

## True Spirituality

**Scripture:** Col 3:1-17

**Key Verse:** Colossians 3:1 “Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.”

**Main Idea:** Seek the things that are above.

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**First question:** Why should we set our minds on things that are above?

I. The Reason: We should set our minds on the things that are above because that is our proper response to what God has done for us in Christ.

a. God made us his chosen people.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

i. Because God chose us, he made us holy.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

ii. Because God chose us, he bestowed his love upon us.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

b. God has guaranteed our salvation.

i. Our salvation is safe and secure in God’s hands until the day of resurrection comes.

Colossians 3:2-4 <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

ii. When the day of resurrection comes, we will be made alive with Christ in glory.

Colossians 3:2-4 <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly

things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

c. Christ caused us to die to our old self and be raised as a new person.

i. Christ caused us to die to our old selves.

Colossians 3:9-10 <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Colossians 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. (this is also found in Rom 6:4)

Also...

Romans 6:6-7 <sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— <sup>7</sup> because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

It is a marvelous thing that Christ has put to death our old selves, because..

1. The deeds of the old self only brought wrath.

Colossians 3:5-6 <sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup> Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

2. We were previously bound to walk in those ways.

Colossians 3:7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.

3. This theological truth of our death to the old self should manifest itself in our actions.

ii. Christ caused us to rise as our new selves.

Colossians 3:9-10 <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

1. We have been raised with Christ.

Colossians 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

Colossians 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

2. The new self is now being renewed into the image of the Creator.

Colossians 3:9-10 <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

3. In raising us to new life with him, he has destroyed all barriers that separate us from one another.

Colossians 3:11 Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

4. How then could we not seek things above, if they have now been made possible?

- d. Christ cares about the things in the heavenly realm, where he is now.

Colossians 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Therefore, in gratitude, we should be concerned with the things that Christ cares about.

**Second question:** How exactly are we supposed to “set our hearts on things that are above”?

- I. The Way: We seek the things that are above by eliminating all earthly desires and putting on godly characteristics.

- a. We remove all of our earthly desires/attributes.

Colossians 3:5 Put to death [or “consider as dead” –NASB], therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3:8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

- i. We remove all sexual immorality.

Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

- ii. We remove all impurity.

Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

- iii. We remove all lust.

Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

- iv. We remove all evil desires.

Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

- v. We remove all greed.

Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

- vi. We remove all anger.

Colossians 3:8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

- vii. We remove all rage.

Colossians 3:8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

- viii. We remove all malice.

Colossians 3:8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

- ix. We remove all slander.

Colossians 3:8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

- x. We remove all obscene talk.

Colossians 3:8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

- xi. We remove all lies from our lips.

Colossians 3:9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices.

- b. We put on Godly characteristics.

- i. We clothe ourselves with compassion.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

- ii. We clothe ourselves with kindness.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

- iii. We clothe ourselves with humility.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

- iv. We clothe ourselves with gentleness.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

- v. We clothe ourselves with patience.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

- vi. We clothe ourselves with forgiveness.

Colossians 3:13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

- vii. We clothe ourselves with love.

Colossians 3:14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

- viii. We clothe ourselves with peace.

Colossians 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

- ix. We clothe ourselves with thankfulness.

Colossians 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- x. We clothe ourselves with the word of Christ.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

- 1. We demonstrate that Christ's word dwells in us when we instruct others with godly wisdom.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

2. We demonstrate that Christ's word dwells in us when we sing in our hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

- xi. We clothe ourselves with Godly purpose.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Conclusion: