

Filled, Full, and Overflowing

Paul's Letter from Rome to the Colossians

Colossians 3:1-17

3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11 Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

5. Hearts and Minds Heavenward!

Look heavenward

▼ Consider the resurrection of the Christian

Colossians 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,

▶ This is a new life — ▶ This is a new level of living

▼ Consider the rule and reign of Christ

Colossians 3:1 set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

▶ He is majestic — ▶ He is mighty — ▶ He is ministering

▼ Consider the raising of your concentration

▲ Raise the level of your aspirations and ambitions

Colossians 3:1 set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

▲ Raise the level of your attention and affections

Colossians 3:2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

▼ Consider the revelation of the Christian

▲ Who we are is presently obscured

Colossians 3:3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

▲ Who we are will be powerfully obvious

Colossians 3:4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Live holy

▼ Put off the polluted practices of the past

▲ Those are forbidden for the Christian

Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

▲ Those are foreign to the Christian

Colossians 3:7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. — 9 — you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

▼ Put away prejudice and partiality

▲ Consider our Christian diversity

Colossians 3:11 Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free,

▲ Consider our common denominator

Colossians 3:11 but Christ is all, and is in all.

▼ Put on the pure and the peaceable

▲ You are a new creation

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved,

▲ You have a new clothing

Colossians 3:12 clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

▲ You have a new calling

Colossians 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

▼ Proceed positively and praisefully

▲ Worship with gratitude

Colossians 3:15 And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

▲ Work for God's glory

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.