



Colossians 3

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Colossians 3:1

“Seek the things which are above”

Because we have been raised with Christ Paul writes to the Colossians, therefore we should seek the things where Christ is. Because of whom He is and who we are now, it's what we do, we seek Him more and more every day. What we have is now eternal, so we pursue after what is eternal now. To seek Jesus, means that Jesus has become my chief interest, He is my treasure, He is my most prized possession; it's Jesus. If we lazily follow Jesus, then we'll fail in our behavior; we'll allow the things that are not eternal to consume and take hold of our main interest, our best energy, our largest interest and devotion, and will gain all of our knowledge on the things which are not eternal.

Study Questions:

How are we raised with Christ?

Is being raised with Christ anything we can do?

What did Jesus' promise this was?

What does it mean to be raised from the dead?

What means is it that has raise us from death?

If it was supernatural that we were raise to life with Christ, what is the transformation after we've been raise to life then?

If we are alive, what ways should we seek?

When we were dead what did we seek?

Colossians 3:2

“Set your mind (our mindset) on things above”

Paul writes to the Colossian Believers to have an eternal mindset, and that the only way to have a heavenly mindset and to think on the things of heaven is to seek out those things which are Godly and of Christ. The only way that we can know who Jesus is and what He has done as well as His standard and constitution for the Kingdom of Heaven is to get to know His Word, the Bible. Paul is very careful and does not tell the Colossians what to and not to do, but only says grow in relationship with the one who has raised you to life, then He does everything else; the response then that follows from His work in our life are His responses because the Holy Spirit has worked into our lives the very interest that we have been seeking. He rises, He cleans, He renews then the next thing we know we've been given a new heart and a new mind the same way we were raised to life from our old life is the same way the Holy Spirit raises all of our future actions and desires, it's all a gift.

Study Questions:

How do we seek Jesus?

What does it mean to set your mind to something?

Who are we expected to be likeminded with now that we are alive?

How does God see eternity?

What is His mindset and everything focused on?

What did Jesus set His mind on at the Cross?

What has the Holy Spirit set His mind to in coming and dwelling within our hearts?

Where does true change come from?

How short are the changes in society and social norms?

Are society and social changes eternal or temporal?

Why should our mindset be on eternal and not temporal?

Where is our life hidden as believers?

What does it mean when you say someone has a certain mindset?

Colossians 3:5-17

“Put to death our expressions which are earthly, and have no place in God’s Kingdom.”

The choice is a light switch, that we choose one or the other; then by spending more time with Christ than investing our priorities and most precious time, energy, resources, and mental exertion into Christ and not into things that are not eternal, the Holy Spirit then replaces our desire for the earthly things and our muscle memory and knee jerk reactions are then things which are heavenly and eternal as new citizens of an eternal Kingdom.

Colossians 3:8-9

Putting of the old man and the distinctions which our old nature created, 3:11.

Colossians 3:10-14

Putting on the new man which is patient and forgiving to others and has God’s divine Love taking place within our lives then coming out of our lives.

Colossians 3:15-17

What the Holy Spirit does in our life and the new value system He gives when we choose to flip the switch. He brings an internal peace which only comes from Him, thanksgiving, and gratefulness for what He has done in our lives and the thankfulness that He desires to do it in others. The only way how were are going to have the peace of God continually dwelling in our life and ruling over our hearts, to be in likeminded with others within the Church, and to be thankful for everything which the Lord has given is by letting the Word of God continually dwell in our lives, so this is a continual and daily relationship we have with Christ through His Word, and Christ gives it with all of its riches in all wisdom to all who seek it and keep it, not just a select few who go to seminary. Then when the Word is dwelling richly in our lives we are able to equip and edify others through the callings He has on our lives

Colossians 3:17

“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Everything we do let it be because Jesus is in and has impacted our life greatly, not because the world has or continues to impact our life.

This is a work that was created and started by God, we didn’t and can’t do it, it’s a gift. You and I have a new life in eternity and we can have a new life here and now.

Colossians 3:18-4:1

Where we exercise putting to death seeking and setting our minds on earthly things and expressions of how we relate and interact with others. Our life and experience with Jesus are never meant to stay in our prayer closet, Paul in writing to the Colossians it was inferred that what was happening in the prayer closet was to come out and affect their engagements within the Body of Christ and their relationship publicly with other Christians in the community. Paul takes what they were already doing and takes it a step further that their interactions with family is expected to carry over the same practices of seeking and setting our minds and thoughts on what God's desire was in each interaction with all our family members we were born into in our physical births. The reason for the is many of the individuals in Colossae, the same as today, have family members who have not placed their faith in Jesus Christ and so by doing it builds a consistency and places their character as new citizens of heaven above offense to their nonbeliever family members. To those family members who were mutual family members Paul addressed this to as well, this was a general statement to all family members, because we are all new citizens of heaven, we should start walking out the way we are going to relate to one another in eternity and not continue to relate to one another in the practices of what is passing away and leads to death and destruction of a relationship. These same aspects carry over to our work life and how we earn a living and wages.

Practical Application:

Family: Go through each verse Colossians 3:18-21 and seek the Lord for His wisdom and not from earthly wisdom of how He desires you to engage in each of these relationship areas.

Business/ Work/ Employment: Go through each verse Colossians 3:22-4:1 and seek the Lord for His wisdom and not from earthly wisdom of how He desires you to engage in each of these business or employment areas.

Seek to have God's eternal perspective and mindset in each of these areas, not short-term earthly goals or mindsets which are not eternal but have an expiration date and seek for personal advancement and personal goals to succeed over and atop of others. Remember Jesus said whoever will be great in heave will have to die to their selves repeatedly in regard to all relationships and interactions in their life to seek and have a heavenly mindset of what God desires in someone else's life.

By

- 1) Seeking the things that are above,
- 2) Putting your mind on the things above,
- 3) Putting to death our earthly expressions which involves a supernatural change, putting on the new

We are then able to go forward and have relationships within our families and with coworkers and employers/ employees which bring honor to the Lord and then the Lord can work in those relationships where in how He has worked in yours.