

# Colossians 3:1-14

**<sup>1</sup> Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.**

**Three basic truths are mentioned here:**

Christ has risen from the dead and we have been raised with Him.

Pay attention to and love the things of the Lord.

Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. He is preparing places for us in heaven. He is also making intercession for us to almighty God in heaven.

**<sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.**

Not only your heart but also set your mind on the things of the Lord. With our mind we think but with our heart we love. God's Word is our guidance as to what we must think and how we must act. What we do to others is done as unto the Lord.

**<sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.**

When Christ died on the cross we died with Christ. This implies we must die to self, deny self, and set aside selfish ambitions and honor and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ with our daily life and activities. Jesus Christ must have priority in our life and be manifested through our conversation and behavior and actions.

**<sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.**

For us to live is Christ. This means that His life must live in and through us so that people can see Jesus in us. Hear Him speak and see Him work. Some day He will return to earth to receive us unto Himself and take us to be with Him for ever and ever.

**<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.**

Here we have an explanation of what it means to deny self or die to self. Put to death means to separate oneself from...

**sexual immorality** is sexual relations outside marriage  
Impurity is actions and thinking not pure or dirty – unholy  
Lust is to desire unclean behavior such as fornication and adultery

Evil desires involves thinking about lying, stealing, corruption cheating, being unfaithful, lazy and disobedient.

Greed is to be crazy about having more and more money, more power and never be satisfied. This is the same as idolatry and takes the place of God.

**<sup>6</sup> *Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.***

The wrath of God is the anger of God, the punishment of God on those who disobey God and keep sinning and do not repent. God's wrath is coming for sure.

**<sup>7</sup> *You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.***

Hopefully we all have repented from these old ways and now live the new life in Christ. We may thank God that there is still time to repent and turn away from sin and turn to the Lord Jesus Christ and follow His ways and His Word. It is still not too late and there is still time to change our ways.

**<sup>8</sup> *But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.***

This is the advise of the Apostle Paul "to rid ourselves of" to Repent - to turn around 180 degrees. We must stop anger, rage which is outbursts of furious anger, shouting, violence, malice, active hatred, desire to harm others slander, making false statements that damage others and filthy language.

**<sup>9</sup> *Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices***

Again this verse refers to dying to self, denying self and only speak the truth to each other. The "old self" is the old nature, a life of selfishness and being self-centered. "Taken off" repented or turned away from the old practices of lying, cheating, stealing, boasting, and deceiving.

**<sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.**

“Have put on the new self” involves receiving Jesus Christ as Personal Savior and Lord. This means that we now know that Jesus Christ is the image, manifestation or revelation of God.

**<sup>11</sup> Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.**

Once we are believers there is absolutely no difference between Greek or Jew, Christian or Moslim, Buddhist or Hinduist, rich or poor, young or old, boy or girl, staff or boss. BECAUSE CHRIST IS IN ALL and in Christ there is no discrimination.

**<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.**

Here we have a beautiful description of a believer in Christ: God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved. Clothe ourselves: Practice compassion, kindness, humility gentleness and patience.

**<sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.**

Be patient with each other. Quickly forgive each other because we also have been forgiven by our Lord. The Bible also teaches if we do not forgive each other neither will the Lord forgive us. Matthew 6:15, “But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

**<sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.**

The most important character is LOVE which unites all these good and holy actions in perfect fellowship one with the other. Love is from God. God is Love. When we love each other we will never do harm to each other. Love unites, binds, heals, reconciles and brings joy and peace to one another.