

Heaven is For Real: Really Soon Colossians 3:1-4 FBC Canton Sunday am November 9, 2025

Introduction: Who the heart seeks the mind will follow: 4x “Christ.” V. 1

Raised with...excited about resurrection transformation.

Seated at the right hand...heaven is a place of ruling with Christ.

Hidden with...His life is greater than my life.

Who is our life appears...Live like he is coming today

If we seek the things of this world...we will become like the world.

Super competitive, to the place where winning is everything.

Materialistic...we have to give our kids everything robbing them of strong work ethic.

So fearful of physical health issues, we are paralyzed by fear.

Fearful of missing out of social media, which is destroying social skills.

Cynical and angry...abounding conspiracy theories.

Divided over political issues instead hope secured in Christ alone.

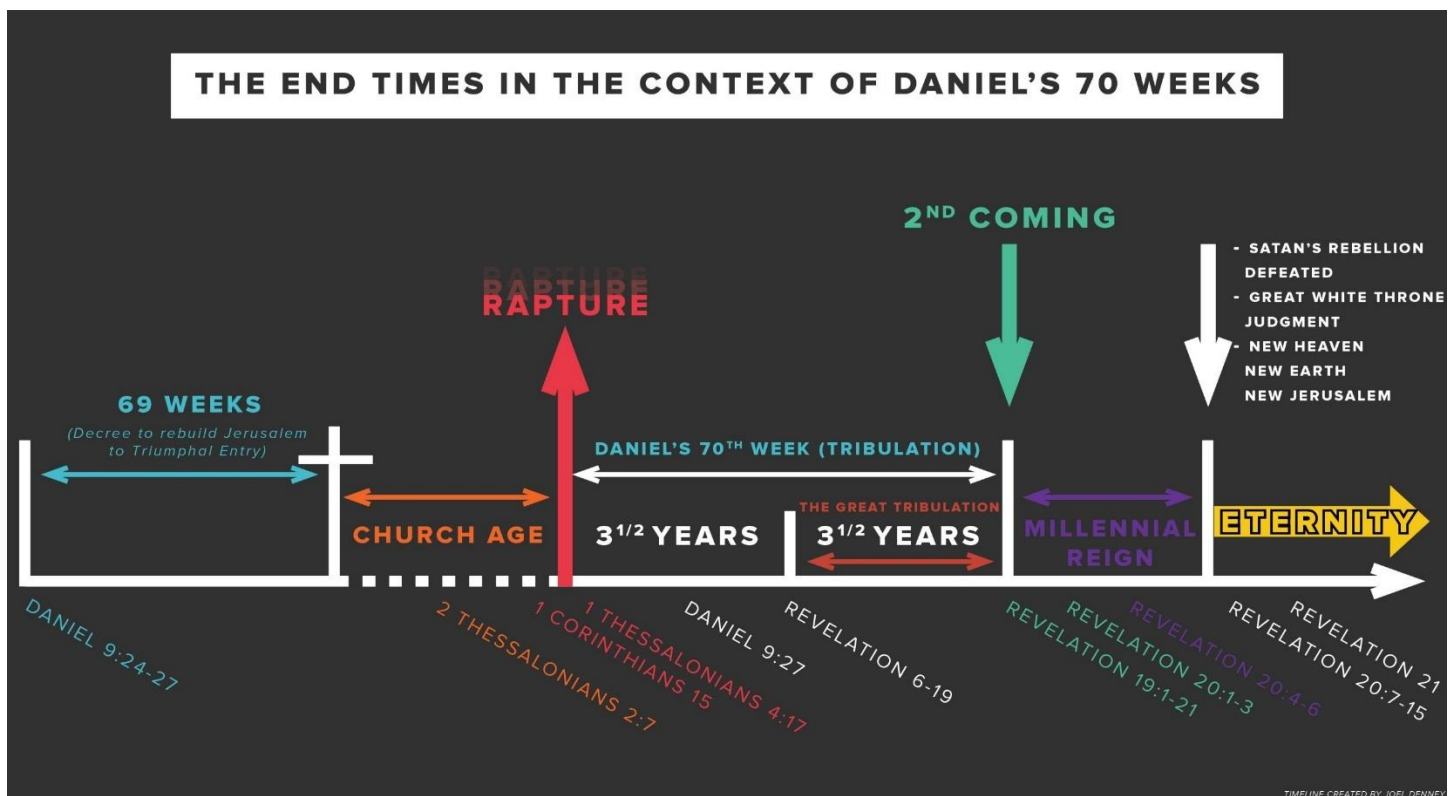
Apathetic and complacent...don't care and don't know

Trust no one who has any authority, but surprised when you are in authority and no one trusts you.

