

Things Above

Colossians 3:1-6

Intro:

- A. Paul reminds these Christians that they must not live as worldlings.
  - 1. Vs. 2:20
  - 2. Vs. 22 These things would all perish.
  - 3. Vs. 23 Those things which the world admired would never satisfy.
  
- B. Paul now admonishes them to remember the eternal world to which they are going.
  - 1. Vs. 1 "Seek those things which are above..."
  - 2. Vs. 2 "Set your affections on things above..."

I. They Did Not Belong To This World.

- A. Vs. 1 "If ye then be risen with Christ,.."
  - 1. "Risen" = συνεγείρω = "to raise up together", "to be co-resurrected".
  - 2. "If, then, you were partakers of Christ's resurrection..." - Con
  
- B. "...seek those things which are above,"
  - 1. "Seek" = ζητέω = "to zealously seek", The present tense calls for continual and habitual action.
  - 2. "Keep on seeking the things above", - Wms
  
- C. "...where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."
  - 1. "Sitteth" = καθήμεναι = "to sit".
  - 2. When one sat at the right hand of royalty they were considered to be highly honored.
  - 3. "Where Christ reigns in power." - Phi

II. The Direction Of Their Thinking.

- A. Vs. 2 "Set your affection on things above,"
  - 1. "Affections" = φρονέω = "to think", "be of opinion", "that which affects the understanding and the will".
  - 2. "let your thoughts dwell on the higher realm" - NEB

- B. "...not on things on the earth."
  1. "not to the passing things of earth..."
  2. "not earthly minded" - Knox

### III. The Reason For Their Actions.

- A. Vs. 3 "For ye are dead..."
  1. "Dead" = αποθνησκω = "to die".
  2. "...you have undergone death" - Knox
- B. "...and your life is hid with Christ in God."
  1. "Hid" = κρυπτω = "to hide".
  2. "...and your life is now hidden in God through your fellowship with Christ..." - Wms

### IV. The Blessings Of Their Decision.

- A. Vs. 4 "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear,"
  1. "Appear" = φανερωω = "to make clear", "to make plain", "to manifest".
  2. "When Christ, who is the source of life to us, makes Himself manifest".
- B. "...then shall ye also appear with him in glory."
  1. "Appear" = φανερωθησεθε = "will be manifested".
  2. We have life in Christ and when He comes He will glorify us. Whether life or glory all things come from Him.

### V. That Which Must Be Done Now.

- A. "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;"
  1. "Mortify" = νεκρωω = "to make a dead body".
  2. "Members" = μελος = "a limb of one's body".
  3. "So once for all put to death your lower, earthly nature." - Wms
- B. "fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence,"
  1. "Fornication" = πορνεια = "illicit sex", "sex between unmarried persons".
  2. "Uncleanness" = ακαθαρσια = "impurity in general", "the fountain and source for all acts lewdness and

dissolution".

3. "Inordinate affection" = παθος = "passion", "a drive that will not rest until it is satisfied".
4. "Evil concupiscence" = επιθυμια = "lust", "desire". This is not a lust for one thing but involves all evil longing.

C. "...and covetousness, which is idolatry."

1. "Covetousness" = πλεονεξια = "a plan to have more", "fraud", "insatiable selfishness", "greed".
2. "Idolatry" = ειδωλολατρευια = "idol-worship". That which we covet so deeply becomes an idol.

## VI. God Will Train His Disobedient Children.

A. Vs. 6 "For Which things sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience;"

1. These are the things which when practiced bring down God's anger.
2. God is moved to anger when such sins are committed.
3. If His Children commit them they are dealt with in love as children.
4. If lost people commit them, then God's anger is treasured up against them, ready to be poured out in Judgment.

B. The inarguable fact.

1. Hebrews 12:6-11
2. No one can sin and get away with it lost or saved.

