

Colossians 3:1-5

The Doctrine of Sanctification

3:1- “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”

1487 [e]	3767 [e]	4891 [e]		3588 [e]	5547 [e]	3588 [e]	507 [e]	2212 [e]
Ei	oun	synēgerthēte		tō	Christō	ta	anō	zēteite
1 Eì	οὖν	συνηγέρθητε		τῷ	Χριστῷ	, τὰ	ἄνω	ζητεῖτε ,
If	then	you have been raised with	-	Christ		the things	above	seek
Conj	Conj	V-AIP-2P		Art-DMS	N-DMS	Art-ANP	Adv	V-PMA-2P

3757 [e]	3588 [e]	5547 [e]	1510 [e]	1722 [e]	1188 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	2521 [e]
hou	ho	Christos	estin	en	dexia	tou	Theou	kathēmenos
οὗ	ὁ	Χριστός	ἐστιν	ἐν	δεξιᾷ	τοῦ	Θεοῦ	καθήμενος .
where	-	Christ	is	at [the]	right hand	-	of God	sitting
Adv	Art-NMS	N-NMS	V-PIA-3S	Prep	Adj-DFS	Art-GMS	N-GMS	V-PPM/P-NMS

1. “If” or “Since” is an “if” in the first-class condition in the Greek which means “Assuming you have been raised with Christ, then...”
2. “Since” or “assuming” you have been resurrected to a new domain and are no longer part of this world, think/learn these things and gain understanding of this new life.
3. “...you have been raised” is passive verb
 - a. In 2:12 “raised with Christ” refers to new life with Christ.
 - b. Here “raised with Christ” refers to our potential/obligation.
4. This is written in the imperative which urges/commands the Colossians to:
 - a. Think, learn, understand Christian theology
 - b. Live, do, act Christian theology that you understand.
5. “Set your hearts on things above”
 - a. “Set your hearts” refers to “seeking” and “desiring”
 - b. Seek the things above (Mat. 6:33, “Seek first the kingdom.” And, Mark 7:15)
 - c. “above” is contrasted with “below” in John 3:12-13 with Jesus and Nicodemus.
 - d. Philippians 3:14 “upward call”
 - e. Gal. 4:26 “upward city”
6. “Desire” or “be mindful of” things above as in Romans 12:3 and Philippians 2:5
7. “above” - may be one of the false teachers philosophical phrases that Paul is going to redefine. The mystics want to focus on the hidden heavenly realm above, but Paul is going to define that as:
 - a. Christ - “where Christ is”
 - b. Christ’s domain - “seated at the right hand of God.” Jewish tradition had all other spiritual beings (including priests) standing, but the son sits to share in sovereign rule (Psalm 110:1)

- c. Where the power and glory are “2 Chr. 18:18; Ps. 11:4; Isa. 6:1; Dan. 7:9 and God’s creative power
- d. Defeated all the spiritual powers (2:10, 2:15; 1:16)
- e. Our domain
- f. Location of the treasures

3:2 – “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

3588 [e]	507 [e]	5426 [e]		3361 [e]	3588 [e]	1909 [e]	3588 [e]	1093 [e]
ta	anō	phroneite		mē	ta	epi	tēs	gēs
2 τὰ	ἄνω	φρονεῖτε ,		μὴ	τὰ	ἐπὶ	τῆς	γῆς .
The things	above	set [your] minds on		not	the things	on	the	earth
Art-ANP	Adv	V-PMA-2P		Adv	Art-ANP	Prep	Art-GFS	N-GFS

1. In 2:20 “if you have died with Christ” is now contrasted with “if you have been raised with Christ.”
2. 3:2 is parallel to 3:1:
 - a. “Set your hearts on things above.” (3:1) – means to seek, desire things above
 - b. “Set your minds on things above.” (3:2) – means to transform the mind into obedient submission (Rm.12:1-2)
3. Earthly things
 - a. Contrast with flesh and Spirit
 - b. Above is where Christ is seated to rule contrasts with earthly things that reject Christ and his authority including Paul’s reference to:
 - i. “human tradition” and Christ” in 2:8
 - ii. “shadow” and “substance” in 2:17
4. Rejects the dualistic structure of the false teachers and their ascetic practices that create the false contrast the body and the soul:
 - a. “all things were created by Christ in heaven and earth” 1:16
 - b. “all things were reconciled to Christ by his death.” 1:20
 - c. Thus, there is no dichotomy since Christ is the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of ALL THINGS
5. Paul was critical of the same thing to the Philippians, urging them to avoid earthly things (Phil. 3:19) and thinking and have Christ’s mind:
 - a. Phil. 2:2 – one mind, like minded
 - b. Phil. 3:20 – citizenship in heaven

