



THE THREAD

weaving Sunday's message through the week

Date: February 21, 2021

Passage: Colossians 3:5–11

Theme: Gospel Unity: Removal of Old Humanity

Main Idea: Gospel unity requires that we act like who we truly are in Christ.

What are these actions?

1. Put to death our earthly desires (3:5–7)
 - a. Specifics: sexual immorality; impurity; lust; evil desires
 - b. Reason:
 - i. The covetous motivation behind these is idolatry.
 - ii. God will pour out his wrath on those practicing such actions.
 - iii. We have already died to these earthly desires.
2. Get rid of destructive speech (3:8): anger; rage; malice; slander; and abusive language
3. Put on the truth of who you are in Christ (3:9–11).
 - a. The old humanity has been taken off.
 - b. God is renewing us in knowledge so that we fully bear His image.
 - c. Unity defines us as the new humanity in Christ.

Application Questions:

- If we have already died with Christ (cf. 2:11–12, 20), why is it that we are commanded to put to death the list of things in vv. 5 and 8? Why do we struggle so much with putting these to death?
- How is covetousness idolatry? Is it fair to say that covetousness stands behind the other sins mentioned v. 5? Why or why not?
- How do the negative commands *to put to death* and *get rid of* the actions in vv. 5 and 8 pertain especially to the community of faith (who we are as the church)?
- What types of unity are mentioned in v. 11? How can we as a church and you as an individual believer cultivate these types of unity? What should this look like in our 21st century context?

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