

Study Notes For Colossians (Chapter Three)

Colossians 3:1 –

- This context ties back to the question in chapter two (**Colossians 2:20-22**).
- Dead to sin, dead to the law of Moses, risen with Christ (**Romans 6:1-13**, **Romans 7:4**, **Ephesians 2:1-6**, and **Colossians 2:12-13**).
- Repentance from dead works (i.e. works under the Law or of the world), was a first principle that should not have needed to have been retaught (**Hebrews 6:1**). Yet, this principle continued to be a problem amongst Jewish Christians (**Galatians 2:15-21**).
- For them, it was time to stop looking backwards at a dead, carnal law (**Hebrews 9:8-15**).
- It was time for them to start looking upward. Seek things above (**Isaiah 55:6-9**, **Matthew 6:19-21**, **Luke 12:31**, **Luke 13:23-24**, **John 6:1-27**, **Romans 2:7**, **I Corinthians 9:24-27**, **II Corinthians 4:8-5:1**, **Philippians 3:20**, **Hebrews 11:6**, and **Hebrews 13:14**).
- Where Christ is on the right hand of God (**Mark 16:19**, **Acts 2:29-33**, **Acts 5:30-31**, **Acts 7:51-60**, **Romans 8:34**, **Ephesians 1:19-20**, **Hebrews 10:10-13**, **Hebrews 12:1-2**, and **I Peter 3:21-22**).

Colossians 3:2 –

- To understand what it means to set our affections on things above, consider how this word is translated in some other Scriptures and what those teach (Strong's # 5426).
 - **Matthew 16:21-23** and **Mark 8:31-33** (the word is translated as "savourest").
 - **Acts 28:17-22**, **Romans 12:3**, **I Corinthians 4:6**, and **Philippians 1:7** (the word is translated as "thinkest" or "think").
 - **Romans 8:5**, **Romans 12:16**, **II Corinthians 13:11**, **Philippians 2:5**, **Philippians 3:16**, (the word is translated as "mind").
 - **Romans 14:6** (the word is translated as "regardeth").
 - **Romans 15:5** and **Philippians 2:2** (the word is translated as "likeminded").
 - **I Corinthians 13:11** (the word is translated as "understood").
 - **Philippians 4:10** (the word is translated as "care").
- Set your affection [thinking; what you savor; what you regard; what you care about] on things above (**Psalms 119:166**, **Psalms 119:174**, **Lamentations 3:26**, **John 14:1-3**, **II Corinthians 5:14-17**, **Philippians 3:4-20**, **I Thessalonians 5:8**, **Hebrews 11:8-16**, **I Peter 1:1-16**, **I Peter 4:1-5**, and **II Peter 3:11-12**).
- Do not have your affections on earthly things (**Proverbs 23:5**, **Matthew 6:24-34**, **Luke 12:15-21**, **Romans 8:1-11**, **Romans 12:1-2**, **II Timothy 2:3-4**, and **I John 2:15-17**).

- Consider, this does not mean you are to despise the life you now have in the flesh either. Balance these points (**Ecclesiastes 2:24**, **Philippians 1:21-24**, **I Timothy 6:17**, and **I Peter 3:10-11**).
- Fleshly desires are not spiritually profitable to us (**John 6:63**, **Galatians 5:16-17**, **James 1:13-16**, and **I Peter 2:11**).

Colossians 3:3 –

- Ye are dead (**Romans 6:1-2**, **Romans 7:1-6**, **Colossians 2:20-23**, and **I Peter 2:21-25**).
- This will connect with verse 4. Being dead, but alive to whom (**Romans 6:8-11**)? Not alive in the flesh to your desire, but born spiritually to the desire of our Lord (**Romans 6:13** and **Galatians 2:15-21**).
- Your life is hid [concealed] with Christ in God is a fascinating statement. We know that does NOT mean we should hide ourselves from the world (**Matthew 5:14-16** and **I Timothy 5:25**). The idea is that there is something, regarding the life we have and have been promised, that is essentially secret [Greek word; Strong's # 2928; cf. **Matthew 13:35**]. While much has been revealed (**I Corinthians 2:9-10**), there are things we have in front of us still that we can only look forward to finding out about (**I John 3:1-3**).
- In God/in Christ are interchangeable (**John 10:30** and **I Thessalonians 1:1**).

Colossians 3:4 –

- Christ is our life (**Acts 17:28** and **I John 4:9**), our reason for living and the reason we will live eternally (**John 14:6**, **John 20:30-31**, **Romans 5:17**, **Romans 5:21**, **I John 5:12**, **I John 5:20**, and **Jude 1:21**). Consider the points He made about being the “bread of life” (**John 6:1-71**).
 - Knowing that the Holy Spirit does not work as He did in the first century (**Acts 8:12-24**, **Acts 19:1-7**, **I Corinthians 12:3-13:13**, etc.); consider the phrase “ye are not your own” (**I Corinthians 6:9-20**).
 - What are we living to (**Romans 14:7-9**, **II Corinthians 5:14-15**, and **Philippians 1:21**)?
- When He shall appear (**Titus 2:13** and **I Peter 5:4**) we shall appear with Him in glory (**John 12:26**, **John 14:1-3**, **I Corinthians 15:21-57**, **Philippians 3:20-21**, **I Thessalonians 4:13-18**, **Hebrews 9:27-28**, and **I John 3:1-2**).

Colossians 3:5 –

- Mortify is translated as “dead” the two other times that Greek word (νεκρώω) appears in the New Testament (**Romans 4:19** and **Hebrews 11:12**). The word means: “to deaden, i.e. (figuratively) to subdue: — be dead, mortify” (Strong's # 3499).
- “Members” means: “a limb or part of the body” (Strong's # 3196). The definition is consistent with how the word is used (i.e. **Romans 7:5**, **Romans 7:23**, **I Corinthians 12:12**, and **James 3:5-6**).
- The point is, put to death the unlawful (which the rest of the verse points out) desires of the physical body (**Romans 6:6-13**, **Romans 8:13**, **Galatians 5:17-24**, and **Titus 2:11-14**).

- Put to death fornication... This is where we will pick up next week.

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**These notes will be updated weekly, as each class progresses. If you check back late Tuesday evenings or normally by Wednesday morning; these notes will be updated. If there is no update, the class was changed for some necessary reason. Check back the next week. As those who attend the class know, these notes only touch the surface of what we actually studied and discussed. Attendance in this class is the only way to fully benefit from the study.