



MOUNT SINAI MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

DEEP DIVE BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Colossians Chapter 3: The New Life in Christ

DATE: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

TRANSLATION: English Standard Version
(ESV)



SCRIPTURE READING — COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 3 (ESV)

Colossians 3:1–25 (English Standard Version) provides the theological foundation for Christian transformation—moving from our heavenly position in Christ to practical holiness in personal character, community life, the home, and daily vocation.

■ Put On the New Self

1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. **3** For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. **5** Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. **6** On account of these the wrath of God is coming. **7** In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. **8** But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. **9** Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices **10** and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. **11** Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. **12** Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, **13** bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. **14** And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **15** And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **17** And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

■ Rules for Christian Households & Daily Work

18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. **19** Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. **20** Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. **21** Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. **22** Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. **23** Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, **24** knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. **25** For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

🔪 SCRIPTURE OBSERVATION & HIGHLIGHTS (Colossians 3:1–25)

✦ PART 1: WHAT HAPPENS AT SALVATION & THE ONGOING WORK OF GOD

Salvation is both an instantaneous divine transaction and a lifelong process of transformation. Understanding these three distinct phases establishes our confidence and purpose:

[FOUNDATIONAL DOCTRINE] The Three Progressive Phases of Salvation

Phase 1: The Drawing and Conviction — 1. Conviction of Sin: The Holy Spirit opens your eyes to your true spiritual condition and your urgent need for a Savior. 2. Repentance & Faith: A deliberate turning away from sin and turning toward Jesus Christ in trusting belief.

Phase 2: Regeneration and Indwelling — 3. New Birth: Being born again spiritually, made a brand-new creation in Christ. 4. Indwelling of the Holy Spirit: God's Spirit permanently seals, indwells, and secures the believer.

Phase 3: Transformation and Sanctification — 5. Renewing of the Mind: Aligning thoughts, values, and worldview with Scripture. 6. Ongoing Spiritual Growth: Maturing daily into Christlikeness over the remainder of your earthly walk.

[PERSPECTIVE CHECK] Time vs. Eternity & Heavenly Mindedness

- Slither of Time vs. Ocean of Eternity: Our earthly lifespan is a tiny sliver compared to eternity. How are we investing this sliver? Are you living with an eternal perspective?
- Heavenly Contemplation: Are you actively thinking about heaven, and what are you thinking about heaven? Setting our minds on things above transforms how we handle earthly struggles today.

✍ NOTES & PERSONAL REFLECTION

✦ PART 2: CHRIST'S WORK & OUR IDENTITY (COLOSSIANS 3:1–4)

[CHRISTOLOGY] The Accomplished Work & Present Ministry of Jesus

Bodily Resurrection: Jesus rose bodily from the grave, conquering physical and spiritual death forever.

Bodily Ascension: He ascended into heaven bodily, glorified and exalted above all earthly and demonic powers.

Seated at the Right Hand of the Father: The Old Testament priest never sat down in the tabernacle because his atoning sacrifices were never complete. In contrast, Jesus sat down because His redemptive work for us is finished and completed once for all!

His Supreme Authority: He reigns in absolute sovereignty over creation, the Church, and history.

His Continual Intercession: What is Jesus doing right now at the Father's right hand? He is actively interceding for us as our Great High Priest (Hebrews 7:25).

[IDENTITY & HOPE] Positional Truths & Eschatological Reality

Positional Truth (Who You Are in Christ): You died with Christ (Galatians 2:20). You are freed from the power, penalty, and grip of sin and death. You were raised with Him, and your true life is hidden with Christ in God (John 10:28). You are safe, secure, and eternally anchored.

Eschatological Truth (Your Blessed Hope): When Christ who is our life appears, we also will appear with Him in glory. Jesus will appear in the rapture and glorious revelation of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:13–18; 1 Corinthians 15:51–58).

✍ NOTES

✦ PART 3: THEOLOGY BECOMES 'BE-OLGY' — PUTTING SINS TO DEATH (COLOSSIANS 3:5–11)

[SANCTIFICATION] The Daily Mortification of Sin & The Nature of Sanctification

The Power of Identity: Therefore put to death what is earthly in you. Our theology must become our 'be-ology.' You have the Holy Spirit's power to stop sinful practices because of what Christ has already done and who you are in Him!

Daily Reality & Ongoing Vigilance: It is a daily reality that we are spiritually dead to sin, yet the flesh constantly attempts to rise up. Whenever it surfaces, we must deliberately put it back to death through the Spirit.

The Slow Process of Crucifixion: Crucifixion was a slow, agonizing death. Jesus was on the cross for 6 hours, while typical victims hung for 24 to 48 hours or longer. Similarly, putting sinful desires to death is a slow, lifelong process known as

sanctification. Salvation is instantaneous; sanctification carries you through the rest of your life.

