

Colossians 3.1-17

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ

One of Biggest MISUNDERSTANDINGS about Christian Faith

Becoming Xtian means Becoming BETTER PERSON

Xtianity CONFUSED w MORALITY / Good Advice / Self Improvement

We must try by every medical, educational, economic, and political means in our power to produce a world where as many people as possible grow up 'nice'...But we must not suppose that even if we succeeded in making everyone nice we should have saved their souls. A world of nice people, content in their niceness, looking no further, turned away from God, would be just as desperately in need of salvation as a miserable world – and might even be more difficult to save.  
C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Colossians 3.1-17: 1. Orientation // 2. Mortification // 3. Renovation

KEY Verse of Colossians: 2.6 > SUFFICIENCY of CHRIST

“as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him”

Jesus: SAVES – SANCTIFIES – SUSTAINS > Author & Finisher FAITH

Paul Exhorts: KEEP Walking in Gospel > WARNING Against False Teaching

Legalism, Mysticism, Aesceticism > PROMOTES Self Not the SAVIOR

What CAN change Person? Lasting/ Healing/ Selves / Entire Community?

Paul > All POWER of God IN Jesus – 1<sup>st</sup> Born over Creation & Church

God became FLESH to REDEEM – RECONCILE – RESTORE

Ch 3 > How DO Christians in Colossae LIVE for Jesus in THIS World?

NO Surprise > POWER for Xtian Life > Power of Cross/Resurr of Jesus

2.20 If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations...

v. 1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Not 'IF' this Really Happened > But 'SINCE' this DID Happen!

Paul > Massive Importance Cross/Resurr: WORLD / Now > WALK w X

CROSS of Jesus > DECISIVE Break w World for You – Died to Old Life

RESURR: Whole NEW Life, Born Again, Living Hope: Eternal, Forever

## 1. Set Your Mind on Christ: Orientation

Paul describes Unbelievers = DEAD > Not because we STINK > We SIN

Without Jesus LIVING Dead > ZOMBIES – No God, No Hope, LOST

2.13 you, who were dead in your trespasses...God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses

Salvation Starts RESURRECTION v 1 “you have been raised with Christ”

v. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Hidden NOT Mean UNREAL > Can't See GRAVITY – PULLS U Down

Can't See INTERNET > Spend MOST of our LIFE There

HIDDEN = Security // Behind Solid Doors of Safety Deposit Vault

UNSEEN > Ascended Christ INVISIBLE to World > BY FAITH Know

Might Not LOOK Special > Daught/Son of GOD > HIDDEN w X

New LOCATION demands New ORIENTATION > LOOK UP!

vs. 1,2 seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on...earth

Call to DREAMLAND – Think about HARPS, CLOUDS, HEAVEN?

Ignore world of Bills, Responsibility, Taxes, Family, Duties?? NO!!!

Next Section of Coloss: Marriage, Family, Work, Life in SOCIETY

Jesus: “I tell you, do not be anxious about your life...saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles **seek** after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But **seek** first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you” Matthew 6.25-33

Gotta Eat, Dress, Live > Father in Heaven > Seek HIM as Live & Work

Rock Quarry: 3 Men 1. Breaking Rocks / 2. Feeding Fam / 3. Cathedral!

Gotta Break Rocks – Gotta Feed FAMILY – Also Building Cathedral!

Power of Thought: Unholy Alliance: Gov't / Schools / Media / Business

RAINBOW on Everything – Trans is Cool – Men kissing on TV

NORMAL / Good > Disagree: CANCELLED, Fired, Arrested!

That 3<sup>rd</sup> Man Living in Anticipation of v. 4 > “When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory”

Mere improvement is not redemption, though redemption always improves people even here and now and will, in the end, improve them to a degree we cannot imagine. God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better, but like turning a horse into a winged creature. C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

### 1. Set Your Mind on Christ: Orientation

### 2. Slay the Man of Corruption: Mortification

v. 5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you... 7 In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. v. 8 But now you must put them all away...v. 9 seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices

X Risen from DEATH > If WE'RE Risen in X PUT Old Ways to DEATH

MORTIFICATION: “Put to Death” > NEGATIVE --- Sometimes Need It

Not Happy when Docs told Me: CANCER 4 X's > Still ALIVE...I think?

(Jesus) cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” John 11.43,44

RISEN from Dead > Take Graveclothes OFF > v. 9 ‘put off old self’

Paul NEVER been Colossae > Knew Problem in 2 Areas: Sex, Speech

P never got to Kalahikiola > Sex and Speech making Trouble Here too!