I. All that is Above. V. 2-3

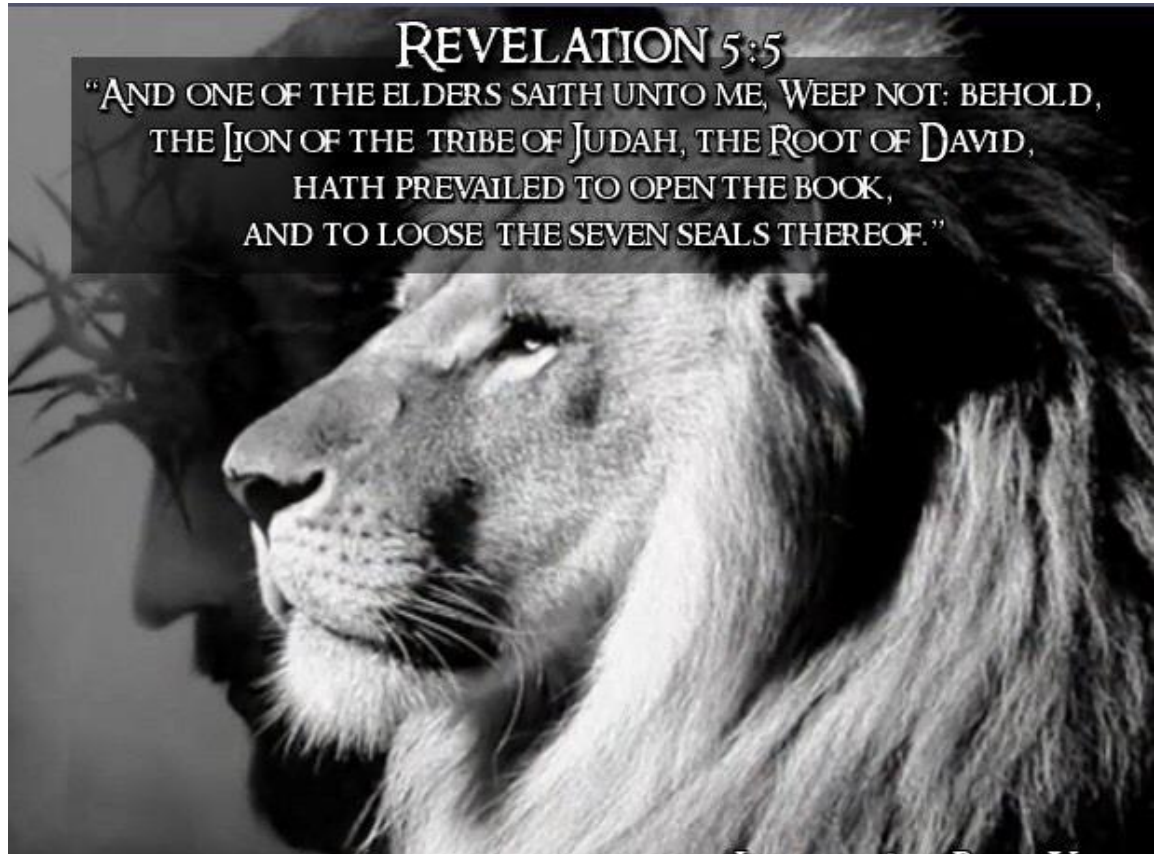
a. The order of events are all ordered by the Lord. II Thessalonians 2

- i. Apostasy, restrainer=Holy Spirit removed=rapture...man of sin revealed...ushers in the end times.



b. See the scene that centers on the slain Lamb of God. Revelation 5:5

- i. He alone is worth living for.



c. See the scene of the saved singing praises. Revelation 7:9-10

- i. There will be a multitude there that we were a part of saving.



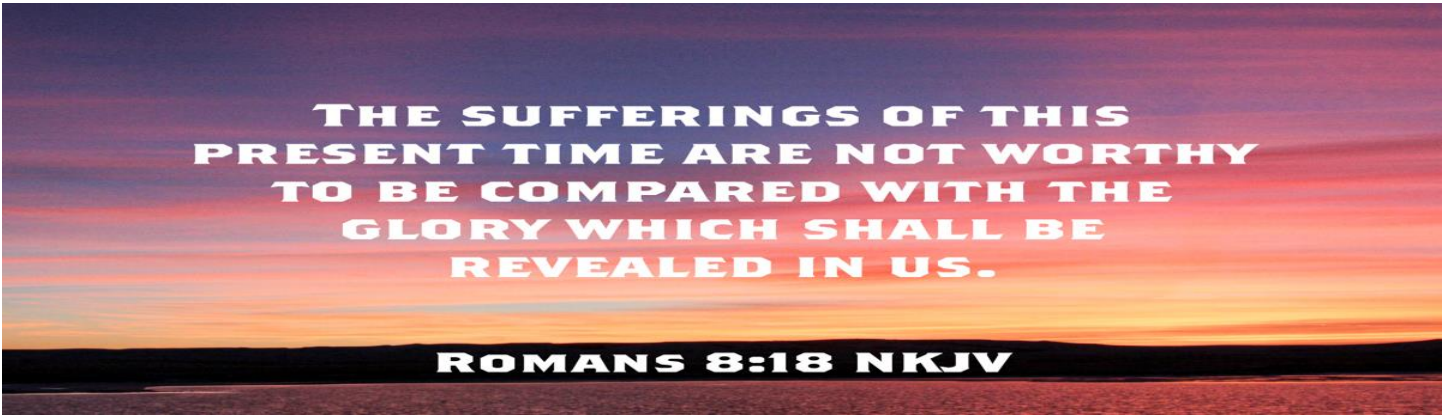
After this I beheld,
and, lo, a great multitude,
which no man could number, of all nations, and
kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before
the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with
white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried
with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God
which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

Revelation 7:9

OnFireForGod.today

II. Seek those things that are above; dwell on them. V. 4

- a. The glory of God there is greater than the suffering down here. V. 4,
Romans 8:18



**THE SUFFERINGS OF THIS
PRESENT TIME ARE NOT WORTHY
TO BE COMPARED WITH THE
GLORY WHICH SHALL BE
REVEALED IN US.**

ROMANS 8:18 NKJV

b. Put on Jesus, the old outfit is dead. V. 5-17

- i. Old outfit: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, covetousness, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language, lies

c. Snobs are irrelevant. V. 11

- i. Every believer will be together with every other believer in heaven, get over yourself.

d. Forgiveness is a must. V. 13

- i. You will leave behind all bitterness and unforgiveness.

e. Dwell richly. V. 16

- i. If you struggle with deep questions, you won't answer them with surface reading.
- ii. Read the Word!

