

## Colossians 3:1-25

### Colossians 3:1-4

*Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits at God's right hand in the place of honor and power. Let heaven fill your thoughts. Do not think only about things down here on earth. For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory. Colossians 3:1-4*

Setting your affections on heaven is admirable indeed. Heaven is beautiful beyond description in human terms. Read 2 Cor. 5:1-5 what you see now with your eyes clothed in humanity, is not worthy to be compared to the realities and beauties of the place in which we reside.

However when I return to earth I will preside over the whole earth, for "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24: 1 Then when the earth is cleansed completely of all evil, the Father will bring the city of the heavenly Jerusalem, along with himself to live with man for all eternity. See *Mal. 4:1-3: Rev. 21 (read the whole chapter.)*

The earth will flourish and progress forever and ever! World without end.

Amen and amen

### Colossians 3:5-9

*So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with: Colossians 3:5-9*

- Sexual sin
- Lust
- Impurity
- Shameful desires
- Greediness for the good things of life, for that is idolatry

God's terrible anger will come upon those who do such things. You used to do such things when your life was still part of this world. But now is the time to get rid of:

- Anger
- Rage
- Malicious behavior
- Slander
- Dirty language
- Don't lie to each other for you have stripped off your old evil nature and all its wicked deeds.

### Colossians 3:10-11

*In its place you have clothed yourself with a new nature that is continually being renewed as you learn more and more about Christ, who created this new nature within you. In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric or*

*uncivilized, slave or free, Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us. Colossians 3: 10-11 NLT*

In the grand scheme of life there comes an awakening to the child of God. This can be a revelation or a breakthrough, but it is always enlightening. There is a struggle going on in the inner man. This is a constant war, if you please, to see if God will have the preeminence. It is a continual surrender on a daily basis.

Once you become accustomed to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, you will thrive and grow in grace and knowledge. This is a daily progression. Go at a comfortable pace that is unique to you. Do not measure yourself by others. I want sweet communion with you, and you are the one to which I give my utmost attention.

Go forward then, becoming renewed in your mind each and every day of your lives. Be the overcomer that I know you are!

Do not give place to the devil and his fiery darts, but keep your mind on the author and finisher of your faith, who loves you with an everlasting love!

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:12-13**

Since God chose you to be holy people whom he loves, you must clothe yourselves with:

1. Tenderhearted mercy
2. Kindness
3. Humility
4. Gentleness
5. Patience

*You must make allowance for each others faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Colossians 3:12-13 NLT*

This is a day of joy and gladness for the people of the Most High God. My people are to be a joy to me as well, so practice the five things listed. Also to forgive is to emulate your Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. You children have a crown awaiting you in the heavenly storehouse. So be about your Father's business and fulfill your calling, which is precious in my sight. Do not be derelict in your duty, but perform your best, and I am with you all the way!

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:14**

*And the most important piece of clothing you must wear is love. Love is what binds us all together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:14*

Love is, now and ever shall be, the most important quality in a true Christian. For though all else would fail, love never fails. Love always protects, and forbears. Love is described in the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians.

Seeing that love is the most important thing, let us go forward to acquire this love in everything you do. Have the right motives when helping your fellow man. Do a service for them for the sheer joy of love. Do not serve someone for selfish reasons or to be seen of men, but do all for the glory of God. So that when men see your unselfish deeds, they will give the praise to God. Christ in you will get the glory!

Today is a new day and should be viewed as such. You have never experienced this day before, so enjoy it! Live, love, laugh and be happy.

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:15**

*And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body, you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. Colossians. 3:15 NLT*

To have peace is a wonderful and glorious thing. However wars are fought in the hope of having peace, to no avail. Neighbors fight against neighbors, foe against foe, children and parents, wives against husbands, and husbands against wives! Incredible! Truly it is written: "the way of peace they do not know!"

In order to have peace there must first be harmony. A symphony must blend its instruments in harmony to produce beautiful music.

There is no other way! Yet my people in many cases bicker among themselves and wonder where "the peace that passes all understanding" can be found! I have admonished you to live in peace with all men, inasmuch as it is possible. In some cases there are those that will always induce an argument. Leave them there and go your way. They cannot listen to reason. Do not allow your peace to be stolen by anyone. See that you keep your tongue as civil as possible.

