do You Do?

- By God’s Grace & Through His Continuing Strength:
 - You Do What We Are Next Told To Do:
 - In 3:5 - You “Mortify Therefore Your Members Which Are Upon The Earth!”
 - To “Mortify” Here Means To Slay Something - To Put Something To Death!
 - In Other Words - To Keep Soaring & Pursuing & Prizing “Those Things Which Are Above” - You Need To Hack Off All Of Those Tethers Of Sin That Are Keeping You Tied To This World!
 - Because - Even Though It Is True That:
 - In Christ - You Are Dead To Sin:
 - It Is Also True That - Sin Is Not Entirely Dead In You!
 - So - Your Sin Still Needs To Be Slain!
 - This Is Why Paul Wrote These Words:
 - 3:5-7 - “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: / For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: / In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them!”
 - There Is Still Sin That Needs To Be Slain:
 - In Your Heart & Life!
 - And So - This Is What You Must Do! First:

1. **Remember The Dominion Over Your Sin!**

- In 3:5 - You Are Told To:
 - “Mortify – Put To Death – Therefore Your Members Which Are Upon The Earth!”
 - Paul Is Not Talking About:
 - The Physical Members Of Your Body:
 - But The Members & Parts Of Your Soul That Still Tie You Down To This Fallen World!
 - And - Even Though:
 - It Is Still A Struggle To Do So:
 - Yet, Because Of Your Union With Christ In Both His Death & His Resurrection:
 - God Has Given You All You Need In Order To Slay Your Sin!
 - Paul Puts It This Way In:
 - Romans 6:13-14 - “Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. / For sin shall not have dominion over you!”
 - So - In The Rest Of 3:5:
 - Paul Gives Us A Brief List Of:
 - Our “Members Which Are Upon The Earth” That Need To Be Hacked Off:
 - In Order For You To Keep Soaring In Your Walk With The Lord! Paul Talks About:
 - Our Sinful Deeds:
 - With The Word “Fornication!”
 - This Word Describes All Forms Of Sexual Sin - That Is Outside Of & Apart From God’s Original Design For A Sexual Relationship!
 - One Man & One Woman In Marriage For Life!
 - Genesis 2:24 - “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh!”
 - Anything Outside God’s Design:
 - Is Sin! And We Have No Right To Re-Define:
 - God’s Own Definition Of Sin!
 - Adultery Is Still Sin!
 - Homosexuality Is Still Sin!
 - Pornography Is Still Sin!
 - But - Sexual Sin - “Fornication” - Is Such A:
 - Strong Temptation - That Paul Uses It:

- As A Primary Illustration Of Our Need:
 - To Keep Mortifying & Killing It Off!
 - Paul Also Talks About:
- Our Sinful Deliberations:
 - With The Word “Uncleanness!”
 - A More General Word For Other Kinds & Forms Of Sin! Sins That Aren’t Just Committed With The Body – But Sins That Are Committed In The Heart!
 - Jesus Addressed Our Uncleanness In Matthew 5:27-28 - “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: / But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart!”
 - All Kinds Of “Uncleanness” In Our Hearts & Lives:
 - Need To Be Slain!
 - Paul Then Talks About:
- Our Sinful Drives:
 - With The Word Translated - “Inordinate Affection!”
 - This Describes The Feeling & Seemingly Irresistible Urge You Have To Indulge In Sin!
 - The Devil Often Uses This “Member” To Make You Feel Helpless & Hopeless When You Are Tempted!
 - And You Feel Like There Is No Way Out Of Temptation BUT To Give In & To Sin!
 - We Must Not Forget That - According To 1 Corinthians 10:13 - “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it!”
 - And So - God Will Enable You To Slay Even Your Passion & Drive To Sin!
 - Paul Further Talks About:
- Our Sinful Desires:
 - With The Phrase “Evil Concupiscence!”
 - Or - “Evil Desire” & Lust!
 - John Describes This In 1 John 2:16 - As “All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life!”
 - You Lust For Things In An Evil Way:
 - When You Are Dissatisfied:
 - With God’s Way - Because You Have - Like Adam & Like Eve - Been Duped By The Devil’s Lies About The Forbidden Fruit!
 - These Sinful Desires:
 - Need To Be Slain As Well!
 - But Then - Paul Also Talks About:
- Our Sinful Devotion:
 - With The Last Phrase Of 3:5 - “And Covetousness, Which Is Idolatry!”
 - Covetousness Is The Greedy Desire:
 - Not Just For More - But For More:
 - Than You Are Supposed To Have!
 - And This Kind Of Craving:
 - Is - At Its Center - Nothing Less:
 - Than Idolatry!
 - Because You Are Putting Yourself & Your Desires & Your Passions & Your Feelings In The Place Of God!
- All Of These Things:
 - Make Up “Your Members Which Are Upon The Earth!”
 - And Though Paul Looks At Them:
 - From The Surface Of Sin To Its Center!
 - And They All Still Need To Be:
 - “Mortified” & Slain!
- But - **How?** This Is Often The Question:
 - We Have As Christians!
 - We Know That These Things Are Wrong!
 - And We Want To Get Rid Of These Tethers To Our Past Life!