Conclusion: Thinking on Heaven will encourage our perseverance. Romans 12:1-

The Order of Events

(not to scale)

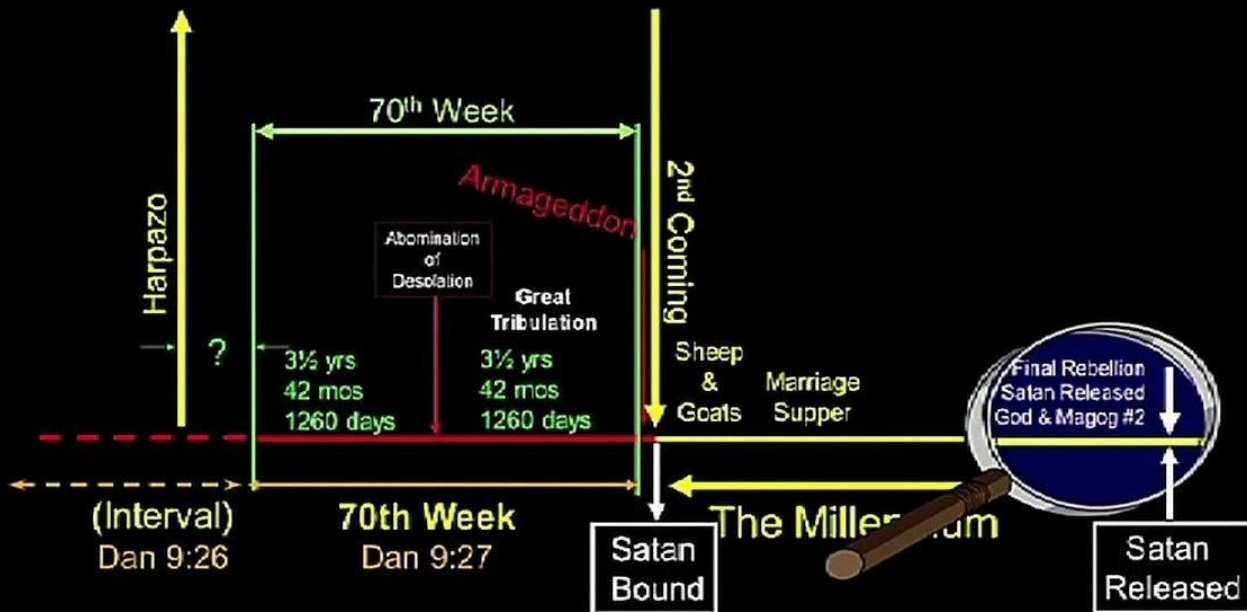
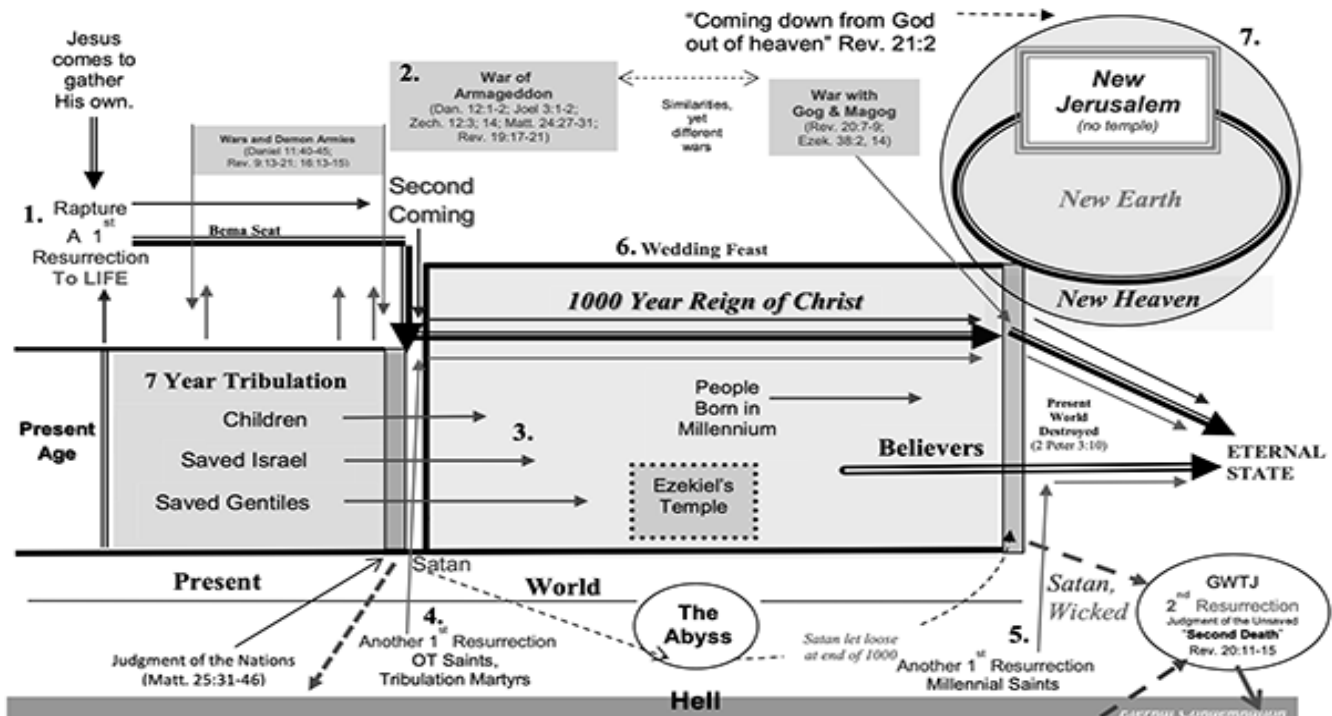


Diagram 4 "Event Chart"



David Guzik
Study Guide for Colossians 3

PUT OFF, PUT ON

A. Put off the old man.

1. ([Colossians 3:1-4](#)) The basis for Paul's practical instruction.

