



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:5-7 (KJV) Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: 7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

Col 3:5-7 (NASB) Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. 6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, 7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:5 Therefore = marks the transition from doctrine to application, from truth to practice, from info to life.

v5 begins the 'So What' part of Colossians.

Based on the previous doctrine content,

The preeminence of Christ and our Union in Him

The Glories of Jesus Christ or The Image of the Invisible God 1:1-2:3

Our Union With Jesus Christ or In Him We Are Complete 2:4-3:4

next is the character & conduct of our life in Christ.

The Conduct of Believers in Christ or Putting Off & Putting On 3:5-4:6

Our life in Christ is a **spiritual life**, with a soul, in a body, with character and conduct that is unique to the Church age.

We live each moment **by faith in all the things of God** which are revealed to our spirit by God's indwelling Spirit via His Word the Bible.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:1-4 Gives the basis of our Christian Life, it is our Union with Jesus Christ. This the most compact presentation of this truth in the Bible. It comes in 4 parts

- 1 We are raised** *v1 if you be risen* = Aorist tense of past fact
- 2 We died** *v3 you are dead* = Aorist tense of past fact
- 3 We are hidden** *v3 your life is hidden...* Perfect tense abiding results
- 4 We will be revealed** *v4 ...also appear with him* Future tense future fact

Due to our union with Christ when He died, **we died** (with Him),
Due to our union with Christ when He was raised **we were raised** (with Him),
Due to our union with Christ **we are presently hidden** with Christ in God,
Due to our union with Christ **we will be revealed** with Him in Glory.

This is our past, present, & future position of Union in Christ.

Eph 2:4-7 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath **quickened us together with Christ**, by
(grace ye are saved;) 6 And **hath raised us up together**, and **made us sit together
in heavenly places in Christ Jesus**: 7 That in the ages to come **he might show** the
exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 ‘Members of Earthly body are Dead’

Col 3:1-2 Has two commands that apply to how we are to respond in faith to the truth of our past present & future union with Christ (This is how Paul writes, Doctrinal truth then application truth)

1 Seek (examine carefully) things above where Christ is sitting
2 Setting continually your mind on things above

Q Why did he give these commands?

A Because union with Christ needs to be learned and believed by carefully examining and focusing on the things of God in God's Word and ultimately made clear through our spirits by the Spirit of God.

Q So, what and where are the things above?

A In the previous context the things above = the preeminence of Christ, and His effective finished work for us, by salvation from sin and by uniting us with Christ. His work is done, He is seated because redemption is finished.

Q So, what is the Christian life like in a positive direction?

A **“Daily, mental occupation with the adequacy of Christ” ***



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Q How do we come to know about His finished work?

*A 1 Cor 2:9-13 (KJV) ...But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, **the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.** 10 But **God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit:** for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so **the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.** 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but **the spirit which is of God;** that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which **the Holy Ghost teacheth;** comparing spiritual things with spiritual.*



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Q How do we come to know about His finished work?

*A Jn 16:12-15 (KJV) I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 13 Howbeit when he, **the Spirit of truth**, is come, **he will guide you into all truth**: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and **he will show you things to come**. 14 He shall glorify me: for **he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you**. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that **he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you**.*



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

In Christ's Glorious Presence

1. CHRIST'S LIFE is MY LIFE
2. CHRIST'S DESIRES are MY DESIRES
3. CHRIST'S GLORY is MY GLORY
4. CHRIST'S WILL is MY WILL
5. CHRIST'S MIND is MY MIND
6. CHRIST'S OBEDIENCE is MY
OBEDIENCE
7. CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS is MY
RIGHTEOUSNESS
8. CHRIST'S ABODE is MY ABODE
9. CHRIST'S REST is MY REST
10. CHRIST'S SUFFICIENCY is MY
SUFFICIENCY
11. CHRIST'S IMAGE is MY IMAGE
12. CHRIST'S THINGS are MY THINGS
13. CHRIST'S LOVE is MY LOVE

