

Richard Todd Merz serving Christ meaning maturing each day / this occurs through study and then living!! Scripture, the most accurate book on the planet written over 1,500 years by an approximate (give or take a few per the dictionary) 40 authors [MOD 1 applied January 16, 2022]

COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 3

Scripture passage included then commentary underneath each verse
King James Version (KJV)

Verse (1): If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

This verse comes from an investigative mind as a matter of fact, If then.....(Factual).

If then (Factual), if time on earth for every individual will end (Fact), but then facing eternity will never end (Fact). Every individual faces eternity as an ever-present reality.

Set your life on the things which are above not matters of the earth. As this Ministry Website Owner discussed in Colossians Chapter 2, eternity is ever-present and time lives in a bubble that is surrounded by eternity.

God almighty awaits for the soul of every individual to be accounted either eternally with God or not. God allows the free will and beckons unto the eternal state of the soul. Scripture is very clear who in fact owns the soul...it is God alone. Why the Christ? Because the Christ never sinned and that is where eternity resides concerning the soul. God holds innocence under his purview.

Ezekiel 18:3-4 (King James Version), “Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.”

Hebrews 4:15 (King James Version), “Seeing then that we have a GREAT high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”

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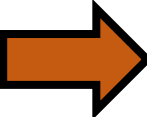
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Verse (2): Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

God provides the answer of prominence so that which is above is where the Christian affection is eternally profitable. All things on earth will cease. In the legitimacy of Christian walk, the affection ought to clearly be on the things above. Any deviation from this God provided answer in the life of the Christian means their affection is off kilter.

When the Christian affection is on the things above in their own life, then naturally their prominence in the life of others is on the things above as well, which is therefore upheld within the greater society of life.

The things of the earth can be received more abundantly and that which is in Christ does carry into the eternal state because God came to earth so that humanity can live more abundantly now and not have to wait until the eternal state. Humanity can build today for now and the eternal state. That is the power of the affection of God. However, to live more abundantly on earth the affection must be on the things above. God has innocence under His purview.



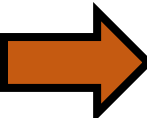
Ephesians 3:20-21 (King James Version), “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen”.

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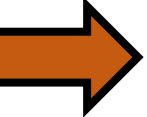
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Verse (3): For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Going back to verse (1) this Ministry Website Owner discussed that Scripture reveals that humanity has a Great High Priest who never sinned. And in Christ Jesus, life is hidden with Christ in God because Christ Jesus paid the full cost of humanities sin past, present, and future OR the world without end as also discussed by this Ministry Website Owner in verse (2).



First Corinthians 15:3-4 (King James Version), “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”



John 14:3 (King James Version), “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

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Verse (4): When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

This Ministry Website Owner discussed this also in verse (3) with Scripture references provided. Notice, the verbiage “When” as a factual matter. “When” signifies that there is truth contained therein both in Constant Complete as well as perfectly being in a state of eternal learning and development without sin.

Truth:

-- Christ is our life (**Constant and Complete**)

-- Christ shall appear (**Constant and Complete**)

-- Then saved humanity will also appear in Christ’s glory (**Saved humanity will be eternally saved by grace in Christ’s glory as the Constant Complete. However, saved humanity will be in an ever-perfect state of learning and development without sin. So, in the 66 Books of Scripture, God in His love, provided an eternal Salvation with the requirement of perfect eternal learning and development without sin.**)

Verse (5): Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Instead of these things, it is best to grow in the grace of God through a disciplined lifestyle.

Second Peter 3:18 (King James Version), “But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”

Philippians 4:8 (King James Version), “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

Verse (6): For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

For the children of God to stay away from the wrath of God, a disciplined daily approach is best suited lest God cometh on the children of disobedience.

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Verse (7): In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

Note here, again the word “When” is factual because of humanities sin nature so everyone, in one form or another, “...also walked some time” and lived in the sin of various types and degrees of depth. Going back to verse (5), a disciplined daily approach is best.

Verse (8): But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

Notice, God uses the word “...Also, put off...anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.”

Ahhh, no one is innocent. Thus, the absolute need for a Savior. Go back to verse (5), live a disciplined life - daily.