"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." (Matthew 5:9)  
Peace brings tranquility, an uncluttered mind, wholesomeness, and sweet sleep. In all you do, work for peace every day!

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:16**

*Let the words of Christ, in all their richness, live in your hearts and make you wise. Use his words to teach and counsel each other. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. Colossians 3:16 NLT*

Do not go where you are not appreciated. Dwell among wise men and keep your integrity. Sit at the feet of your Savior and Lord and receive instruction. There are those who would hinder the gospel; of the Kingdom. Do not accompany them or partake of their misdeeds, and chatter. For you are bought with a price, you are not your own, but I purchased you with my own blood!

When you discuss the word of God, use scripture to back it up. Theories or hypothesis invented by man are not relevant. Study to show yourselves approved unto God, rightly dividing the word. Go to the original Greek or Hebrew to prove an obscure passage of scripture.

I love to hear you sing and have melody in your heart. I sing over you as you sing to me. It is blended harmony. In my realm there is constant music and praise. Keep a song on your lips and counsel each other from the word. Lift up the downhearted with the comfort of my word. Teach each other and sing together the marvelous hymns and spiritual songs that you enjoy. It will chase the enemy and put him on the run. He is not able to withstand the word or the songs of praise!

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:17**

*And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus, all the while giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3:17 NLT*

The way of the cross leads home. This is not a popular phrase! To carry a cross you need tenacity and endurance, sometimes under great duress! Yet my people want smooth paths and easy testing. Did I not tell them to count the cost? Yes and more than this, to expect persecution! This is something the body of Christ must understand. I will be with them always, even until the end of the age!

Seeing that this is an established fact, let us proceed. Give thanks in the good times and in the bad times, for it is in the bad times that you learn to enjoy the good times. Do not become weary in well doing for you will inherit a rich reward. It will not be like the winning of an Oscar for a select few, but all will win an award for their activities while they were here in this time frame. It will be a crown of life! Run the race that is set before you, despising the pitfalls that the enemy prepares for you. Resist him and he will flee from you! It is in the resisting that you will gain character and the victory!

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:18**

*You wives must submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord. Colossians 3: 18 NLT*

Wives in this day and age are frequently having this scripture quoted as a “rule” to let the husband give orders as a dictator. This is truly regrettable. For if a husband truly loves his wife, he will not be using this as a means of which to “browbeat” her.

The definition of submit:

- Yield: to accept somebody else’s authority or will, especially reluctantly or under pressure
- Agree: to agree to undergo something.
- Defer: to defer to another’s knowledge, judgment or experience.
- Taken from: World English Dictionary.

So you see submission is an act of the will of the wife, not a case of the husband making her submit against her will. He may be asking her to do something right and good, but until she is willing to submit of her own volition, it would be best if the husband submitted or deferred to her decision. In this way she is not being forced to something to which she does not agree. Of

course she may be in rebellion, but he has no authority to use physical force, as so many husbands and boyfriends do. She must answer to God for her rebellion. **For the next verse Colossians 3: 19 says: And you husbands must love your wives and never treat them harshly.**

To force his wife to submit is harsh treatment indeed. Better to lead by love than to force your opinion or will on your wife. To submit to one another is the ideal situation, allowing true individuality.

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:20**

*You children must always obey your parents for this is what pleases the Lord. Colossians 3:20 NLT*

This admonition to children is a sound one. We are referring to Godly parents here. Sadly there are and always were parents that abuse their God given authority. Many children are helpless under such a travesty.

However the command given to children should also keep the parents on an even keel, to rear their children with love and loving discipline. Make sure they understand what you are asking them to do first and foremost. Give them your time and patience. When they do well, reward them, praise them, and love them. Of course, they will make mistakes. Give them the same mercy with which I extend to you when they are genuinely sorry.

Treat them as the individuals that they are and do not compare them to one another. Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Teach them my word and tell them of my sacrifice for them. Be an example to them of true Godliness. They are sanctified and holy because of their parent's Christian life. Bless them and love them, for they are future citizens of my Kingdom!