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ **who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.**

a. **If then you were raised with Christ**: Paul here begins a section where he focuses on practical Christian living, with the clear understanding that practical Christian living is built on the foundation of theological truth. Because we know that Jesus is really raised from the dead, then our identification with Him becomes real. It is only because we **were raised with Christ** that we can **seek those things which are above**.

i. The idea of being **raised with Christ** was introduced back in [Colossians 2:12](#), where Paul used baptism to illustrate this spiritual reality. Now, seeing that we are **raised with Christ**, certain behavior is appropriate to us.

ii. "The opening verses of chapter 3 sustain the closest connection with the closing verses of chapter 2. There the apostle reminds the Colossians that ascetic regulations are of no real value in restraining indulgence of the flesh. The only remedy for sinful passions is found in the believers' experience of union with Christ." (Vaughan)

iii. Because we **were raised with Christ**, we should act just as Jesus did when He was resurrected.

- After His resurrection, Jesus left the tomb. So should we — we don't live there any more.
- After His resurrection, Jesus spent His remaining time being with and ministering to His disciples. So should we — live our lives to be with and to serve one another.
- After His resurrection, Jesus lived in supernatural power with the ability to do impossible things. So should we — with the power and the enabling of the Holy Spirit.
- After His resurrection, Jesus looked forward to heaven, knowing He would soon enough ascend there. So should we — recognizing that our citizenship is in heaven.

iv. To emphasize it even more, Paul added the phrase, **sitting at the right hand of God**: "This phrase, particularly in its allusion to [Psalm 110](#), focuses attention on the sovereign rule which Christ now exercises. The command to aspire to the things of heaven is a command to meditate and dwell upon Christ's sort of life, and on the fact that he is now enthroned as the Lord of the world." (Wright)

b. **Set your mind on things above**: The best Christian living comes from minds that are fixed on heaven. They realize that their lives are now **hidden with Christ in God**, and since Jesus is enthroned in heaven, their thoughts and hearts are connected to heaven also.

i. "The believer is to 'seek the things... above.' The word 'seek' marks aspiration, desire, and passion... In order to seek these things the mind must be set on them." (Morgan)

ii. "Love heavenly things; study them; let your hearts be entirely engrossed by them. Now, that you are converted to God, act in reference to heavenly things as ye did formerly in reference to those of earth." (Clarke)

iii. "'Earthly things' are not all evil, but some of them are. Even things harmless in themselves become harmful if permitted to take the place that should be reserved for the things above." (Vaughan)

c. **When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory**: The promise of the return of Jesus is not only that we will see His glory, but so that we also **will appear with Him in glory**. This is the revealing of the sons of God mentioned in Romans 8:19.

i. **Christ who is our life**: In another place, Paul wrote For me to live is Christ (Philippians 1:21). Here he shows that this idea was not just for special apostles, but for all believers — **Christ who is our life**. Sometimes we say, "Music is his life" or "Sports is his life" or "He lives for his work." Of the Christian it should be said, "Jesus Christ is his life."

ii. On that day, all will see the saints of God for what they really are, not as they merely appear to this world. "Paul, the prisoner, an eccentric Jew to the Romans and a worse-than-Gentile traitor to the Jews, will be seen as Paul the apostle, the servant of the King. The Colossians, insignificant ex-pagans from a third-rate country town, will be seen in a glory which, if it were now to appear, one might be tempted to worship." (Wright)

Chuck Smith

Sermon Notes for Colossians 3:1

"Our Life in Christ"

I. WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN.

A. If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old things are passed away, and behold all things become new. You are a new person.

1. The Bible speaks over and over of the old nature and the new nature.

a. The old nature was the life we once lived that was governed by our flesh.

b. The new nature is that new life in Christ that is governed by the Spirit.

2. Paul wrote to the Romans that they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh.

a. That is, your mind is primarily occupied with the things of the flesh. Your body needs.

b. They that are after the Spirit do mind the things of the Spirit. The things of God.

c. The mind of the flesh is death.

d. The mind of the Spirit is life peace and joy.

3. The scripture sometimes speaks of the old man and the new man.

a. Paul said that we have put off the old man and put on the new man.

1. Paul said that the old man was corrupt because of his deceitful lusts.

2. That the new man was created after righteousness and true holiness.

b. In verse 9 Paul tells them that they have put off the old man with his deeds, and that they had put on the new man who was renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him.

B. It means you are born again. Jesus said that you must be born again to enter the kingdom of heaven.

1. He said that that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

2. A Christian is one who is born again, a person who has experienced a spiritual birth.

a. His spirit is alive. Paul wrote to the Ephesians, "You have been made alive who were once dead in your trespasses and sins."

b. To the Corinthians Paul wrote, "The natural man does not understand the things of the Spirit, neither can he know them for they are spiritually discerned."

c. In contrast, he that is spiritual understands the things of the Spirit.

C. It means that you are living a full orb'd life of body, soul, and spirit.

1. Man was created a threefold being, body, soul, spirit.

a. Through sin the spirit died, and man began to live as an animal, just body and consciousness.

b. The consciousness was occupied with the body needs. You have heard the term, body consciousness, that describes the mind of the natural man.

c. Living in only the realm of the body and mind, man is not a total being. At best he is only 2\3 a person.