THE TWO SINFUL CATALOGS TO PUT OFF

1. Sensual List (v. 5):

- Sexual immorality (porneia)
- Impurity & uncleanness
- Passion & inordinate affection
- Evil desire
- Covetousness / Greed (which is Idolatry)

2. Sins of Hostility (v. 8):

- Anger (deep-seated animosity)
- Wrath (explosive rage)
- Malice (ill-will / desire to hurt)
- Slander (defaming others' character)
- Obscene talk (abusive, filthy speech)
- Lying to one another (v. 9)

THE WRATH OF GOD (ROMANS 1:18)

God's wrath is His holy, ongoing reaction to sinful hostility—never a rash outburst. Manifestations:

- Eternal Wrath: Hell and final separation.
- Eschatological Wrath: The Day of the Lord / Great Tribulation stored up for the end of days.
- Cataclysmic Wrath: Historic interventions (e.g., Noah's Ark; final judgment by fire).
- Consequential Wrath: Sowing and reaping; even forgiven sins carry earthly consequences.
- Abandonment Wrath: Giving over to a reprobate mind when man persistently rejects God.

THE FOUR STAGES OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION:

1. Formed (Creation)
2. Deformed (The Fall & Sin)
3. Transformed (Salvation & New Life)
4. Conformed (Sanctification into Christ's Image)

FEEDING THE NEW MAN (V. 10; 2 PETER 3:18):

You have to take something off to put something new on. Once you remove old habits, you cannot leave a vacuum—you must actively clothe yourself in Christ and feed the new nature with the Word of God daily.

🔪 NOTES: Areas of My Life That Must Be Put to Death Daily

✦ PART 4: CLOTHED IN CHRIST — THE VIRTUES & PEACE OF GOD (COLOSSIANS 3:12–17)

[WHAT TO PUT ON] The Five Royal Garments of the Believer (v. 12–14)

1. **Compassionate Hearts (Bowels of Mercy):** Deep, visceral empathy for the brokenness and burdens of others.
2. **Kindness:** Active goodness, sweetness of disposition, and practical benevolence in action.
3. **Humility:** Freedom from pride, esteeming others higher than oneself in genuine modesty.

4. Meekness: Strength submitted to God's control; gentle restraint rather than demanding self-assertion.

5. Patience (Longsuffering): Enduring emotional and physical slights without retaliating or giving up.

- **Forbearing One Another:** Enduring difficult personalities. Remember: I could be the difficult one! Others must deal with me, so I am called to deal graciously with them.

- **Radical Forgiveness (v. 13):** Because you have been completely forgiven by Christ, you must extend the same unconditional forgiveness to others.

[PEACE & WISDOM] The Two Kinds of Peace & The Dwelling Word (v. 15–16)

Objective Peace: Peace WITH God (Romans 5:1): A judicial fact. Until you are saved, God's wrath is aimed directly at you. Upon repentance and faith, Christ reconciled us, and we are permanently at peace with God.

Subjective Peace: Peace OF God (Philippians 4:6–7): An experiential tranquility and inner rest when we cast our anxieties upon Him and trust His providential care.

Peace Must Be Anchored in Truth: False peace is dangerous. Jonah felt completely at peace while fleeing from God's assignment because he was asleep in the ship (Jonah 1:5). Real peace is tethered to obedience to God's Word.

Let the Word Dwell in You Richly: Does the Scripture dwell—make its permanent home—in you richly? We must be so saturated with the Word that our immediate, instinctive reflex in crisis is biblical truth. The only Bible we receive cannot be just on Sunday!

✂ NOTES & APPLICATION: Which New Garment Do I Most Need to Put On This Week?

♦ PART 5: HOLY RELATIONSHIPS — THE CHRISTIAN HOME & WORKPLACE (COLOSSIANS 3:18–25)

[THE HOME] Order in the Christian Family (v. 18–21)

Wives (v. 18): Called to voluntary submission as is fitting in the Lord, reflecting the Church's honoring devotion to Christ.

Husbands as Cultivators (v. 19; John 15:1): Called to love their wives sacrificially and never be harsh. 'A happy man marries the girl he loves, but a happier man loves the girl he marries'—the latter is a faithful cultivator and tiller of the marital relationship.

Children (v. 20): Obedience is learned in the home. While obedience matures and adapts as children grow into adulthood, honoring parents remains a lifelong moral constant.

Fathers and Headship (v. 21): Fathers must not provoke or exasperate children lest they become discouraged. Three common traps: (1) Hypocrisy (professing faith but living contradiction), (2) Favoritism toward siblings, and (3) Overly critical standards

without grace. In God's order, the health and spiritual functionality of the home rises and falls on the father—responsibility rests with him.

[VOCATION & WITNESS] Vocation, Servanthood, and the Roman Context (v. 22–25)

Historical Context in Rome: Slaves made up roughly 1 out of 3 people (nearly 40%) of the Roman Empire. The early church had no political leverage. Had the apostles incited a violent slave revolt, Christianity would have been reduced to a political social movement and stripped of its eternal gospel power.

Transforming Hearts vs. Systems: The foundational problem was human sinful hearts, not merely systems. The right system can fail with corrupt leaders; an unjust system can be transformed from within by godly people. When masters like Philemon were saved, relationships were redeemed from the inside out.

Modern Application in the Workplace: Earthly servants had no legal inheritance, yet Paul promised them an eternal inheritance from Christ. For believers today: work heartily, with integrity and excellence, not merely when the boss is watching. The greatest witness for Jesus Christ in the marketplace is being the most diligent, trustworthy worker in the entire company!

NOTES