14. CHRIST'S COMPASSION is MY
COMPASSION
15. CHRIST'S SUFFERING is MY
SUFFERING
16. CHRIST'S HOPE is MY HOPE
17. CHRIST'S GOOD is MY GOOD
18. CHRIST'S VICTORY is MY VICTORY
19. CHRIST'S RICHES are MY RICHES
20. CHRIST'S WISDOM is MY WISDOM
21. CHRIST'S COMMANDMENTS are MY
COMMANDMENTS
22. CHRIST'S PEACE is MY PEACE
23. CHRIST'S THOUGHTS are MY
THOUGHTS
24. CHRIST'S WAYS are MY WAYS
25. CHRIST'S INHERITANCE is MY
INHERITANCE
26. CHRIST'S LIBERTY is MY LIBERTY



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 ‘Members of Earthly body are Dead’

*Col 3:1-5 **If** (assumed true) ye then be risen with Christ, **seek** (examine carefully) those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 **Set** your affection (mind) on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 **For** ye are dead (you died), **and** your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 **When** Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. 5 **Mortify therefore** ...*

Col 3:1,3,5 the 4 connectives: ***if, for, and, when***, introduce the basis for why the v5 ***therefore*** is there. ***Therefore*** marks the transition from the fixed realities above to the conditional realities below, **from faith in the supremacy of Christ and our new position in Him, to faith that God is making our condition reveal His life in us.**

Col 3-4:6 Answers the question ‘***So What does this have to do with me?***’

A The reason for the mental commands **Seek**(external) and **Set**(internal) is so we may grow in understanding our new union with Christ.

A The response to these mental commands is twofold;

1 to focus(examine, trust & think) on the things above in heaven

2 to not focus(examine, trust & think) on the things below on earth.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 ‘Members of Earthly body are Dead’

*Col 3:3-5 For ye are dead (**you died**), and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. 5 **Mortify** therefore ...*

Mortify = nekrosate Aorist active imperative, a command = **put to death**

Q v3 says “**you died**”, so **how do I kill what is already dead?**

A v3 says **who we were has died with Christ and who we are now is living hidden with Christ in God.**

A v9-10 Echoes this perspective, where we are told that **we have taken off the old man and we have put on the new man.** same as in Eph 4:22-24

A v5 therefore, **we must conclude(believe) that who we were and this body on earth are dead(separated, liberated, cut off) from enslavement to sin.**

A **When we believe that all we are is free (dead to) the life of sin, we believe that God is adequate to present in trust all the parts of our body to Him.**

*Rom 12:1... present your bodies a **living** sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God...*

Notice: **living** (with Christ in God), holy (**separated** from life of sin), **acceptable** unto God (because we share Christ’s acceptance by God)



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:5 Mortify (consider dead) therefore your members which are upon the earth;

your members = melos - **your body parts**, mind, eyes, ears, tongue, etc
which are upon the earth = located on earth now

Q Is the body evil in need of our self control as some were teaching?

A No. *1 Cor 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God*

God has made each Church age believer's body a temple (holy of holies) for God to dwell in through the Holy Spirit

A No. *1 Cor 6:13. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.*

God has made our body to be for Himself, not for fornication.

A No. *Gal 5:16-17 Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the **lust** of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other*

Only God's Spirit is adequate to handle our sin nature, and we should trust Him to do so, as well as to keep us occupied with the things of Christ risen.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:5 Mortify (consider dead) therefore your members which are upon the earth;

Your body is separated, liberated from enslavement to your fallen soulish nature.

Q So, why do Christians continue to sin?

A Heb 11:6 without faith it is impossible to please God .

We sin because we do not believe the adequacy of God who has created us unconditionally free from the enslavement of our body by our sin nature, and given us Himself to control the sin nature and show us Christ risen.

A Col 3:1-4 The seek and set commands demand we should be continually occupied with Christ's absolute adequacy.

A So, before acts of sin, be it thinking, speaking or doing, there is the sin of unbelief in God's adequacy. *When we acknowledge His adequacy, we confess sins per 1 Jn 1:9, He forgives and cleans us. God is adequate!*



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 ‘Members of Earthly body are Dead’

Q What is the source of our unbelief in God?

A Ez 18:20 ...*the soul that sinneth, it shall die*

Our fallen soulish nature produces all our doubt or unbelief in God.

A Is 64:6 ...*all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags*

Our soulish nature produces only sin, even what seems good to us is sin.

This is the (dethroned, taken off line) soulish sin nature of the old man.

Q How do we come to belief in God?