2. To be a Christian is to be a whole person, body soul and spirit.

D. A Christian is one who is dead with Christ, buried with Christ, risen with Christ, and ultimately appearing with Christ when He comes again to set up the Kingdom of God on earth. Christ has thus become our life.

1. I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me and the life that I now live I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

2. The Bible tells us that we were buried with Christ in baptism, and risen in newness of life in Him.

II. THE LOGICAL CONCLUSION, OF YOUR BEING RISEN WITH CHRIST, IS THAT YOU NOW SEEK THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE, WHERE CHRIST SITS ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.

A. As you seek those things that are above, above is identified in the where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

1. In Ephesians we are told that Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father in heavenly places far above all principalities and powers.

2. When the High Priest asked Jesus, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed?" Jesus answered, "I Am, and you shall see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power."

3. Peter said that Jesus has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of the Father, and that the angels, authorities and powers were subject to Him.

B. We are thus to seek the heavenly things rather than the earthly things.

C. The spiritual things rather than the material things.

D. We are to seek eternal things rather than temporal things.

1. This surely makes sense.

a. What should it profit a man if he should gain the whole world and lose his own soul?

b. It does not make sense to give up eternal life for a few years of indulgence in the pleasures of sin.

c. The book of Hebrews tells us concerning Moses, That he choose to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, for he esteemed the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward, that

he endured, as seeing Him who is invisible. Wise choice. If we could call Moses to the witness stand today and ask him if he would make the same choice over again today what do you think he would answer?

E. God called the people of Isaiah's day to come and reason together. The unreasonable actions God charged against them were,

1. They had rebelled against God. Why would one be so stupid?

2. They did not stop to consider the possible consequences of their actions.

a. One of the great problems today, we do not stop to consider the possible consequences of our actions.

b. One illicit sexual escapade can give you lifelong herpes or worse yet aids.

3. They had provoked God to anger.

a. This is not wise, we read in Hebrews where God said, "Vengeance belongs to Me, I will repay" and again, "It is a fearful thing to fall in the hands of a living God."

4. God said that they were sick in the head.

5. They were blind as to the consequences of their sin. They were being destroyed and didn't even realize it.

6. It makes sense to seek those things that are above.

7. God said to them that if they would just be obedient they could eat of the good of the land, but if they did not they would be destroyed with the sword.

III. SET YOUR AFFECTIONS ON THINGS ABOVE.

A. Where is your heart? That is what God is concerned with. Do you have a heart wholly after God or do you have a divided heart.

1. One foot in the row boat, and one foot on the dock, part of your trust in Jesus and part in your wall street stock?

2. Jesus declared that you cannot serve two masters, for you will love the one and hate the other, or you will hold to the one and despise the other.

a. Everyone serves one master.

b. Who is the master of your life?

3. Jesus warned of the dangers of laying up for ourselves treasures on earth for He said, where your treasure is there will your heart be also.

4. We are warned to keep our hearts with all diligence for out of it come the issues of life.

B. We are not to set our affections on things of the earth.

1. The Bible warns us to not love the world, nor the things that are in the world, for he that has the love of the world in his heart, has not the love of the Father.

C. He gives the reason for setting our affections on things above and not on the earthly things.

1. For you are dead.

a. To that old life of the flesh.

b. To that life that was devoid of God.

c. To that life that was in love with the world.

2. And now your life is hid with Christ in God.

III. AND WHEN CHRIST WHO IS OUR LIFE SHALL APPEAR,

A. Is He your life?

B. Can you with Paul say, "For to me to live is Christ."?

C. When He shall appear in the clouds of glory to set up the eternal kingdom of God, for of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, and He shall reign King of kings and Lord of lords forever and ever.

D. Then shall you appear with Him in glory.

1. But that is the question, will you appear with Him in glory?

2. Who are those who will appear with Him in glory?

a. Those who have been crucified with Christ.

b. Those who are risen with Christ.

c. Those whose affections are on Him.

d. Those whose lives are bound up in His.

e. Those who are in His Kingdom for He is coming with His Kingdom to reign. When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall we appear with Him in glory

Matthew Henry

Commentary on Colossians 3

Chapter 3

- I. The apostle exhorts us to set our hearts upon heaven and take them off from this world ([v. 1-4](#)).
- II. He exhorts to the mortification of sin, in the various instances of it ([v. 5-11](#)).
- III. He earnestly presses to mutual love and compassion ([v. 12-17](#)). And concludes with exhortations to relative duties, of wives and husbands, parents and children, masters and servants ([v. 18-25](#)).
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amieson, Fausset & Brown

Commentary on Colossians 3

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Colossians

Commentary by A. R. FAUSSET

CHAPTER 3

[Col 3:1-25](#). EXHORTATIONS TO HEAVENLY AIMS, AS OPPOSED TO EARTHLY, ON THE GROUND OF UNION TO THE RISEN SAVIOUR; TO MORTIFY AND PUT OFF THE OLD MAN, AND TO PUT ON THE NEW; IN CHARITY, HUMILITY, WORDS OF EDIFICATION, THANKFULNESS; RELATIVE DUTIES.