- But - How Do We Go About Killing Them Off?
- Well - “Mortify” Here Is A Rather Morbid Word!
 - So - We Need To Think A Bit Morbidly About This For A Minute!
 - What Does It Take To Actively Kill Someone Or Something?
 - You Need To Deprive It Of Whatever Gives It Life!
- And What Do You & I Need For Life?
 - We Need Air To Live!
 - So - To Kill Something - You Need To Cut Off Its Air Supply!
 - We Need Food & Water To Live!
 - So - To Kill Something - You Need To Cut Off Its Food Supply!
 - We Need Our Blood To Live!
 - So - To Kill Something - You Need To Cut Off The Flow Of Blood In The Body!
 - We Need Our Head To Live!
 - So - To Kill Something - You Need To Cut Off Its Head!
- This Can All Be Applied:
 - To Your Sin & To “Your Members Which Are Upon The Earth!”
- To Mortify:
 - Fornication - Your Sinful Deeds - You Need To:
 - Cut Off The Air Supply & The Atmosphere:
 - In Which It Survives & Thrives!
 - In Psalm 101:3 - David Once Wrote - “I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes!”
 - Whatever Tempts You To Fall Away From:
 - God’s Way & God’s Plan For Your Sexual Nature:
 - You Need To Cut Off!
 - Things You Might See Or Hear Or Feel!
- To Mortify:
 - Uncleanness - Your Sinful Deliberations - You Need To:
 - Drown It Out With That Which Is:
 - Clean! When Someone Drowns - It Is Because Their Lungs - That Should Be Full Of Air - Are Full Of Water!
 - If You Struggle With Unclean Thoughts:
 - You Need To Drown Them Out & Replace Them:
 - With Clean Thoughts! Philippians 4:8 - “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things!”
- To Mortify:
 - Inordinate Affection - Your Sinful Drives - You Need To:
 - Starve It - From The Fuel That Feeds It!
 - IE: Last Year - Made A Fatal Mistake With Our Car - I Pumped In The Wrong Gas - Diesel Instead Of Unleaded - And It Died! Expensive Lesson! But A Good Example Of Putting To Death Our Sinful Drives!
 - You May Feel Like You Can’t Give Up:
 - Some Sin - And - In One Sense - That Is True!
 - You Can’t - By Yourself! But You Can - Through Christ!
 - Philippians 4:13 - “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me!”
 - You Just Need To Keep “Fill Up” With:
 - The Right Kind Of Fuel!
 - His Fuel! His Word!
- To Mortify:
 - Evil Concupiscence - Your Sinful Desires - You Need To:
 - Cut The Heart Out Of Those Old Desires:
 - Of Your Flesh! You Need To Remember That - Galatians 5:24 - “They that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts!”
 - So Now - You Can Strive To Say With David:
 - In Psalm 40:8 - “I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart!”
- To Mortify:

- Covetousness - Your Sinful Devotion - You Need To:
 - Cut The Head Of That Sinful Devotion Right Off!
 - And Keep Jesus Christ:
 - The Preeminent One - As The Head Of Your Heart & Life!
- What Do You Need To Mortify In Your Life?
 - What Sins Are Still Tying Your Heart:
 - To This World - And Preventing You From:
 - Prizing & Pursuing “Those Things Which Are Above?”
 - Remember That - Now - In Christ:
 - “Sin Shall Not Have Dominion Over You!”
 - Instead - Through Christ:
 - You Can Have Dominion Over Your Sin!
 - So - “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth!”
 - **Remember Your Dominion Over Sin!**
 - And Remember That Christ Is The Only One Who Is Worthy Of Your Devotion & Worship!
 - He Is Your Head!
 - But Then:

2. **Remember The Danger Of Your Sin!**

- To Help You Mortify Your Earthly Members:
 - Paul Adds In 3:6 - “For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience!”
 - You Need To Remember:
 - Just How Serious Sin Is To God!
 - All Sin!
 - Your Sin!
 - Sin Is No Light Thing:
 - In The Sight Of God!
 - Now Matter How The World Sees Sin:
 - It Only Matters How God Sees Your Sin!
 - **IE:** And Sin Is Like A Lightning Rod:
 - Which Will Attract The Dangerous & Destructive:
 - Lighting Of The “Wrath Of God!”
 - And We Can See From This Verse:
 - The Calamity Of God’s Wrath!
 - The Wrath & Anger Of God:
 - Is Not Something That Is Talked About:
 - All That Much Any More!
 - But God’s Wrath Is As Real & As Intense As His Love!
 - Since God Is A Holy God:
 - He Cannot Stand Sin In His Presence!
 - So - He Has A Holy Passion & Anger:
 - Against Both Sin & Sinners!
 - Psalm 7:11 Tells Us That:
 - “God is angry with the wicked every day!”
 - And:
 - In John 3:36 - Jesus Himself Teaches Us That - “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him!”
 - This Means That - If Someone Does Not Turn From Their Sin & Turn To The Savior:
 - They Will Experience The Calamity Of God’s Wrath!
 - And The Bible Describes The “Wrath Of God” As:
 - Fierce & Fiery & Forever!
 - According To Revelation 14:10 - Sinners - “Shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: / And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night!”
 - This Is The Wrath Of God!

