

Open your Bibles - We're working through 'All In' = Go All In on the Life God Offers

Last week: Raised to life with Christ (Salvation) | New Purpose (Seek & Set)

Lives are hidden in Christ (preserved & protected) | Jesus' Return (Sin - Sorrow - Suffering no more).

The more I dwell on this idea of being "All In" the more I see it from both sides:

- If you're in Christ you're 'All In' – no such thing as half a Christian.
- But because you're all in, life is all because of Christ and all sustained through Christ,

What does it mean to be 'All In'?

When Christ returns, we'll be perfectly present with him...in the meantime, what is it to be 'All In'?

That's what we're going to look at over the next three weeks.

1 - Life Killing Sin | 2 – Life Pursuing Righteousness | 3 – Life Together as the church

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. | PRAY

I love Albuquerque...Fourth best decision of my life...If I had known...GOATHEADS! SATAN'S CABBAGE

Genesis 3:17 'Cursed is the ground...thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you' – THIS

- Imagine if someone said, 'Oh what pretty yellow flowers!' - "You must be new here"
- Worse, "yeah I know they're goatheads, but I like them...maybe this year...no thorns" Crazy

What do we do with goatheads? Put them to death...burn them...get rid of them

This afternoon we're going to talk about the same thing in our lives. GOATHEADS ARE LIKE SIN

Look appealing – Cause Pain | Take you off the path | Spread like disease | Only one way to deal
World is full of spiritual goatheads. On the side of the path everywhere we go, there are thorns that will trip us up, slow us down, and cause us pain...only one way to deal with sin...put it to death.

Big Idea - Having a Renewed Life in Christ Means Putting Sin to Death

V5-6: Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming.

Strong words from Paul, but accurate. Put to death: Mortify – Latin for death

Favorite Books – 'The Mortification of Sin' – John Owen | Read Unabridged Brian will buy you coffee

Mortify - Render it completely powerless, helpless, and out of operation...kill it

Not: Suppress - Set Aside – Limit – Confine | Ill control...tend to...suppress...PUT TO DEATH!

John Owen – 'Be killing sin or it will be killing you.'

If we're alive in Christ, we need to put to death the things that bring God's wrath

Sin brings wrath...not blessing | Saved from eternal wrath... faith in Christ | GOSPEL | Two Reasons

- a) No longer 'children of wrath' but 'children of righteousness' – Glorify God with our actions
- b) Sin hurts! It never brings true happiness. It is best for your life to kill sin!

Three commands for the one who has a renewed life in Christ

1. Destroy sinful actions (5-6)

Look at the actions he's talking about here: I'm not going to focus on any one...you know you

- Sexual Immorality – *Porneia* = Illicit sex...sexual activity outside the marriage bond man/woman
- Impurity / Passion / Evil Desires = Thoughts and actions that God has forbidden
- Covetousness = Greed | Idolatry = Holding things in honor or worship that God should have

Theme of these sins: actions that are driven by selfish desires.

No coexist bumper sticker for sin. It wants to destroy you, so the only alternative is to destroy it.

Jesus didn't die for a place alongside sin in your life.

He died so you might have life, which means the sin that leads to death has to be gone.

These words sound harsh, but they're good news for us. Look at v7:

In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.

Do you see the tense here? This is in the past – you once walked in these ways but you no longer do
Doesn't mean you're unaffected by them or that you'll never be tempted by them

We can take comfort that sin is not where we live...we live in Christ

Great encouragement and source of courage to combat one of the lies the enemy:

- "That's just who I am." If you're in Christ, that's not who you are.
 - It may still feel powerful, but it's not who you are. **Warning and Encouragement**
Alberto – DO NOT SAY 'CR' | Beautiful testimony...He is no longer defined by his sin, but by Christ!
And it's not just about sinful actions or desires, Paul takes it a step further in v8-9a:

But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another...

God isn't just interested in partial transformation. He wants all of us. To do this we need to:

2. Defeat selfish talk (8-10)

Put them all away: things we get rid of: Pridelul...Selfish Talk...If you have a renewed life in Christ

- Why would you ever talk with anger or wrath?
- Why would you talk with malice (ill intent towards others), slander, or obscenity?
- Why would you lie to others?

Same motive: Put away any attempt to use your words to build yourself up at the expense of others.

Words are a powerful weapon that can be leveraged to win or lose the war for souls

Speaking with anger, wrath, or malice is not of Christ | Slander or obscene talk is not of Christ

Similarly, lying from a perspective of "I'm just trying not to hurt them" is not of Christ.

I used the word 'Defeat' intentionally – I need a bouncer for my face...keyboard

Remember...Putting aside sin isn't an aspirational pursuit gain Christ's favor...be made right with God.
But rather, we put these things aside because we are already right with God.

He's already brought us to life through Christ – that work is finished – so our job is to live like it's true.

Look at v9b-10...seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Changing clothes – difference between boys and girls

- You've taken off your old clothes, which were dirty and stained and smelly, and put on a garment of righteousness, obtained for you through Christ.
- Why do you change clothes? You wear different clothes for different activities.
- If you belong to Christ, you have put on the new self – you're wearing God's clothing
What activities are you pursuing?

3. Represent the God who is renewing you (11)

We were created in God's image, but every time we willfully sin we deny that truth.

Like we weren't made for his glory, but instead were mashed together only for our own survival.

That's why he says you're 'being renewed after the image of your creator'

Sanctification = Process of being renewed into the image of Christ in whom we were created and for whom we were redeemed | Look at how he concludes this section in v11:

Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

We're redeemed by Christ, but not just so that we can wear shinier clothes. We're redeemed:

- **To unity:** our redemption in Christ supersedes anything that separates us.
 - He takes the common separators of those days, snap judgments- and says they don't matter.
 - We're created in image of same God, redeemed by the same Savior - for the same purpose
 - And all the other distinguishing factors don't matter in comparison.

What matters is the second and most important reason we're redeemed:

- **To glorify God:** Our new self those new clothes, that we've put aren't designed to show off how shiny we are, but to show how great is our Savior. **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE ALL IN?**
Christ is all – he's what I live for | Christ's in all – He's effects every aspect of my life
We've put on the new self, we're being renewed in the image of the God who created us.
And so we mortify our sin – the goatheads that still want to cut us up and slow us down,
we get rid of them so as individual children of God, Christ might truly be all
the one who brought us to life, who keeps us alive, and for whom we live. | PRAY