1. If. . . then--The connection with [Col 2:18, 23](#), is, he had condemned the "fleshly mind" and the "satiating to the full the flesh"; in contrast to this he now says, "If then ye have been once for all raised up ([Greek](#), aorist tense) together with Christ" (namely, at your conversion and baptism, [Rom 6:4](#)).

seek those things. . . above-- ([Mat 6:33](#) [Phl 3:20](#)).

sitteth--rather, as [Greek](#), "Where Christ is, sitting on the right of God" ([Eph 1:20](#)). The Head being quickened, the members are also quickened with Him. Where the Head is, there the members must be. The contrast is between the believer's former state, alive to the world but dead to God, and his present state, dead to the world but alive to God; and between the earthly abode of the unbeliever and the heavenly abode of the believer ([1Cr 15:47, 48](#)). We are already seated there [in](#) Him as our Head; and hereafter shall be seated [by](#) Him, as the Bestower of our bliss. As Elisha ([2Ki 2:2](#)) said to Elijah when about to ascend, "As the Lord liveth. . . I will not leave thee"; so we must follow the ascended Saviour with the wings of our meditations and the chariots of our affections. We should trample upon and subdue our lusts that our conversation may correspond to our Saviour's condition;

that where the eyes of apostles were forced to leave Him, thither our thoughts may follow Him ([Mat 6:21](#) [Jhn 12:32](#)) [PEARSON]. Of ourselves we can no more ascend than a bar of iron lift itself up' from the earth. But the love of Christ is a powerful magnet to draw us up ([Eph 2:5, 6](#)). The design of the Gospel is not merely to give rules, but mainly to supply *motives* to holiness.

2. Translate, "Set your *mind* on the things above, not on the things," &c. ([Col 2:20](#)). Contrast "who *mind* earthly things" ([Phi 3:19](#)). Whatever we make an idol of, will either be a cross to us if we be believers, or a curse to us if unbelievers.

3. The *Greek* aorist tense implies, "For ye have died once for all" ([Col 2:12](#) [Rom 6:4-7](#)). It is not said, Ye must die practically to the world in order to become dead with Christ; but the latter is assumed as *once for all* having taken place in the regeneration; what believers are told is, Develop this spiritual life in practice. "No one longs for eternal, incorruptible, and immortal life, unless he be wearied of this temporal, corruptible, and mortal life" [AUGUSTINE].

and your life. . . hid-- ([Psa 83:3](#)); like a seed buried in the earth; compare "planted," [Rom 6:5](#). Compare [Mat 13:31, 33](#), "like. . . leaven. . . *hid*." As the glory of Christ now is hid from the world, so also the glory of believers' inner life, proceeding from communion with Him, is still hidden with Christ in God; but ([Col 3:4](#)) when Christ, the Source of this life, shall manifest Himself in glory, then shall their hidden glory be manifest, and correspond in appearance to its original [NEANDER]. The Christian's secret communion with God will now at times make itself seen without his intending it ([Mat 5:14, 16](#)); but his full manifestation is at Christ's manifestation ([Mat 13:43](#) [Rom 8:19-23](#)). "It doth not yet appear (*Greek*, 'is not yet *manifested*') what we shall be" ([1Jo 3:2](#) [1Pe 1:7](#)). As yet Christians do not always recognize the "life" of one another, so *hidden* is it, and even at times doubt as to their own life, so weak is it, and so harassed with temptations ([Psa 51:1-19](#) [Rom 7:1-25](#)).

in God--to whom Christ has ascended. Our "life" is "laid up for" us *in God* ([Col 1:5](#)), and is secured by the decree of Him who is invisible to the world ([2Ti 4:8](#)).

4. Translate, "When Christ shall *be manifested* who is our life ([Jhn 11:25](#) [14:6, 19](#)), then shall ye also with Him *be manifested* in glory" ([1Pe 4:13](#)). The *spiritual* life our souls have now in Him shall be extended to our *bodies* ([Rom 8:11](#)).

then--and not till then. Those err who think to find a perfect Church before then. The true Church is now militant. Rome errs in trying to set up a Church now regnant and triumphant. The true Church shall be visible as a perfect and reigning Church, when Christ shall be visibly manifested as her reigning Head. Rome having ceased to look for Him in patient faith, has set up a visible mockhead, a false anticipation of the millennial kingdom. The Papacy took to itself by robbery that glory which is an object of hope, and can only be reached by bearing the cross now. When the Church became a harlot, she ceased to be a bride who goes to meet her Bridegroom. Hence the millennial kingdom ceased to be looked for [AUBERLEN].

SHARE 0

Dear Roger,

I am so excited about going to heaven. I am ready for the rapture. I hope it comes right now! But I don't know enough about heaven. Can you fill in some of the details for me?

Sincerely,
Julie

Dear Julie,

There are ten common questions I hear all the time from people who are seeking to know more about heaven. I've collected them here, along with some biblical answers and practical application. I hope they're helpful for you!

1. Why does God need to make a new heaven and a new earth?

Satan and sin have desecrated God's creation. In fact, Satan has had access to the present heaven—both before the Fall and after. In Job chapters 1-2, Satan leaves earth bound for heaven and argues with God over the righteousness of Job. I'm certain that God has a perfectly logical reason for allowing Satan to approach him in heaven; but, for the life of me I can't imagine why!

Regardless, God needs to make a new one that is free from all sin. Looking to Revelation, John says, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea" (20:11).

Notice that Satan is the "accuser of the brethren" and will not be cast down from heaven to earth until [Revelation 12](#).

2. If God is planning to make a new heaven and earth, what will happen to the old one?

Heaven and earth can be destroyed as easily as God first created it. Peter gives us a picture of this destruction in [2 Peter 3:7-13](#);

And by the same word, the present heavens and earth have been stored up for fire.

But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the very elements themselves will disappear in fire.

On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. But we are looking forward to the new heaven and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness.

A hundred years ago, no one could figure out how this might happen. But today, secrets of the universe are on display.