To repeat concerning matters of the things above from verses (2) and (4):

Saved humanity will be eternally saved by grace in Christ’s glory as the Constant Complete. However, saved humanity will be in an ever-perfect state of learning and development without sin. So, in the 66 Books of Scripture, God in His love, provided an eternal Salvation with the requirement of perfect eternal learning and development without sin.

Verse (9): Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

God is truth. How does Scripture work into God’s truth?

Fact: The Word of God remains and will continue to be, by far, the Best-Selling / Most Distributed Book in Human History for a specific reason.

John 17:17 (King James Version). “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

Sanctify in the Dictionary means that, in our lives, there must be a clear distinction that demonstrates “Old Deeds” are put off for the truth of God almighty – that’s what makes a strong testimony.

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Verse (10): And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Through sanctification, the “New Man” - Renewed Knowledge is increased not because of the “New Man”, but “....after the image of him [God] that created him”.

Truth builds upon truth and that means in the “New Man” there is renewed and increased knowledge because God is truth and God imparts truth through the sanctification of the “New Man”.

Through the “New Man” this Ministry Website is about Acts 17:11-12 as a 100% unpaid Lay Minister.

Acts 17:11-12 (King James Version), “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.”

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Verse (11): Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

The Christ ensures there are no differences, which is received by the grace of sanctification be it:

- Nation of origin to

- Circumstances to

- Condition

Before God, nothing is on His level and God does perfectly Join all things (Henry, 2008).

Henry, Matthew. (2008). Matthew henry’s commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA:

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Verse (12): Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

The elect is two-fold.

- **The elect is in the free will of humanity being in submission to the Holy God during life lived or in the innocence of life under God's purview.**
- **The election of God's plan was God chosen before time began before the free will of man and is eternal.**

Put on:

- **Deepest depths of Mercies (plural)**
- **Kindness**
- **Humbleness of mind**
- **Meekness**
- **Long-suffering**

Verse (13): Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

In studying the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ, of whom both Christian and Non-Christians of the time do verify that Jesus Christ was a real person – not make believe. Jesus Christ is not a fairytale, no Jesus Christ was a real person – literally a historical fact.

What is often not communicated within the Universal Church, is that the God-Man took on the worst of the worst possible life circumstances literally experiencing the absolute worst aspects of the entire process possible, the likes of which the human race will never know. Yet, this worst of the worst possible was a requirement so that God can give 100% absolute forgiveness and secure the soul 100%. 100% God 100% Man = 100% eternally secure.

This Ministry Website Owner offers that out from this worst of the worst possible circumstances that only the God-Man could take, came the best of the best eternal love that only the God-Man can provide the likes of which only God knows.

Romans 8:38-39 (King James Version), "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

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Verse (14): And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

Reaching back to verse (13), God is love. Coming forward in verse (14), put on charity because this is the "...bond of perfectness".

Faith is the pillar and charity is the highest mark of excellence (Henry, 2008). Henry,

Matthew. (2008). Matthew Henry's commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA:

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Verse (15): And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Gratitude and gratefulness are the hallmarks of being thankful. Being thankful enables the peace of God to set within the heart. When the peace of God rules the heart, thankfulness is a natural characteristic.

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To do a deeper dive for context, this includes submitting ourselves to the will of the government of peace within the "one body" understanding the Great Mercies God makes common to everyone, which requires the use of an umpire as a duty to decide differences (Henry, 2008).

Matthew. (2008). Matthew Henry's commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA:

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A thankless person will often point out the flaws of others, as well as themselves. The result is no peace or constant internal turmoil. This is not the fault of others, but is the fault of the person. This pattern may lead to self-justification in matters that are clearly wrong on the part of the person. In this situation, the person will not be at peace.

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Verse (16): Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

The Scripture. Dwell. Dwell in accordance with Acts 17:11-12.

Acts 17:11-12 (King James Version), “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.”

Verse (17): And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

This is a powerful verse: word or deed do for the glory of God.

This is a lifestyle obligation because the human nature is sinful.

