



STAN DARD

"For to me, to live is Christ"





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email: OmniGroups@cop.church



- **Celebration Times** Wednesday 6:30pm Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 9:00am & 11:30am
- The Cathedral 2223 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95816
- Children And Youth Complex (CYC) And Mailing Address 2150 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95816

First Time Guests Text Your Full Name to: 916.581.2676

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VOLUME 1 Week 2: One Cross for Two Lives COLOSSIANS 3:1-17 ROMANS 6:1-14

STANDARD: a level of quality or attainment. An idea or thing used as a measure, norm, or model in comparative evaluations. An ensign of war; a staff with a flag or colors.

FIRST WE DIE

Jesus stated in Luke 9:23, *"If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me."* In order to carry The Christ Standard, we must also <u>bear</u> our own personal crosses of humility and surrender. The necessity of doing so actually facilitates a life of the highest standard.

The first part of Colossians 3:3 states, *"For you have died..."* The life referred to here is the *sinful* life born of the lineage of Adam. In order for the justice of a Holy God to be executed, that first life had to be judged and punished unto death (Ez. 18:20, Rom. 6:23). This is what takes place when someone puts their *faith* in Christ Jesus for salvation. When He died on the cross, the sin nature of everyone who has placed faith in Him died also.

THEN WE LIVE

In the spirit realm, death does not equate to ceasing to exist. It means to be separated from God (Gen. 2:17). So while the old nature is spiritually dead, it still exists and is very *active*. It's like a defeated enemy's army that remains on the battle field, or a losing team that refuses to leave the court. In like manner, the sin nature has been defeated but still wages *war* against the will of God (Rom. 7:23).

The second part of Colossians 3:3 says, *"and your life is hidden with Christ in God."* This is the new life the believer is called to live. Your new life is NOT hidden: with Instagram on your smart phone, with following popular trends, or with the religious ritual and political correctness. Your **NEW LIFE** is only found in the One who took care of the OLD LIFE... Jesus Christ!

REPEAT DAILY

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Through Christ we've been equipped with ONE cross for TWO different lives. Jesus' cross took the penalty and punishment for the sins of our Old Life (Rom. 6:6). It Now in essence becomes ours to bear *"daily"* to provide a place for the defeated, yet still existing and active sin nature to *continually* die. Then the New Life, The Christ Standard, can live in each of us freely. (Colossians 3:4-11, Rom. 6:13). Because of this truth the ongoing sin, bad habits and temptations we still struggle with are not *excuses* not to carry The Christ Standard. There's a designated cross for them to go and *die*, so the Christ in us can take His rightful place and live (Phil. 1:21).

HE'S HERE - WORSHIP

The Lord Jesus our Savior is worthy of all praise and glory for bearing His cross and paying for our sins.

HE KNOWS - LEARN

Review Colossians 3:1-17 and Romans 6:1-14. Study and meditate on what it means to have died with Christ and resurrect with Him in power.

HE'S ABLE - SERVE

As you identify the Old Life tendencies and the New Life Christ Standard, crucify the old on the cross and pick up the new embracing it as the banner under which you now live.