Einstein's simple but profound $E=MC^2$ revealed that a little matter can be turned into an unbelievable amount of energy. In the same way, the discovery of the Higgs-Boson particle verifies that a lot of energy can produce a small amount of matter. Both point to an understanding of how the elements will melt and how internal fires in the depths of the sun will destroy everything.

Colossians tells us that Jesus Christ holds the universe together. One day, when Jesus lets go, it will all be burned to hell/

There will one day be a vast holocaust (see [Revelation 21:8](#)). But instead of emptiness, stillness, and lifelessness, God promises a new and glorious world emerging from the ruins ([Revelation 21:15-21](#)). God's aim is transformation!

3. How big is heaven, and what does it look like?

Again, look at **Revelation 21**. An angel literally measures the city “using human measurement”:
The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long. The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits thick.

You might ask, “Well, will there be room enough for all of us?”

Let me show you how much room there will be ...

Heaven is symmetrical, laid out like a large cube. Twelve thousand “stadia” converts to

1,500 miles. Imagine an area that reaches from Maine to Florida, and the Atlantic Coast

to the Continental Divide ... then raise that up 1,500 miles

That means heaven is a city with 2,250,000 square miles ... and that is only the bottom level! Based on ratio population of persons/square mile in Dallas, heaven could hold six billion people.

Australian engineer postulated that a city the size of heaven with the density of London could hold 100 billion people ... and only nine billion people now exist on earth.

Right now, heaven has room for every soul that has ever walked upon the face of the earth since the beginning of time. And that’s only the first floor!

Next, John saw heaven and described it as a prism of light, jewels, gold, and pearls. It’s all transparent, and the light of God flashes through the entire dazzling spectacle throughout all eternity:

The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.

*I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. (**Revelation 21:18-23**).*

We will be able to see God and His glory from everywhere in the city. His presence indwells every inch.

Every biblical writer who had even a glimpse of heaven was totally overwhelmed. Each saw a large lake of ice or crystal surrounding a throne upon which was seated the white-haired Ancient of Days.

4. Will we recognize our family, friends, and loved ones in heaven? Can we have relationships with people that we never knew on earth?

I am often asked about marriage in heaven. Many people who are delightfully married want to still be married in eternity. Matthew tells us that we may be with our spouse, but we will not be married to him or her: “At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven” (**Matthew 22:30**).

Paul tells the Corinthians that we will know others and be fully known in heaven: “Now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known” (**1 Corinthians 13:12**).

We will recognize our loved ones more by *who* they are than by that they look like, because we will inhabit our spiritual bodies rather than our earthly ones.

It follows from Jesus' teaching that we may form as many relationships and talk to as many people as we like (see [Matthew 8:11](#)).

When I go to heaven, I first want to have a talk with Jesus! After I talk with Jesus, I want to spend time with my family. Then, I'd like to talk to my closest growing-up church friends: Gary Courtney, who was my most intimate Christian friend; Randy; Larry; Mike; Becky and Allison. Then, there's Albert Fox who mentored me to desire to be a man of God at any price. Along the way he taught me the Bible as well as quantum mechanics and relativity theory. Then, there are my religious heroes, like Charles Spurgeon. I'll stop there. I could go on and on. So could you.

5. What will we be doing with our time in heaven?

Two things will occupy most of our attention in heaven. First, we will spend a significant amount of time worshiping and praising God:

"Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" ([Revelation 4:9](#))

Second, much of our time will be invested in fulfilling our God-given duties and responsibilities, based on the number and types of awards that we earned on earth as a result of our profitable or unprofitable service for Jesus.

These rewards range from being saved, to special assignments from Jesus, to what size of mansion that we will have (see [1 Corinthians 3:10-13](#); [Matthew 25:14-30](#)).

6. Will we find healing and comfort in heaven?

[Revelation 21:4](#) declares, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Alexander McLaren used to say, "Please be kind to everyone you meet because everyone is fighting a battle."

Sometimes, he paused in the middle of a worship service and invited the people to look up and down the rows of people. Then he would say, "Why don't you say a word of comfort to those who are sitting around you? Everyone of them has needs. Sometimes overt but most of the time hidden."

I once did the funeral of a man who had suffered a lifetime of physical pain and agony. I was standing beside the open casket when one woman said to another, "He looks so peaceful. He doesn't have to suffer anymore."

No more pain and suffering. Jesus will wipe away all of our tears.

7. Will we have full understanding of spiritual and earthly things in heaven?

Think of all the questions that you want to ask Jesus when you get to heaven. We will be able to ask and receive answers to everything. However, I would imagine that many questions that seemed so important on earth will not be nearly as important to us when we get to heaven:

For now, we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. ([1 Corinthians 13:12](#))

8. Can my loved ones in heaven see me and know what's happening on earth?

Many would say "No." I will emphatically say, "YES!"

Let me give you several examples.

In **Revelation 6:9-10**, saints martyred during the Great Tribulation look down from heaven as they pray for God to exact revenge upon their murderers.

In **Luke 15:7**, Jesus reveals that there will be more rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

In **Luke 16**, Jesus tells about the rich man who see his brothers on the way to hell. The rich man begged Jesus to let him go warn them.

I am often asked, “But, will it hurt my loved ones in heaven if they see me having troubles and trials on earth?”

I don’t know the answer to that. I trust that God has it all figured out.

When our daughter Jessie died, we said to Jesus, “Would you please tell Jessie that we love her with all of our hearts and are looking forward to seeing her in heaven? I believe that she knows.

9. **How will I get from earth to heaven when I die?**

Jesus promised, “In my father’s house are many mansions. I go now to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you may also be where I am” (**John 14:1-4**).

Isn’t that fantastic? Not only does He promise to go up to heaven and get our room ready, He’s going to come back and get us and take us up there.

