

Out With The Old, In With The New

Colossians 3:1-11

Introduction

I The Believer's New Focus

- A. Set your **hearts** on things above - Ps 27:4; Heb 12:2
 - 1. Where Christ is seated at the right hand of God
- B. Set your **minds** on things above - Rom 8:5
 - 1. Not on earthly things - 1 Jn 2:15-17
 - a. For you **died** - Gal 2:20
 - b. For your life is now hidden with Christ - Jn 14:19-20
 - c. For you will **appear** with Christ in glory - Phil 3:21

II The Believer's New Responsibility

- A. Put to **death** what belongs to your earthly nature: - Rm 8:13
 - 1. Sexual **immorality** - 1 Thess 4:3-7
 - 2. Impurity - Eph 5:3
 - 3. **Lust** - 1 Thess 4:4-5; 2 Tim 2:22
 - 4. Evil desires - Mt 5:28; 1 Pt 1:14-16
 - 5. **Greed**, which is idolatry - Lk 12:15
 - a. Because of these, God's wrath is coming - Eph 5:6
 - b. You used to walk in these ways
 - 1. In the life you once lived - Eph 2:3
- B. **Rid** yourselves of all such things as these: - Heb 12:1
 - 1. **Anger** - James 1:19-20
 - 2. Rage - Prov 29:22
 - 3. **Malice** - Prov 26:24
 - 4. Slander - Prov 10:18
 - 5. **Filthy** language from your lips - Eph 4:29
- C. Do not lie to each other - Lev 19:11; Eph 4:25
 - 1. Since you have **taken off** your old self
 - a. With its practices - Eph 4:22
 - 2. Since you have **put on** the new self - Eph 4:24
 - a. Which is being renewed in knowledge - Col 1:9-10
 - 1. In the image of its Creator - Rom 8:29

III The Believer's New World View

- A. There is no **Greek** or Jew - Rom 10:12-13
- B. There is no circumcised or uncircumcised - Gal 5:6
- C. There is no barbarian or Scythian
- D. There is no **slave** or free - 2 Cor 5:16-17
 - 1. But Christ is all and is **in** all - Col 2:9-10

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

- 1. What was your most treasured possession as a child?
- 2. Why do you think Paul makes a distinction between the "heart" and "mind" in terms of your focus? Discuss the difference.
- 3. What earthly things tend to distract you from "things above"? What activities most effectively facilitate a "heavenly-centered" perspective? Are you practicing them?
- 4. What are the three reasons Paul gives for "putting to death" certain attitudes and behaviors? [Hint: Read Colossians 3:3-4]
- 5. What sins of the "old nature" does Paul list and why these particular sins? Which are the ones do you most frequently struggle with? How is the Holy Spirit leading you to respond?
- 6. Throughout Paul's writings, he distinguishes between the "old" and "new" natures. What responsibility does God have in your transformation? What responsibility do you have? [Hint: Read Colossians 3:5-10]
- 7. Take some time to evaluate your "life-focus". Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what you may need to "put to death" in order to cooperate with His plan for your "New Life."

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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