

Colossians 3:15-25

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

We make a decision to surrender our lives to the Lord Jesus Christ and allow Him to be in charge, to control and reign in our hearts. God has called us to peace. Jesus Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God and we now have peace with God. Because we have peace with God we must also be at peace with one another. If we have peace with God and live at peace with each other then there is so much to be Thankful for.

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

Here we learn of several responsibilities for the believer:

1. We must be men and women of the Word of God. Read the Word of Christ faithfully. Meditate on His Word.
2. We must teach the Word of God to others
3. We must admonish (correct) one another with all wisdom.
4. We must worship God by singing songs of praise and worship
5. We must always be grateful and thankful to God for all His blessings.

¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

All our talking and activities must be done in the Name of Jesus
We belong to Jesus Christ and we act on His behalf.
We must be careful because we represent Him on earth.
We must not bring shame on His name.

*¹⁸⁻¹⁹ Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.*

In The Word of God there are two major responsibilities for the wife and that is to respect and obey her husband. The husband is the head of the family. He is in charge. But the husband must be loving and kind to his wife, never ever hit and beat her.

He must provide for all her needs. Provide housing, food and clothing. If the husband is faithful in doing his duties than there is no problem for the wife to respect and obey the husband. The husband should never be harsh and unkind to his wife.

²⁰ *Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.*

The duty of the children is to obey their parents in everything. This is pleasing to the Lord. The guide for the parents is the Word of God. The Bible is their manual for raising their children. The parents should never ask their children to do things that are forbidden in the Word of God.

²¹ *Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.*

The fathers must be loving, kind and considerate to their children. They should not make any demands contrary to God's Word. Fathers Should never cause their children to become bitter and become discouraged. They must always encourage their children.

²² *Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.*

The believers must obey those in authority over them. Obey with a pure heart and not for personal interest or gain. It should make no difference if the boss is close by or far away. We obey our boss as unto the Lord and no to gain favors.

²³ *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,*

There are two aspects of our work and service for the company. First we work faithfully and sincerely and secondly we work as unto the Lord and not as unto men. In all our duties we are serving the Lord, so we do the best we can. We work hard and with enthusiasm.

²⁴ *since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

Our final rewards are in heaven from the Lord. He is our Master

and we are accountable to Him for all our conversations and actions.

²⁵ Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.

The Lord knows our every action. He sees everything and hears everything. We cannot hide anything from Him. Some day we will stand before God and we have to account to Him. In Revelations 20 verses 11-15 we read about this final accountability...

“Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵ If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

There is no favoritism with almighty God. He treats all men and women equally. God cannot be bribed or influenced. He is righteous and fair. We all have the same opportunity with God, rich or poor, men, women, boys and girls. There is no classification and no discrimination. We will all be judged on just one issue. What did we do Jesus Christ? Did we believe in Him or reject Him? God is not impressed with our abilities and standing in society.

The Lord Jesus is speaking to all men and women, boys and girls in Revelations 3:20...

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.”

He is knocking at the door of our heart and He desires to come into our life and become our Savior and establish a relationship of friendship and fellowship.