I love that the Lord doesn’t send someone else to get us. That’s such an integral part of His character. He does it Himself. The Lord’s not going to send someone else. He’ll come in person to get us and to take us home. How precious we must be for Him to do that for us!

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.” (**1 John 3:2**)

10. **How can we get to heaven?**

The first step to experiencing the love of God is to confess your sin, invite Jesus to forgive your sin and to come into your life and be your Savior:

“For God loved the world so much, He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.” (**John 3:16**)

Surrender to Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior. Place your faith in Him as the one who died on the cross in order to forgive all your sins. At the moment you receive Him into your life He gives the gift of eternal Salvation, as well as the gift of the Holy Spirit who indwells you in order to guide and empower your life (**John 3:5-8**).

Well Julie,

I hope this answers many of your questions about heaven. I look forward to seeing you there!

*Love,
Roger*

8 of the Most Interesting Facts about Heaven

Matt Pearson

Heaven. It’s where those of us who call ourselves Christians will spend a very long time. Like, super long. Like, millions upon millions upon millions of years. Actually, it will never stop. Heaven will go on forever. Yet, shockingly, we don’t seem to spend a whole lot of time talking about it. Or, at least—if I am being honest—I don’t spend much time talking or thinking about it. Yet Paul tells us heaven is where our minds should be set:

“...seek what is above, where the Messiah is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on what is above, not on what is on the earth.” ([Colossians 3:1-2](#)).

There is a lot about heaven that we simply won't know until we get there. But some things can be known due to God's choice to make them known to us in His Word. Here are 8 of the most interesting facts about heaven.

1. God is there.

Okay, so this trumps all the other most interesting facts by a gazillion degrees. But seriously. This is what will make heaven, heaven. The presence of God (See [Revelation 21:22-27](#)) and our ability to look on Him will occupy our affections, emotions, thoughts, conversations, songs, etc. for ever and ever and ever. Jesus Himself said that eternal life is knowing God ([John 17:3](#)). The presence of God will be so fascinating and thrilling and mind-boggling, it will literally take forever to get over it.

2. Believers preceding us in death are there... now.

I am not sure how it works. I am not sure how it looks. But something wonderful is going on, even now, for those who are awaiting their glorified bodies. Jesus told the thief on the cross that he would be with Him on that very day in Paradise ([Luke 23:43](#)). Also, Paul mentioned his desire to “depart and be with Christ” while those of us continued on ([Philippians 1:23](#)). I am not sure how it works, but there is a Paradise waiting for those who pass on before Jesus' return.

3. There are creatures who were created specifically to worship God in heaven.

Read [Revelation 4-5](#). Men speaking with trumpet like voices. Elders wearing white robes and golden crowns sitting on thrones. A lion with eyes in front and behind and six wings. An ox with eyes in front and behind with six wings. One like a face of a man with six wings. One like an eagle in flight, also with six wings. Symbolic or not, these creatures are made specifically for heaven in order to worship God throughout eternity.

4. There are angels like sand covering the beach.

Consider this from [Revelation 5:11](#)—Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands.” You know how many that is? Go to the beach and try to count the sand. What number will you come up with? Myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands. Again, what are they for? To worship God.

5. The central feature will be a lion-like lamb and/or a lamb-like lion.

Jesus, the Lion-like King of the universe—full of majesty and power—gave Himself as the sacrificial Lamb for us. The One who will be worshipped and praised and honored will be exalted as the Lion who came as a Lamb and a Lamb who is majestic like a Lion. (See [Revelation 5:5-14](#).)

6. There will be representation from every people group on the planet.

Jesus said the end would not come until the gospel was preached to all nations ([Matthew 24:14](#)). He commanded His followers to go and make disciples of all nations ([Matthew 28:19](#)). One of the songs in heaven will be praise to the Savior who ransomed people for God “from every tribe and language and people and nation” ([Revelation 5:9](#)). There are currently 16,232 known people groups in the world. That is A LOT of different groups of people. All will be represented in heaven. All will be worshipping King Jesus and bringing glory to God.

7. There will be no more...

Pain. Crying. Cancer. Temptation. Grief. Regret. Wrinkles. Surgeries. Cavities. Commercials. ISIS. Racism. Sexual confusion. Ashley Madison lists. Pornography. Traffic. Anger. Rage. Foul language. Cigarette smoke. Calories. Weight gain. Presidential elections. Abortions. Funerals. Drunk drivers. Ambulances. Police chases. Mortgage payments. Family feuds. Arguing. Lying. Alarm systems. Taxes. Drownings. Snake bites. Dog bites. Jellyfish stings. Mosquito bites. Fear. Anxiety. Boredom. Brokenness. (See [Revelation 7:15-17](#).)

8. He will continue to make all things new.

I am not sure exactly what it will be like. I am not sure how it will all play out. But the Bible points to the fact that the earth we now see and enjoy and live in will be made new ([Revelation 21](#)). It will be like the beauty of creation we see and enjoy now, without the stuff that messes everything up. The earth as we know it will be restored to what it was before sin destroyed its intended purpose ([Genesis 1-2](#)). We won't have to imagine what it would be like to watch a sunset at the beach or a sunrise in the mountains with perfect temperatures. We won't have to worry about it stopping or going away or not happening because of clouds and rain. We won't have to worry about the perfect time of day for a photo. We won't have to take a photo because we will have what we have to enjoy forever and ever and ever. There won't be any need for memories. We won't want to remember the "good ole days." The days will always be good and perfect and full of thrilling joy.

What else can you think of that will be "most interesting"? I'm not sure about you, but I am ready to go NOW. Who's with me?