

CHRISTOLOGY NOTES 14

Discipleship Hour, 10/9/2020

Colossians (In Him We are Complete) – 5 sections surrounding Truth. Paul first declared and defined the one gospel. Then he began The truth Defended. Tonight we are finishing that section, 2:9-3:4

Review: We saw that IN Christ the handwriting of legal demands against us was taken out of the way and the powers arrayed against us have been cancelled and defeated. Paul's commentary launched into lessons to be drawn from Christ.

First, we saw lessons from Christ's death. You died and were made, by nature, desensitized to the world. You are dead to the basic principles of the world which have an appearance of wisdom but are of no value - a counterfeit.

Paul has exposed the leaven of their doctrine, their ritual, and the error of their way which is all outward and cannot reach into the heart. The gospel is not of this earth but is heavenly. It does not "perish with the using." It is not a list of prohibitions and taboos. These are earthly and can never curb man's natural desires. Therefore, your aim and your goal is heavenly, not earthly.

Tonight in 3:1-4, we find lessons from Christ's life:

Colossians 3:1-4 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

If = Since you were raised with Him

Colossians 2:12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Since you were raised with Him, you have to quit trying to die... You are dead!

Colossians 2:20 Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as *though* living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations—

Since you are dead and raised to heavenly places, you are, therefore, separated from the world and its “god” --- to the throne of Father God... “you were raised with Christ...sitting at the right hand of God...and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

We are not seeking a way out of the things of this world, but seeking the things above... This is our new perspective on life and on the world. We have a new place to see from because we have a new place to live from.

Colossians 3:4 When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

This is Total Security because Christ is our Zoë, our eternal life...

We are to be constantly seeking these things – not to find them, but to obtain them in the here and now.

In review:

Chapter 1 is about the Christ.

Chapter 2 is about the danger and perversion of the heretics:

2:4 enticing words: (“deceive you with persuasive words.”)

2:8 philosophy: (“cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit...”),

2:8 tradition of men: (“...according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ”)

2:16-17 Legalism: (“let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.”)

2:18 Mysticism- always confuses experience with truth:

("Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels...")

2:8 Idolatry - worship of angels or elements (basic ingredients) of the world: ("Beware lest anyone cheat you according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.")

2:20-21 asceticism: ("Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as *though* living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— "Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,"

But chapter 2 is also about the answer to these perversions:

Answer #1 to perversion: Know who Jesus is:

Colossians 2:3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Colossians 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;

Answer #2 to percersion: Know what he's done for you:

Colossians 2:13-15 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

You have been reconciled to God and redeemed from the curse.

Consider the fall of man into a cursed state and the reconciling work of the Messiah who brings you out.

It started well for Adam.

Genesis 2:19 Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.

Before the Fall, Adam's vocabulary was great, naming millions of animals. Yet, it lacked seven key words (note: principle of first use):

1. Death

Genesis 2:17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

2. Nakedness

Genesis 3:7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

3. Cursed

Genesis 3:14 So the Lord God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

Genesis 3:17 Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: “Cursed *is* the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.

4. Sorrow

Genesis 3:16 To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you.”

5. Thorns

Genesis 3:18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field.

6. Sweat

Genesis 3:19 In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you *are*, And to dust you shall return.”

7. Sword

Genesis 3:24 So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

“First Adam” fell into sin; “Second Adam” (“Last Adam”) came to get him out, came to reverse the curse;

1. Death

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

2. Nakedness

John 19:23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece.

3. Cursed

Galatians 3:13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “*Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree*”),

4. Sorrow

Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

5. Thorns

John 19:5 Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And *Pilate* said to them, “Behold the Man!”

6. Sweat

Luke 22:44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

7. Sword

John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

Answer #3 to perversion: Know who you are:

Colossians 2:10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Colossians 2:12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Answer #4 to perversion: Know what you are to do for him:

Colossians 2:6-7 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

Review:

Colossians 3:1-4 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ *who is our life* appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

The handwriting of ordinance (the demands of the law) that stood against us was blotted out! The enemies arrayed against us were totally defeated!

We are to seek the things above. We have a new place to see from and live from by faith which touches heaven and occupies it.

We secure these things in heaven and obtain in the here and now with Total Security because Christ is our Zoë, our eternal life. ("your life is hidden with Christ in God.")