

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Scriptures for Today: Colossians 3:1-11 – *practical Christian living with a new life in Christ*

Today's Message:

"A New Life"



INTRODUCTION

Last time, we learned of 3 attempts made through man-made religion to prevent believers from resting in the finished work of Jesus Christ and the truth that we are complete in Him. This week, we begin the practical section of this book. In chapter 1, the focus was on **doctrine**. In chapter 2, the focus was on **danger**. Now in chapters 3 and 4, we will begin a focus on our **duty**... and practical Christian living considering our new life in Jesus Christ. Today, our focus is on our new life in Jesus Christ. Because of the incredible truths we have learned, how then ought we to live? This is God's message to you.

LEARNING TOGETHER

❖ The Text Colossians 3:1-11

"Ethics" The *doctrines of morality or social manners; the science of moral philosophy, which teaches men their duty and the reasons for it.*

A. New Priorities – because you are risen with Christ, your priorities change!

1. Believers are exhorted to set the _____ of their lives on heavenly realities.

- **Colossians 3:1** – If ye then be **risen with Christ**,
SEEK THOSE THINGS which are above,
where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
- 3:2** – SET YOUR AFFECTION on things above, not on things on the earth.
- 3:3** – For **ye are dead**, and YOUR LIFE is **hid with Christ in God.**
- 3:4** – When Christ, **who is our life**, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

"Christian Ethics" Flow out of our union with the risen, reigning Christ, and our future blessed hope.

Question
"Who is our life"
Is Jesus Christ your life today?
Most important?
... the center?
... the focus?
... the priority?
Does everything in your life revolve around Him and His will?

"Risen with Christ" United with Christ; a new man is raised to walk in newness of life!
"Seek those things which are above" The pursuit and passion of your life is Jesus Christ!
"Set your affection on things above" Your sustained desire and thought life is Jesus Christ!
"For ye are dead" Dead to sin; the old man is crucified; you are a new creature in Christ!
"When Christ, who is our life" The future is certain; present living shaped by future glory!

Comparing Scriptures

- **Colossians 2:12, 13, 20** – ... if YE be **dead with Christ** from the rudiments of the world...
- **Romans 6:11** – Likewise **reckon** ye also yourselves **to be DEAD INDEED UNTO SIN**...
- **Galatians 2:20** – I **am crucified with Christ**: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ...
- **Ephesians 2:5-6** – ... when **we were dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ
- **Philippians 3:20** – ... **our conversation** is in HEAVEN; from whence also we look...Saviour

Key Truth

- Our priority (____) must be Jesus Christ – love Him... worship Him... live for Him!

Important Note
Dead men have NO rights.
"Laodicea" means the rights of the people.

We must concern ourselves then with His **person** (worship and love Him), His **words** (love and believe His words), His **kingdom and glory** (seek, glorify, and make Him known), and His **work** (caring for souls, making disciples, and serving Him and His church).

B. The Old Man – you must put to death your old sinful ways and live for Christ!

2. Believers are exhorted to _____ their sinful, fleshly, members and behaviours.

- **Colossians 3:5 – Mortify THEREFORE your members which are upon the earth...**
- 3:6 – For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:**
- 3:7 – In the which ye also walked SOME TIME, when ye lived in them.**
- 3:8 – But now ye also PUT OFF all these...**
- 3:9 – Lie not one to another, seeing... ye have PUT OFF THE OLD MAN with his deeds:**
- 3:10 – And have PUT ON THE NEW MAN, which is renewed in knowledge after... him**
- 3:11 – Where there is neither... but Christ is all, and in all.**

"Mortification"

Actively put to death
sinful desires, impulses,
and carnal behaviors.

Sexual sins

→ **"Fornication"** Sexual immorality (*unmarried*); adultery; porn **"Uncleanness"** Dirty; moral impurity

Inward desires

→ **"Inordinate affection"** Disorderly or excessive desires **"Evil concupiscence"** Lust; ungodly pleasures

Relational sins

→ **"Covetousness"** Idolatry of the heart; greedy desires **"Idolatry"** The worship of idols and not God

Speech sins

→ **"Anger"** A violent passion of the mind **"Wrath"** Violent anger **"Malice"** A disposition to injure

→ **"Blasphemy"** Injury offered to God; irreverence **"Filthy communication"** Morally unpure; cursing
"Lie not one to another" Jesus IS truth; deception undermines your new life; live honest and upright
"Put off the old man and his deeds" Your identity is in Christ now; the old man is crucified; act like it
"Put on the new man, which is renewed" Jesus Christ changed you; be conformed to His image!
"Where there is neither" Jesus Christ unites in a radical leveling of ethnic, religious, social divisions!

Self-Evaluation

Identify bad habits,
areas of speech, sexual
temptations, covetous
impulses and actively
seek to end their reign
of evil in your life!

Comparing Scriptures

- **Romans 1:18-32 – ... Who knowing the judgment of God... have pleasure in them...**
- **Galatians 5:19-21 – Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these...**
- **2 Timothy 3:1-9 – This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come...**

Key Truth

- There is no rehabilitation plan for your flesh! Old behaviors / practices must **DIE!**

C. The Warfare – this is your new daily battle directive from the Holy Spirit.

3. The Holy Spirit of God has given you God's command for your _____ obedience.

The Holy Spirit's reasoning (through Paul)

Your identity has changed; you are risen with Jesus Christ.

Therefore, you cannot live like the old life. Therefore, you must put sin to death decisively.

Practical Application – How to actually "mortify" these sins (step-by-step)

- 1) _____ **your particular battlefield** – Name it. Do not generalize. God knows it specifically!
- 2) _____ **that sin to God as sin, not a struggle** – Sin dies only when called sin.
- 3) _____ **the fuel source** – Delete apps. Remove access. Change routines. Cutoff friendships.
- 4) _____ **the habit** – Replace lustful scrolling with Bible. Serve others. Lead a soul to Christ.
- 5) _____ **a trusted saint into the battle** – Jas 5:16 – *Confess your faults...pray for one another!*
- 6) **Attack** _____ – Temptation is easiest to kill when it is small. Today is the day to end sin.
- 7) **Expect** _____, **not instant perfection** – Mortification is a lifestyle, not a moment...daily battle!

Mortification is not punishment – it is freedom!

It is about:

Killing what kills you and hurts those around you!

Removing what destroys your joy in Christ!

Starving what separates you from the presence and power of Jesus Christ!