

Colossians 3:1-6

The Christian's New Life.

Over the years people have rightly asked me, "How am I to live this Christian life? I try to live a good life but fail continuously, so how am I supposed to live a life pleasing to God?"

Most times I tell them what the book of Colossians tells us, "Put off the old man and put on the New man that is *"in Christ"* by walking in the power of the Holy Spirit not depending on your own power which is weak in the flesh.

If I had an old worn-out car that is only hitting on four of its six cylinders and blowing smoke out the tailpipe, putting a new paint job on it is not going to make it run any better. I have to replace the engine, put a new power plant in it, a new heart, if you will, if I expect it to run like new.

Well, the Christian life has the same problem. If we are trying to live a life that reflects our Lord Jesus Christ, we must get a new power plant, a new heart and soul and do away with the old way of life powered by a sinful nature. We must put on Jesus!

Jesus when speaking to Nicodemus in the Gospel of John told the Pharisee *"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

PK- So the only way to live a pleasing life to God is to put on Jesus, study His word that renews the mind and live in the Spirit that Jesus has provided us that will change us from the inside out, that we can live with Jesus.

Let's read Colossians 3:1-4 in the New Living Translation,

"Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. ² Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

³ For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.

⁴ And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all His glory."

PK- The believer's union with Christ in His death, resurrection and exaltation is the foundation upon which his earthly life must be built, Because of his death with Christ, the Christian **must regard himself as dead** to the old sins and put them aside.

We are **born again** in our belief in Christ's death and resurrection and must put into action the new moral and ethical life that reflexes Christ. Our new creation in Christ will produce new qualities of righteous & holy living, in our speech and our love for others.

Col 2:12 “...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.”

PK- We are saved by faith therefore we must live by faith, not by our own strength and abilities, trying harder and working harder has never worked. No, we are to trust and rely on Christ to change our desires and understandings.

Romans 6:3–6, “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness of life**. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.”

PK- So what I understand here is that if we died with Christ then our life is no longer about us, because we are dead to our previous desire and have replaced them with a New Life and desires in Christ, in His desires and will for His plan to be completed in us and through us.

Ephesians 2:4–6, “**But God**, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, **made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved), and

raised us up **together**, and made us sit **together** in the heavenly places **in Christ Jesus**,”

Dr. Gromacki comments, “**In the redemptive program**, God always sees the converted sinner **in Christ**; therefore, whatever Christ has done, is also done in the believer. This divine reckoning becomes real in the life of the sinner at the time of his regeneration, **but he must appropriate this truth daily** in order to live the normal, **victorious Christian life**.”¹

Colossians 3:2, “*Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.*”

PK- We are no longer citizens of this world, but now have our resident citizenship in heaven where our Lord and Savior resides at the right hand of our heavenly Father, this is where our minds should be focused.

1John 3:1-3 “*Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.*

*Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, **but we know** that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him**, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*”

PK- The proper object of seeking includes the presence of God, the holy city, and the total possession of “all spiritual blessings in heavenly places **in Christ**”

Ephesians 1:3 “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with **every spiritual blessing** in the heavenly places **in Christ**”.*

PK- So, as children of God, we should be concentrating on the eternal not the temporal, seeking the thing above and not the things of this fallen world.

¹ Robert Gromacki, [Stand Perfect in Wisdom: An Exposition of Colossians and Philemon](#), The Gromacki Expository Series (The Woodlands, TX: Kress Christian Publications, 2002), 127.

2Corinthians 4:18 *“...while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”*

PK- We have a choice, we can choose the things of this world that are corrupt and disappoint, the things that get lost and can be taken away **or** we can put our hope and trust in the hands of our loving Savior Jesus, which will never fade or get stolen but grow ever brighter bringing us greater Joy and peace as we are transformed day by day into His image.

Colossians 3:3-4, *“For you **died** to this life, and your **real life is hidden with Christ in God.** ⁴And when Christ, **who is your life**, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all His glory.”*

PK- Did you catch that? As we live our lives **with Christ as our whole life**, at His perfect time God’s glory will also be our glory to reside in for ALL eternity. How awesome is that? Living for Jesus, in His will, in His power and for His glory, pleasing Him in all we say, do and think, this is the New Life of the Christian!

Paul in his letter to the Roman church encouraged all believers to *“reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* We can do this because we no longer are under the law with its unattainable burdens that lead to sin and failure, but we live under God’s great grace, free in the liberty of Christ!

So follow along here to what Paul is telling us.

Romans 6:5-14 *“For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also **live with Him**, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin **once for all**; but the*

life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, **reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin**, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.**”

PK- As we live in Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we as believers must make righteous decisions that lead us to a holy pure life. Our flesh will always be with us and we need to be aware of the built-in temptations within us, but we must say “No” to sin and resist the evil that resides within and without, in the world and with Satan the enemy of righteousness.

Colossians 3:5-6, “**So put to death the sinful**, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming.”

The wrath of God is coming... “on the sons of disobedient”

The Greek word for “comes or coming” suggests that God’s wrath has already begun,

John 3:36, “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, **but the wrath of God abides on him.**”

PK- Earlier in John’s gospel he spoke of the condemnation of the unbeliever.

John 3:18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe **is condemned already**, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

PK- Man brings on God's wrath upon himself by the hardening of his heart against the free gift of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Romans 2:5 *“But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself **wrath in the day of wrath** and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,”*

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PK, So to answer the question we stated with, “How am I to live this Christian life? We must begin by, “Putting off the old man and putting on the New man *“in Christ”*. We must mortify, or put it to death our flesh and be raised to a *“New Life In Christ”* that gives us a desire to holiness that pleases our Lord.

1Corinthians 10:31, *“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or **whatever you do, do all** to the glory of God.”*

Let's Pray