3:3 – “For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

599 [e]	1063 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	2222 [e]	4771 [e]	2928 [e]	4862 [e]	3588 [e]
apethanete	gar	kai	hē	zōē	hymōn	kekryptai	syn	tō
3 ἀπεθάνετε	γάρ ,	καὶ	ἡ	ζωὴ	ὑμῶν	κέκρυπται	σὺν	τῷ
You have died	for	and	the	life	of you	has been hidden	with	-
V-AIA-2P	Conj	Conj	Art-NFS	N-NFS	PPro-G2P	V-RIM/P-3S	Prep	Art-DMS

5547 [e]	1722 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
Christō	en	tō	Theō
Χριστῷ	ἐν	τῷ	Θεῷ .
Christ	in	-	God
N-DMS	Prep	Art-DMS	N-DMS

1. Close association between you the believer and Christ the risen Lord
2. Security of the believer
3. Hidden along with the treasure in Christ – Colossians 2:3 – “in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”
 - a. This is historical truth rather than mystical
 - b. This true identity is only found in Christ

3:4 – “When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”

3752 [e]	3588 [e]	5547 [e]	5319 [e]	3588 [e]	2222 [e]	4771 [e]	5119 [e]	2532 [e]
hotan	ho	Christos	phanerōthē	hē	zōē	hymōn	tote	kai
4 ὅταν	ὁ	Χριστὸς	φανερωθῆ	, ἡ	ζωὴ	ὑμῶν*	, τότε	καὶ
When	-	Christ	may be revealed	the	life	of you	then	also
Conj	Art-NMS	N-NMS	V-ASP-3S	Art-NFS	N-NFS	PPro-G2P	Adv	Conj

4771 [e]	4862 [e]	846 [e]	5319 [e]	1722 [e]	1391 [e]
hymeis	syn	autō	phanerōthēsesthe	en	doxē
ὑμεῖς	σὺν	αὐτῷ	φανερωθήσεσθε	ἐν	δόξῃ .
you	with	Him	will appear	in	glory
PPro-N2P	Prep	PPro-DM3S	V-FIP-2P	Prep	N-DFS

3:5 – “Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.”

3499 [e]	3767 [e]	3588 [e]	3196 [e]	3588 [e]	1909 [e]	3588 [e]	1093 [e]	4202 [e]	167 [e]
Nekrōsate	oun	ta	melē	ta	epi	tēs	gēs	porneian	akatharsian
5 Νεκρώσατε	οὖν	τὰ	μέλη	τὰ	ἐπὶ	τῆς	γῆς	: πορνείαν ,	ἀκαθαρσίαν ,
Put to death	therefore	the	members	which [are]	upon	the	earth	sexual immorality	impurity
V-AMA-2P	Conj	Art-ANP	N-ANP	Art-ANP	Prep	Art-GFS	N-GFS	N-AFS	N-AFS

3806 [e]	1939 [e]	2556 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	4124 [e]	3748 [e]	1510 [e]	1495 [e]
pathos	epithymian	kakēn	kai	tēn	pleonexian	hētis	estin	eidōlōlatria
πάθος ,	ἐπιθυμίαν	κακῆν ,	καὶ	τὴν	πλεονεξίαν ,	ἧτις	ἐστὶν	εἰδωλολατρία ,
passion	desire	evil	and	-	covetousness	which	is	idolatry
N-ANS	N-AFS	Adj-AFS	Conj	Art-AFS	N-AFS	RelPro-NFS	V-PIA-3S	N-NFS

3:6 – “On account of these the wrath of God is coming.”

1223 [e]	3739 [e]	2064 [e]	3588 [e]	3709 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	1909 [e]	3588 [e]	5207 [e]	3588 [e]	543 [e]
di'	ha	erchetai	hē	orgē	tu	Theou	epi	tous	huiou	tēs	apeitheias
6 δι'	ἅ	ἔρχεται	ἡ	ὀργὴ	τοῦ	Θεοῦ	ἐπὶ	τοὺς	υἱοὺς	τῆς	ἀπειθείας ,
because of	which things	is coming	the	wrath	-	of God	on	the	sons	of	disobedience
Prep	RelPro-ANP	V-PIM/P-3S	Art-NFS	N-NFS	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Prep	Art-AMP	N-AMP	Art-GFS	N-GFS