



DATE: 17 July 2024 WED

TEXT: **Colossians 3:1-3**

TITLE: **:: Like Paul**

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above,
where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:1-3

REVIEW

Think like David: God's created works

Think like Asaph: God's previous actions

Think like John: God's marvelous love

Think like Haggai: God's great forgiveness

Think like Malachi: God's familiar names

Think like Joshua: God's prosperous Word

Think like Mary: God's incredible Son

Think like Timothy: God's fabulous gifts

INTRODUCTION

- The Apostle Paul had been trained thoroughly in religion...see **Philippians 3:5-6**...but had learned from experience that nothing else in life mattered apart from Jesus Christ

he wasn't concerned with wealth, position,
or earthly titles

Paul wanted to be like Jesus in everything
he said or did

Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power
of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings,
being made conformable unto his death;

Matthew 11:29

John 3:30

Romans 6:4 (8:29)

2 Corinthians 3:18 (5:17)

Galatians 2:20 (3:27)

Philippians 2:5 (3:10-11)

1 Peter 1:21

2 Peter 1:4

1 John 2:6

Revelation 3:20

Colossians 1:27

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Colossians 1:28

Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

Evangelize...every man

Educate...every man

Edify...every man

- the pastor of the church at Colossae, **EPAPHRAS (1:7, 4:12)**, had visited Paul in Rome:

the church was being infected by false teachers who were preaching dogmas including:

enticing words **2:4**

philosophy **2:8**

empty traditions

mysticism

legalism **2:16-17, 20-21**

personal experience **2:18**

note **verse 23**...these things will result in an outward manifestation of *religiousness* but do not glorify God

our text, **Colossians 3:1-3**, shows the contrast to those false religious practices...

1. HEAVENLY AFFECT **verse 3**

For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

affect = a desire that influences behavior

having gone into some depth in **chapter one**, Paul stated a **FACT** for this church in **3:3**

verse 1 spiritually, because of their salvation, they were dead to the world's concerns

2 Corinthians 5:16 no man after the flesh

see **Romans 6:1-6**

6x death is mentioned

Galatians 2:20

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

because the Gnosticism in Colossae was pushing for a *mystical knowledge* to be obtained, Paul started with a simple fact...**you're dead**

dead people don't pay taxes, etc.

dead people don't worry, fret, etc.

with this as the starting point, the church could move forward and become more like Christ...not like the world and its religions

some religions pursue their god through their bodies...abstaining from foods, shaving their heads, etc.

other religions seek to lose their identity through chanting, mantras, etc...they seek obscure 'truths' relevant to the individual

thinking...believing...desiring...doing...repeating...being like Christ

we *know* Christ in salvation and grow from there

2. HEAVENLY AGREEMENT **verse 1**

...seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

seek = to investigate; reasoning

cf **Romans 3:11** ...none that seeketh

Paul instructed the church to stop practicing religion and to begin investigating their new life in Christ

and he closed the loophole...they were to learn about **HEAVEN** and life as a citizen there

Philippians 3:20

For our conversation is in Heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ:

this was to be there new priority...focus

Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

when I visit a new city or country, I must acclimate myself to new streets, businesses, buildings, etc.

by placing myself there, I agree to the laws of that city or country

I also understand I might have to find new new means of communicating, transportation

Acts 13:11

And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

Acts 17:27

That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

3. HEAVENLY AFFECTION **verse 2**

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

**set your affection =
to think and be like-minded**

the Greek word conveys both the *visceral* and the *cognitive* outcomes:
to not only think correctly, but to become correct

Paul followed with the natural outcome of being dead and thinking according to that fact

the believer would fall in love with Heaven
and it would become **HOME**

Matthew 6:21

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

our study and meditation on Heaven should cause us to fall in love with home and give us a strong desire to be there

**No matter who you are or where you are,
instinct tells you to go home.**

“Lord, I’ve never been this homesick before.”

NOTE: without natural affection... **Colossians 3:5**
Romans 1:26, 31 Galatians 5:24 2 Timothy 3:5

Ezekiel 36:27

And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which [they broke], although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: after those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

this **NEW COVENANT** will be enjoyed by Israel one day when she finally sees her Messiah

Zechariah 12:10-13:1

the church enjoys this **NEW COVENANT** now because of Christ's finished work on the cross

Romans 11:12-32 Hebrews 8:6-13



THINK reading list:

Philippians 3:4-19 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24



THINK playlist:

Take My Life And Let It Be

Who Am I? by Casting Crowns