

Abundant Life: Life & Rest in Colossians Pt. 4

Learning to live the abundant life Christ secured for us!

Colossians 2 Review: Raised to New Life

Colossians 2:11-12 New Living Translation

11 When you came to Christ, you were “circumcised,” but not by a physical procedure. Christ performed a spiritual circumcision—the cutting away of your sinful nature.[a] **12 For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized.** And with him you were raised to new life **because you trusted the mighty power of God,** who raised Christ from the dead.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3 New Living Translation Living the New Life

3 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.

- Close your eyes for a moment. Now imagine Jesus appearing in the room right now. How do you see Him? Does He look like the paintings we’ve been shown?
- Now let’s do what Paul instructs in this verse and set our sights on the realities of Heaven
- Revelation 1:9-18 New Living Translation Vision of the Son of Man
9 I, John, am your brother and your partner in suffering and in God’s Kingdom and in the patient endurance to which Jesus calls us. I was exiled to the island of Patmos for preaching the word of God and for my testimony about Jesus. 10 It was the Lord’s Day, and I was worshiping in the Spirit.[a] Suddenly, I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet blast. 11 It said, “Write in a book[b] everything you see, and send it to the seven churches in the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.” 12 When I turned to see who was speaking to me, I saw seven gold lampstands. 13 And standing in the middle of the lampstands was someone like

the Son of Man.[c] He was wearing a long robe with a gold sash across his chest. 14 His head and his hair were white like wool, as white as snow. And his eyes were like flames of fire. 15 His feet were like polished bronze refined in a furnace, and his voice thundered like mighty ocean waves. 16 He held seven stars in his right hand, and a sharp two-edged sword came from his mouth. And his face was like the sun in all its brilliance. 17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as if I were dead. But he laid his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid! I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave.[d]

- Now look! Since we have been raised to life, we can set our sights on the realities of Heaven.
- Yes, our faith is in the totality of who Jesus was and is; however, may we not keep Him in a manger, or still fulfilling His earthly ministry, or on the cross, or in the grave, or even risen alone, but we worship the Christ who has been exalted! Who sits in a place of honor at God’s right hand, interceding for us!

Revelation 19:11-16 New Living Translation The Rider on the White Horse

11 Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war. 12 His eyes were like flames of fire, and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him that no one understood except himself. 13 He wore a robe dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. 15 From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a winepress. 16 On his robe at his thigh[a] was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords.

2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

- We must eat from a higher table, have higher thoughts and values.

- Since we have the mind of Christ, we have access to Heavenly thoughts, seeing life and problems from His perspective.
- We are not a body without a head.

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

- Galatians 2:20 New King James Version
20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

4 And when Christ, who is your[a] life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

5 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you.

- In verse 3, we're told we died to this life, but now we're told to put to death the sinful things lurking/remaining hidden, ready to ambush.
- This is not a contradiction, it is proof of the power over sin we have since Christ, who is our life, lives in us!
- Matthew 16:24 New King James Version
24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.
- S.E.L.F = Satan Evil Lust Flesh
- Satan, I deny you in Jesus' name by taking up my cross and following Jesus. I submit myself to God, resist you, and now you must flee.
- Evil, I deny you in Jesus' name by taking up my cross and following Jesus. My Heavenly Father is not leading me into temptation, and has delivered me from evil.
- Lust, I deny you in Jesus' name by taking up my cross and following Jesus. I am in this world but not of this world. I will not obey lust, but I will be led by the spirit of God.
- Flesh, I deny you in Jesus' name by taking up my cross and following Jesus. My flesh has been crucified with Christ and I have been raised to new life with Him.

- Now remember when we deny ourselves to follow Him, the cross we pick up is not physical, and we don't see Christ as He was when He said it to the disciples.
- 4 And when Christ, who is your[a] life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.
- 5 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you.
- So what are the lurking things?

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. 6 Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming

.[b] 7 You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world.

- This is how we behaved when we were not denying S.E.L.F.

8 But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language.

- When is the time to get rid of it?

9 Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds.

- When and if you came to Christ, you were spiritually circumcised; he cut away your sinful nature, and the power of wickedness went as well.

10 Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.

- The more you learn about God you will become like Him, so don't look at the world set your sights on the realities of Heaven.

11 In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile,[c] circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized,[d] slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.

12 Since God chose you to be the holy people **he loves**, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. 14 Above all, **clothe yourselves with love**, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

16 Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. 17 And whatever you do or say, do it as **a representative of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

Instructions for Christian Households

18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord.

19 Husbands, **love your wives and never treat them harshly.**

20 Children, always obey your parents, **for this pleases the Lord.** 21 Fathers, do not aggravate your children, or they will become discouraged.

22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything you do. Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. Serve them sincerely because of your reverent fear of the Lord. 23 Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. 24 Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.[e] 25 But if you do what is wrong, you will be paid back for the wrong you have done. For God has no favorites.