- But - We Also Can See:
- The Certainty Of God's Wrath!
 - 3:6 - "The wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience!"
 - Not Just "Cometh" - But - Is "Coming!"
 - Its On Its Way - If You Persist In Your Sin!
 - The Only Way To Avoid The Coming Wrath Of God:
 - Is To Run To & Seek The Mercy:
 - Of God - Through Christ!
 - But We Also Can See Here:
- The Cause Of God's Wrath!
 - 3:6a - "For Which Things Sake!"
 - It's Because Of All Of Those Sinful Members:
 - That Paul Described For Us Already:
 - In 3:5!
- So - Why Would A Christian:
 - Who Is Now Safe From The Wrath Of God:
 - Have Anything More To Do:
 - With That Which Causes:
 - The Wrath Of God!
 - Don't You Realize That:
 - Sin Is Not Just:
 - A Disappointment To God!
 - It Doesn't Just Displease God!
 - It Angers Him! And It Is A Very Dangerous Thing!
- Yet - Even In His Wrath:
 - God Still Remembers Mercy!
 - This Is Why God Sent His Son Jesus:
 - Into This World In The First Place!
 - So That - When You Flee To Him - You Flee From "The Wrath To Come!"
 - So - Remember The Danger Of Your Sins!
 - And Keep Putting Them To Death!
 - But Also:

3. ***Remember The Deliverance From Your Sin!***

- In 3:7 - Paul Adds - As Another Reason To "Mortify" - "Your Members Which Are Upon The Earth":
 - "In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them!"
 - If You Have Sought & Found:
 - Mercy In Jesus - Then You Have Already Been Delivered From The Power Of Those Old Members Of Your Flesh!
 - And You Need To Remember:
- The Freedom From The Past Of Your Sin!
 - Verse 7 Tells Us Of The Past Of Christians!
 - You "Lived" Like The Children Of Disobedience!
 - You "Walked" Like The Children Of Disobedience!
 - Because You Were "Also" A Child Of Disobedience!
 - And Deserved The Wrath Of God!
 - But Sin Has Been Settled For You - Through Christ!
 - And Now You Are Free!
 - 1 Corinthians 11:9-11 - "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, / Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. / And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God!"
 - You Are Now Free From:
 - The Past Of Your Sin!
 - And You Are Now Free From:
 - The Wrath Of God!

- But - You Need To Also Remember:
- The Freedom From The Practice Of Your Sin!
 - “In The Which Ye Also Walked Some Time!”
 - That Was Then! What About Now?
- There’s Been A Great Change In Your Life – In Christ!
 - The Path In Which You Were Walking:
 - Has Changed!
 - Before Christ – It Led Away From God!
 - Now – It Leads To God!
 - Before Christ – The Path Was Crooked!
 - Now – The Path Is Straight!
 - Before Christ – The Path Was Broad!
 - Now – The Path Is Narrow!
 - Before Christ – The Path Led Down!
 - Now – The Path Leads Up!
- Now You Are Free!
 - Free From The Practice Of Your Sin!
 - You Need To Also Remember:
- The Freedom From The Power Of Your Sin!
 - “When Ye Lived In Them!”
 - That Too Was Then! What About Now?
- There Is A Great Difference In Your Life – In Christ!
 - Before Christ:
 - You Were At Home In This Sinful World!
 - And This Sinful World Was At Home In You!
 - But Now:
 - You Are Dead To Sin!
 - And Alive Unto Christ!
- Now You Are Free!
 - Free From The Power Of Your Sin!
- And This Is Another Reason Why:
 - You Should Stay Away From & Slay Your Sin!
 - Because The Sin You’ve Already Done Is Enough!
 - Your Past Of Sin Is Enough!
 - Your Practice Of Sin Is Enough!
 - The Power Sin Once Had Over You Is Enough!
- Now You Are Free!
 - Romans 6:2 - “How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?”

Conclusion:

1. So - What Cords Of Sin:
 - Are You Still Tethered By?
 - What Is Keep You From:
 - Pursuing After & Prizing - “Those Things Which Are Above?”
 - Remember These Things:
 - About Those Sins!
 - Remember Your Dominion Over Sin!
 - Remember The Great Danger Of Sin!
 - And Remember Your Deliverance From Sin!
2. And Keep Cutting Those Cords:
 - That Tie You Down To This World:
 - Of Temptation & Sin!
 - Because - A New Day Has Dawned:
 - In Your Heart & Life As A Christian!
 - You Have A New Horizon!
3. In Romans 13:12 - Paul Tells Us That:
 - “The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light!”

- Keep Doing Whatever It Takes To:
 - “Cast Off Those Works Of Darkness!”
 - And - “Mortify Your Members Which Are Upon The Earth!”

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