

"ROBUST CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP" GCF Sermon Series on the Letter to the Colossians

#7 - Heavenly Minded and Earthly Good

Colossians 3:1-11

The phrase "since, then" links the doctrinal statements with the practical application in this section of Paul's letter. Paul writes about the principles of holy living - believers are called to become in daily experience what they are in Christ.

I. The Believers "Being" in Christ . A new person, a new position -"One in Christ" (v. 11; II Cor. 5:17)

- A. "Dead in Christ" (v. 3) - You were crucified with Him (cf. Gal. 2:20), died with Christ (Rom. 6:8), buried with Christ (Col. 2:12) and now "hidden with Christ" (v. 3)
- B. "Raised with Christ in God" (v. 1) You were resurrected (Col. 2:12) and will be glorified in Christ's appearing (3:4)

II. The Believers' "Doing" in Christ. A new perspective (3:2)

- A. Seek what is heavenly by setting your hearts and minds on things above (3:1-2, 9-10; Rom 12:1-2)
- B. Slay what is earthly. Put to death practices that belong to the earthly nature (v. 5)
 - 1. Sensual sins. "Put to death..." (3:5)
 - 2. Social sins. "... rid yourself..." (3:8)
 - 3. Lying. (v. 9)

Since God raised us with Christ and we are already as good as seated with Him in heaven, we should "keep seeking" heavenly things. We need not pursue another system that claims to provide more than we have in Christ. God has provided all we need for acceptance with Him and godly living in Christ. Let us act on the implications of these truths.