

Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#)

>

[Other](#)

>

[Share on Facebook](#)

[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

Colossians 3 This study has not been posted on facebook yet



By Dan Maines

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1-2

Therefore, if you have been raised with Christ, keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth.

† Believers share in Christ's resurrection, and their focus must remain on heavenly realities.

† To seek the things above is to live in the power of the fulfilled

kingdom.

† Philo (On the Migration of Abraham 18) contrasted earthly desires with heavenly pursuits, but Paul grounds this pursuit in Christ's resurrection.

Colossians 3:3-4

For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

† The old life has ended, the believer's true life is secure in Christ.

† Glory is revealed in Christ's appearing, fulfilled in His coming in judgment and vindication.

† Irenaeus (Against Heresies 5.36.3) taught that the believer's life is hidden with Christ until His manifestation.

Colossians 3:5-6

Therefore, treat the parts of your earthly body as dead to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience.

† The believer's old life of sin must be put to death.

† Greed is equated with idolatry, showing misplaced devotion.

† Josephus (Wars 5.10.5) condemned the greed and corruption in Jerusalem that brought God's wrath, aligning with Paul's warning.

Colossians 3:7-8

And in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. But now you also, rid yourselves of all of them: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene speech from your mouth.

† Paul reminds them of their past but commands them to abandon such behavior.

† Transformation in Christ must be visible in speech and

conduct.

Colossians 3:9-10

Do not lie to one another, since you stripped off the old self with its evil practices, and have put on the new self, which is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created it.

† The old self is put away, and the new self is continually renewed.

† Renewal restores believers into the image of God in Christ.

† Clement of Rome (1 Clement 33) celebrated renewal into the image of the Creator.

Colossians 3:11

A renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, and free, but Christ is all, and in all.

† In Christ, all divisions are abolished.

† The unity of believers transcends cultural and social barriers.

† Ignatius (Letter to the Magnesians 10) emphasized that in Christ, believers are one body beyond distinctions.

Colossians 3:12-13

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone, just as the Lord forgave you, so must you do also.

† The new life in Christ is marked by compassion, humility, and forgiveness.

† Forgiveness is modeled after Christ's forgiveness of us.

† Tertullian (On Patience 12) exalted patience and forgiveness as central to Christian character.

Colossians 3:14-15

In addition to all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. Let the peace of Christ, to which you were indeed called in one body, rule in your hearts, and be thankful.

† Love unites all virtues and perfects Christian character.

† Peace is not absence of conflict, but the reign of Christ in the community.

Colossians 3:16-17

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

† The word of Christ must saturate the church.

† Worship, thanksgiving, and mutual instruction are the fruit of the word dwelling richly.

† The Didache (ch. 9) describes early Christian gatherings with hymns and thanksgiving.

Colossians 3:18-19

Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not become bitter against them.

† Household order reflects submission and love in Christ.

† Marriage is shaped by mutual service under the Lord.

Colossians 3:20-21

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not antagonize your children, so that they will not become discouraged.

† Family relationships are to reflect the Lord's discipline and encouragement.

† Discipline must be balanced with care to avoid discouragement.

Colossians 3:22-25

Slaves, obey those who are your human masters in everything, not with eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord and not for people, knowing that it is from the Lord that you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve. For the one who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

† Even slaves were called to serve sincerely as unto Christ.

† Paul elevates work done in faith as service to the Lord Himself.

† This principle applies to all labor, reminding us that Christ is the true Master.

How it applies to us today

† Colossians 3 calls us to put off the old self and live in the new self, renewed in Christ's image.

† Our lives must be marked by love, forgiveness, and thanksgiving in every circumstance.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, all distinctions are removed, and Christ is all and in all.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

† Philo, On the Migration of Abraham 18 - heavenly pursuits contrasted with earthly

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies 5.36.3 - life hidden with Christ until revealed

- † Josephus, Wars 5.10.5 - greed and corruption in Jerusalem
- † Clement of Rome, 1 Clement 33 - renewal into the Creator's image
- † Ignatius, Letter to the Magnesians 10 - unity of believers beyond distinctions
- † Tertullian, On Patience 12 - forgiveness and patience
- † The Didache 9 - hymns and thanksgiving in worship

Share on Facebook

Links

Facebook Link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.