

The Practices of God's Sons and Daughters - Part III

1) Colossians 1:1 – 4, 9 NKJV

¹ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ² To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; ⁹ For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

a. Now that Paul knew that the Colossian Church had faith and love for all the saints, why was he praying for them without ceasing?

b. What was he praying for them to receive?

c. What does it mean to be filled with all the knowledge of God's will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding?

2) Colossians 1:26 – 27

²⁶ the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. ²⁷ To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

a. What is the mystery which was hidden from ages and generations that is now revealed to the saints?

b. What does "Christ in you, the hope of glory" mean?

c. Can meditation on God and His Word grow our imagination in the things of God and increase our expectancy and the glory of God we see in our lives?

3) Colossians 2:4 - 6

⁴ Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. ⁵ For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your *good* order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. ⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

a. What does "As you received Christ Jesus so walk in Him" mean?

4) Colossians 2: 7 – 10

⁷ rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. ⁸ Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

- a. What does it mean to be established in faith?
- b. What are the traditions of men and the basic principles of the world?
- c. What does it mean to be complete in Christ, and what can keep us from that revelation?

5) Colossians 2:12 – 15, 20 – 23

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. ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

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— ²¹ “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” ²² which all concern things which perish with the using— according to the commandments and doctrines of men? ²³ These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, *false* humility, and neglect of the body, *but are* of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

- a. How did Christ disarm principalities and powers?
- b. What is of no help in our struggle with temptations to indulge our flesh?

6) 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. ² Set your mind (affections, sights) on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

a. What does it mean to set your mind (exercise your mind, earnestly point your mind, meditate) on things above and not on earth? Why?

7) Colossians 3:5 – 11

Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷ in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

⁸ But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰ and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, ¹¹ where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave *nor* free, but Christ *is* all and in all.

- a. How do we put to death our members on earth? (See Col 3:4 – 6)
- b. Why is it sons of disobedience and not disobedient sons?
- c. How is the new man renewed?

8) Colossians 3:12 – 17

¹² Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. ¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 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. ¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

- a. Who has been given the ability to be merciful, kind, meek, and forgiving?
- b. Who has been forgiven?
- c. What does it mean for the peace of God to rule in our hearts?
- d. What of Christ are we to let dwell in us richly according to verse 16?
- e. In what name are we to do all that we do or say?