Problem in EVERY Society – All Civilizations – thru All HISTORY

Point of Spear in Attack of Evil One > How to TURN People from God

Made God's IMAGE – God who SPEAKS – Made us Male & Female

God SPOKE > One Man joins One Woman – become ONE for Life

Do NOT Speak TRUTH like God / Behave Sexually as God Commands

v. 5 “sexual immorality”: Porneia / pornography – all kinds of Perversity

Sex – of any kind – Outside Marriage of Man and Woman

“...impurity, passion, evil desire” > Uncontrolled Desires, Godlessness

v. 5 “covetousness, which is idolatry” >> Both Misdirected Devotion

WANT what NOT Yours // WORSHIP a god that NOT Real

Man ENRAGED if Cheated on Golf Course, No problem Cheat on WIFE

Bible NOT have Negative View of Sex > Highest View of SEX

“the worst is always the corruption of the best” > Sex GIFT of God

Wonderful Gift – Passion, Love, Self-giving, Sharing, Discovering

Become ONE Flesh in Sex – One Man, One Woman, for Life IDEAL

SAVE You – Cheap Sex > Tears Soul like Ripping Tape of Cardboard

Resurrection of Jesus has POWER to Change your Sexual Thoughts/Acts

& Change SPEECH > Isaiah’s LIPS touched by COAL from God’s Altar

New Life in X heard in Way we Speak – Church, Home, Work, Friends

v 8 “But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, & obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices & have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator”

True Condition of HEART is BEST Revealed thru our MOUTHS

Bad words NOT ABERRATION > REVELATION of SINFUL HEART

From perspective World > We look Pretty Good > BETTER than MOST!

Paul speak to church in Colossae > What does this Do to a Church?

We DIED to Sin / We are RISEN with Christ – How’s that working Out?

Oh, its just a Bit of LYING? Deceiving, Pretending, Gossip, Hypocrisy

How about JUST a LITTLE Bit? Malice? Slander?

I just TOLD One Person – I trust Them – They won’t tell Anyone Else

Sure they can Keep their Mouth Shut as Good as You Can!

v. 6 “On account of these the wrath of God is coming”

Mean God will SEND Me to Hell for Potty Mouth? Porn? Playing w Sex?

God loves you So Much Sent Jesus to Die for Sins / Give New Life

Faith in Jesus as Savior & Lord – S: Give Him Sins / L: Give Him Life

Enjoying Potty Mouth? Porn? Playing w Sex? / Still have Sins & Life

So, at this Point > You are HEADING for Hell > Chance to Repent!

Where can we SEE God's Perspective of WRATH?

On the CROSS! > It must be TERRIBLE! – Unspeakable AGONY!

U R so BAD Jesus had to DIE an Agonizing Death to SAVE You! Me 2!

Thank God He LOVES Us so Much that He Gave His Son!

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9.15

25 yrs Since LIVED in Hawaii > Evil flourishing too Kind to Say NO!

Coqui / Goats / Deer / Pigs / Rats / Feral > thriving in HAWAII NEI!

Jesus: "If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell" Matthew 5.29

Real Change starts w MORTIFICATION > Starting w ME & MY SIN!

Set Your Mind on X: Orientation / Slay the Man of Corruption: Mortification

### 3. Serving in the Meekness of Christ: Renovation

vs. 11-17 Paul accents Positive > Miracle: Cross, Resurr, CHURCH

DIED to Sin / ALIVE to New Life / LIVED in Community Strangers

Int'l Church in Beijing > Members OVER 100 Nations / Dozens Denom.

Only thing have in COMMON is JESUS > Died & Rose for them ALL

v. 11 Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Nothing in All History brought Humanity Together like Christian Church

WORLD Marginalizes Others, Criticize Cultures, Gospel CELEBRATES

Terrible things BEEN Done, Cancelling to Killing, IN church / BY Xtians

Reason STAND Out > Contradict Scripture and Centuries Good Examples

vs. 12-15 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

What is the DRESS Code of the Xtian Life?

Remember God's New CREATION > OLD Passed > NEW has COME

FINAL Day Not only will WORLD See MIGHTY BRIDEGROOM

They will see with HIM a SPOTLESS BRIDE – Church REDEEMED

“put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh” Rom 13.14

GRACES of Gospel should ADORN your Life and BEHAVIOR

Holy, Beloved, Compassionate, Kindness,.....Loving, Forgiving

Ancient / Traditional Cultures > Individual submits / serves Family, Tribe

LIFE Choices, Values, Ideas, Directions SHAPED by Community

Self-Worth > Family Honor, Community Status, Tribal Prominence

Like SPORTS Team > WIN or LOSE Together!

POST Christian Society – I am IMPORTANT, because I SAY SO!

Don't NEED my FAMILY, TRIBE, or CHURCH for VALIDATION

I don't CARE what ANYONE Else Thinks! I DETERMINE my Reality!

I DEFINE Myself – I Define WORLD – Maybe for LITTLE While!

Television Show “The Office” – BOSS Michael

DESK > Coffee Mug proudly displayed “World's GREATEST Boss”

He had NO PROBLEM with the FACT that he GAVE MUG to Himself

Augustine bright young man in North Africa > Godly Mother: MONICA Age 30 Appointed >

Public Orator for the Roman Imperial City of Milan

Heard preaching of Bishop Ambrose > Great ORATOR & INTELLECT

CONVERTED to Faith in Jesus > CALLED to Ministry of GOSPEL

Wrote to Ambrose the Bp of Milan “When I came it was not your great preaching that impacted me, but you were kind to me” Augustine

<sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

<sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3 <sup>1</sup>If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup>For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. <sup>5</sup>Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming. <sup>7</sup>In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. <sup>8</sup>But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. <sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.