A Heb 12:1-2 ..*let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of the faith;

Christ has come to us with His good news message to believe and be born spiritually alive and placed in Him. Our new spiritual nature is taught of God so we can believe Him and grow as His new man.

Q What is the source of production for our new spiritual nature?

A 1 Jn 3:9 *Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.*

Only God born spirits do not sin, they reveal His righteousness.

This is the (enthroned, put on line) spiritual new nature of the new man.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:5 Mortify(consider dead) therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Consider your body parts dead to 2 kinds of internal sin nature sins
cf Eph 5:3, Gal 5:19-20, James 1:14

1 Sexual sins

fornication = porneia - **all sexual immorality**, a summary word

uncleanness = akatharsia - **moral impurity**, doing things that pollute, life,

inordinate affection = pathos - **bad desires**, passions, lusts

evil = kakos - evil, bad, worthless **concupiscence** = epithumia - strong desires

epi+thumia epi = above or intense burning passions

put together, means **evil intense passions**

2 Mental sins

covetousness = pleonexia - **desire to have more**, greedy

which = hostis pronoun referring to covetousness **is** = means it is

idolatry = eidōlolatria - idol worship vs God worship

No mental acknowledgment and gratitude of God' adequacy to create will lead to worship of idols instead of God, and sexual immorality. cf Rom 1



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

For which things' sake = dia os - because of these
the wrath of God = orge - strong indignation, decisive, thoughtful anger
Note: not like thumia which is anger that flares up from emotions
cometh = erchomai - verb present middle indicative, **is coming now**
on = epi - upon **the children** = huioi - plural noun - sons or children
of disobedience = apeitheia - willfully unpersuaded to obey, rebellious

Q What intensely angers God. When & how does God show this anger?

A Rom 1:18-32 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness

3 times it says God abandoned men to their sin nature's productions
wrath = orge // **is revealed** is present tense - is being revealed, uncovered

The sin of denying the continuous revelation of God's adequacy in creation, always angers God to the point of abandoning man to the results of his own fallen nature sins, sexual and moral decay and mental occupation with earthly things.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Col 3:7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

In the which = en hos - **among whom** (refers to the unpersuadable ones)

ye also = kai humeis - **also you** (the Colossian believers)

walked = periepatesate - verb aorist active, **walked, treaded**

some time = pote - **in the past**

when = hote - **when**

ye lived = ezete - from zaw verb imperfect indicative active, **were living**

in them = en toutos - **in these things. (sins)**

Q Are there examples of God's adequacy for all things?

*A Col 1-4 is all about this... the **total supremacy and adequacy of Christ.***

v7 is an example of God's adequacy to create new men from sinners

Before the Colossians became believers, they lived just like all unpersuaded ones, they continually did these moral and mental sins.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Applications for us from Colossians 3:1-7

That our Christian life is one of being occupied with the things relating to Christ's adequacy as He sits, at the right hand of God because He has finished all redemptive work for all time..

That based on the adequacy of Christ and His finish work, & our death to sin with Him, we are to consider it true that all we are now, including our body parts, is dead to (liberated from) our sin nature's rule and productions..

That our sin nature produces the wrong use of sex by the body and the wrong use of the mind by occupation with things of the world instead of with Who He is(God) and how great He is(totally adequate).

That before acts of sin, be it thinking, speaking or doing, there is the sin of unbelief in God's adequacy, which leads to enslavement by our sin nature.

That all believers in Christ were producing these sins, before choosing to believe in Christ as savior. Only Christ can create the new man we are.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Colossians 3:1-7 (NASB)

Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. 6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, 7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.



The Epistle to the Colossians

Col 3:5-7 'Members of Earthly body are Dead'

Overview of Colossians 3:5-4:18 onward contents

The **internal** productions of the sin nature are given in 3:5-7 (today)

The **external** productions of the sin nature are given in 3:8-9a

The facts relating to having put off the old man and having put on the new man are in 3:9b-11

Based on our new man's natures the exhortation is given to put on the characteristics of the new man toward;

one another in 3:12-14

ourselves in 3:15-17

our family relationships 3:18-4:1

God in prayer 4:2-4

unbelievers 4:5-6

Paul's final remarks, greetings, and exhortations to Colossians 4:7-18