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:21**

*Fathers, don't aggravate your children. If you do, they will become discouraged and quit trying. Colossians 3:21 NLT*

In this present evil world, Satan is especially deceiving fathers of their God given duties. They are abdicating their responsibilities to the mothers in the majority of cases. This is indeed a "heartbreaker" for all involved. When a father shirks his duty and devotion for his wife and family, the door is wide open to the enemy. This makes it doubly difficult for the wife, for she is not able to take the place of the children's father.

Another scenario is the dictator father who expects all to follow his orders wielded without love or compassion for those with which God entrusted him. He is not taking into consideration the emotional impact he is bringing about, the scars he is inflicting on those he is to love and protect.

The list could go on and on, but suffice it to say, the family needs a "great awakening" When the

Lord and Master comes back to this earth in power and glory, you will see the family transformed. That will be a great day indeed! Your eyes will see the glory of the family restored!

Amen and amen

### **Colossians 3:22**

*You slaves must obey your earthly masters in everything you do. Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. Obey them willingly because of your reverent fear of the Lord. Colossians 3:22 NLT*

Come unto me you that are heavy laden and I will give you rest. That is the promise I give to all both slave and free.

My will is for everyone to have freedom in the Lord. There are those multitudes in the world that are enslaved and are in captivity to Satan the arch deceiver. He holds them in slavery to fear and many sins to numerous to list here. Suffice it to say these slaves are looking earnestly for the manifestation of the sons of God!

Slavery at any time or place in history was never condoned by your Heavenly Father, but was man's inhumanity to man. Did I not bring my people out of Egypt with a mighty hand? Yes and in your homeland I rose up President Lincoln to free the slaves. However, prejudice remains in the hearts of many to this day!

In today's world, many feel their boss or manager is a "slave-driver." However, you must not just work when they are observing you, but also when they are not present. Do your work heartily, as unto the Lord. It is he that will reward you!

Amen and amen.

### **Colossians 3:23**

*Work hard and cheerfully at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord, rather than for people. Colossians 3:23*

There is an epidemic among the workplace in this nation. This disease is a lack of applying oneself in the workplace. In every job, whether small or great, there are those that shirk their responsibilities. This makes it double or triple work for others who still adhere to the work ethic.

This work ethic must first be taught in the home. That is where the blame or praise lies. Mother and father must teach responsibility at a young age for all their offspring, increasing the work as they grow older. In this way, when they are ready to go into the workplace, they will be equipped and a valuable asset to their superiors.

Work for the Lord and do not be a clock watcher. Show yourself to be faithful and loyal. Those around you may not show forth this attitude, but you are working for the Lord. You will receive a great reward both in this life and in the life to come.

Amen and amen

## Colossians 3:24

*Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and the Master you are serving is Christ. Colossians 3:24 NLT*

You, as a child of God, are to be an example of the Living Christ in all you do. In the workplace first of all there must be:

Integrity:

Possession of firm principles

The quality of possessing and steadfastly adhering to high moral principles or professional standards. (Encarta Dictionary)

This then, will affect everything you do and say because of the high moral standards given to you in the word of God, your handbook, the Bible. Be an example of the Living Christ and your reputation will be sound. Be blameless in your conduct. You may receive persecution from those who are jealous or embittered, but continue an exemplary attitude on a daily basis. The Lord is your reward and will bless you for being a faithful servant.

Continue to show forth the true Christian way of life to all who come in contact with, for you are my witnesses.

Amen and amen

## Colossians 3:25

*But if you do what is wrong, you will be paid back for the wrong you have done. For God has no favorites who can get away with evil. Colossians 3:25 NLT*

Evil is rampant in the world today. So much so, that the child of God may begin to relax and take the word of God lightly. When swift punishment does not come, as in the case of David and Bathsheba, the conscience soothes itself. He reasoned that sending Uriah in the forefront of the battle was really not murder. However, the Lord his God knew his heart's intentions. He sent Nathan the prophet to show him his deep sin of adultery and murder and his coveting of another man's wife.

Even though David was a man after God's own heart, his Lord showed him no favoritism, but told him the sword would never depart from his house. His infant child died, and his son Absalom was murdered and on and on it went. David wept bitter tears, but the damage was done and could not be reversed.

Though there was deep repentance on David's part he suffered the consequences of his actions. He was forgiven, for the Lord your God is merciful!

Amen and amen