- **Admission**
- **Repenting (Turning away from sin)**
- **Maturing in God**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Not ashamed (Testimony)**
- **Reconciliation**
- **As discussed earlier this Chapter, the new identity**
- **God has innocence under His purview**
- **Understand Revelation 14:13**

Revelation 14:13 (King James Version): “And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.”

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Verse (18): Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

The wives requirement is likened unto obeying the authority of law such as to the Magistrate (Henry, 2008). The Magistrate is an office of public trust. This means that the integrity of that public trust given to the husbands may shift directly to God and the evidence of that will be in public. That is the requirement of God. This is the duty of the wives.

According to the Dictionary, the Magistrate handles minor infractions and preliminary hearings for serious offenses.

According to the Dictionary, duty is either a moral or legal obligation.

Please work within the body of the local church authority.

Matthew. (2008). Matthew Henry's commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA:

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Verse (19): Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

The Husbands requirement is to be found to love the wives. Faithfulness is the rock of love (Henry, 2008). This means that the rock of love may shift directly to God and the evidence of that will be in public. That is the requirement of God. This is the duty of the husbands.

According to the Dictionary, duty is either a moral or legal obligation.

Please work within the body of the local church authority.

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Verse (20): Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

This verse does not imply that improper or non-authoritative God given parental rights are over the child. All children have the right to develop within societal development. God holds accountable unto the free will. However, proper and authoritative God given parental rights are to be obeyed as well pleasing unto the Lord.

The duty of the children is to obey that which is properly lawful as this leads to a productive societal development (Henry, 2008). The matter of accountability of free will belongs to God that is between any person and God.

Matthew. (2008). Matthew Henry's commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA:

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Verse (21): Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

Fathers are not justified when they take away from the child's ability to be dutiful in obedience. Kindness fosters development and children's willingness to abide in their Fathers keep (Henry, 2008). Father's that are found to be dutiful do maintain their children's keep as a Scriptural fact.

Fathers being purposefully rough in duty or way of lifestyle living can discourage and bring anger.

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Verse (22): Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God;

Servants are to be who they say they are it in the light of their Master or in the secret of living – they should mirror (Henry, 2008). The servant should never present a double life to their Master. Scripture is clear, that single purpose of life in God is what matters in the literal light of the eye of the Master or in the literal out of sight – it doesn't matter because the servant is who they say they are.

Matthew. (2008). Matthew henry's commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA:

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Verse (23): And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

If you set your mind on worldly pleasures, then your actions will follow. Instead, God tells us to do heartily unto the Lord, not men. Worldly pleasures last but for a moment in time, but Godly matters are eternal.

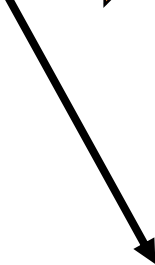
Verse (24): Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Again, for the 3rd time in this Chapter (Verses 17, 23, and 25) this Ministry Website Owner will use this foundational life verse that crosses time and eternity bridging the two.

 **Be who you say you are in the light or in the secret. No double life here on this Ministry Website.**

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Revelation 14:13 (King James Version): “And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.”

 **It is noted in Scholarly references that this specific verse comes from Great authority because it came down directly from Heaven as Evidence of the Harvest reach of God (Henry, 2008).**

Matthew. (2008). Matthew henry's commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA:

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Verse (25): But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

God is not a respecter of persons. Whomever does wrong, God will, in fact, ensure wrong is what they will receive. This Ministry Website Owner accentuated the lifecycle that will be restated here. Although, there are matters already determined in Scripture that chart the course of history and these matters will not be changed.

There are **still** instances in Scripture where God changed His specific voiced settled matter based on these lifestyle matters as a significant understanding because God is perfectly equal in all of His attributes (Grudem, 2005). Notice in the **still** God includes the entire lifecycle meaning the eternal state where time is not a factor, so either eternal blessing without sin or eternal judgement because of sin.

In time, this is a lifestyle obligation because the human nature is sinful. In the eternal state, either eternal blessing without sin or eternal judgement because of sin.

- Admission
- Repenting (Turning away from sin)
- Maturing in God
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Grudem, W. (2005). Christian beliefs. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic.