



Sexual idolatry in the bible

While many of us think lightly of pornography, porn use has substantial spiritual ramifications. In this episode of Man Talk, Vince Miller is joined by Irving Woolf, professional counselor with Hopewell Counseling and founder of Purity Platoon a men's purity ministry which has helped thousands of men find victory over sexual sin. Today we hear Irv's thoughts on idolatry and adultery in the Bible. PODCAST: TRANSCRIPT: Vince: This is Resolute, and Man Talk. I am Vince Miller, your founder, and host. And today we're looking at the topic of sexual addiction and idolatry. Gentlemen, welcome to Man Talk, by Resolute. If this is your first time tuning in, well thank you for joining us. Here at Man Talk, we discuss every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 15 minute topics relevant to Christian men. This is because, at Resolute.org. We have a number of great tools for men leading men, including a new small group series that we know you would love. Check it all out at beresolute.org/mantalk. And you'll find all of our podcasts, feeds, and connections to social media. But now, let's dive in. Well, I'm excited to introduce to you today, my good friend, Irv Woolf. He is the President and Founder of Hopewell Counseling, based in Maple Grove, Minnesota. He has also founded his own men's ministry, entitled, "Purity Platoon," which has helped thousands of men battle for purity in their lives. Today Irv counsels with men on a regular basis. So Irv, welcome to the show. Irv: It's good to be with you, Vince. It's my delight and joy to be able to talk about these kinds of topics because they're important. Vince: Oh man, this stuff is of critical importance. I think guys want to hear us talk about sexual immorality, adultery, lust - all these topics. Because, to be quite honest - we have a hard time talking about this stuff together. And sometimes when we hear people talk about it, without us necessarily being present in the room - it gives us time to process, right? Irv: Right. Vince: And I think sometimes guys need to be drawn out by that. So we're praying for all you guys out there listening today. Irv, I want today to get into adultery and idolatry. I think these are very powerful words throughout the Bible. In fact, the word, "idolatry" is deeply connected to sexual compulsions, believe it or not - throughout the entire Bible. Guys may not be familiar with that. But can you please just give us a brief overview of what is idolatry. Irv: Yeah. Idolatry is worshiping anything other than the Lord God. And you can worship it in a variety of ways. You can simply worship it with your time and your energy and your thought life. Or you can create something out of silver, gold or wood or stone - and begin to bow down to it, and offer food sacrifices to it and all of that kind of thing. Vince: That's - and by the way, I'm- I don't mean to interrupt you, but I think this is important. Because I think most guys only think about it as the latter. They only think about it as this object that we worship, and they don't bring it closer to home, right? Irv: Sure. It's easy to make an idol out of your work. Vince: There you go. Irv: I had one client who worked 108 hours a week. Vince: Holy smokes. Irv: Well there's only 168 in the whole week, but he's spending 108 focused on his God. And his God was his work. Other people make money and materialism and Mammon their idol. And that's what they serve, and what they bow down to. For other people, it's sexuality. And for sex addicts, in particular, they would say sex is their most important need. And they're focused on it most of the day. In fact, some will spend anywhere from 3 to 6 hours looking at pornography on the computer. Vince: Wow. Irv: So they're occupying huge amounts of time, wasting their lives on this God who won't ever satisfy them. Never will. something to do with how we objectify these things, how we turn to them, the compulsions that we have with them. That we can become psychologically, behaviorally, spiritually addicted to these things. We may not see it as this wood object that we're worshiping, but you're saying - in essence, it really is. Irv: Yes. Vince: We are, we're bowing to the God of our sexuality. Trying to get our needs met there, and then we keep coming up - well, empty-handed - if you can pardon the metaphor there. But we keep coming up empty handed, right? And we're trying to figure out how to- We may not really see these things as idolatry, but it really is. Irv: Yes. Vince: And how does that come and- How does that come between us in a relationship with God, and how does God view this? Irv: Well you can't serve 2 Gods. You have to make a choice. And that goes back to the 10 Commandments. You can't make an image of God, nor can you - in turn, serve anyone other than the Lord God. That's idolatry, to serve something else. And really what we've got is God-substitutes. These are God-substitutes. So I don't have to believe in God, I've got God substitutes that I worship and precedence over everything and anyone." Vince: Yeah. Irv: And that becomes - in which, now I'm worship my family takes priority and precedence over everything and anyone." Vince: Yeah. Irv: And that becomes - in which, now I'm worship my family takes priority and precedence over everything and anyone." Vince: Yeah. Irv: And that becomes - in which, now I'm worship my family takes priority and precedence over everything and anyone." Vince: Yeah. Irv: And that becomes - in which, now I'm worship my family takes priority and precedence over everything and anyone." Vince: Yeah. Irv: And that becomes - in which, now I'm worship my family takes priority and precedence over everything and anyone." Vince: Yeah. Irv: And that becomes - in which, now I'm worship my family takes priority and precedence over everything and anyone." Vince: Yeah. 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Irv: And that becomes - in which my family takes priority and precedence over everything any family takes priority and precedence over everything any family takes priority any family takes priority and precedence over everything any famil There's an interesting passage in Psalm 135. It says, "The idols of the nations are silver and gold made by human hands. They have mouths. Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in their mouths. They have mouths. It's our God-substitute. And now we are serving it. And it is our God, and we are worshiping it with our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Vince: That is fascinating. When you talk about it, we're really serving yourself, and we come up empty handed every single time. And like you say - we have to make a choice. We can either serve God, or we can serve these other things. And in some cases, they are real things that we worship. In this case, we know we're talking about our human sexuality, or we're talking about our career or money or all these other things. And we have turned them into God because we devoted all of who we are - heart, mind, soul, and strength, right? Which is what God demands from us. And you know what's interesting about this image? Let's continue with the sexual metaphor throughout the entire Bible. God says that when we give ourselves to these things, not only do we become like them, right? Like you're saying in Psalm 135 Irv: Yeah. Vince: But that action is called adultery. Isn't that interesting? Irv: Yeah. Vince: That God refers to it almost in a sexual way. You - my idolizing, you're engaging in the activity of adultery. Irv: Yeah. Vince: Which we only think about that in relationship to husband and wife and then-Irv: Yeah. Vince: Committing an act outside of that oneness-Irv: Yeah. Vince: But God takes that oneness metaphor, and that separation and that act of separation - calls it adultery- Irv: Yeah. Vince: In relationship to this particular situation, right? Irv: Yeah. Well, and he says in James 4:4. "He would be a friend of the world, makes himself an enemy of God." And then he says that it's adultery, "You adulteresses." Don't you know that friendship in the world is enmity with God? So you can't love the world and love God. You have to make a choice. And men oftentimes choose what they can see, hear, taste, smell. Vince: Right. Irv: All the 5 senses. Vince: Right. Okay, so let me throw out something. And I've said this, as I've spoken at conferences with men - I know you're going to agree on, agree with it based on what you just said. But I - I have turned to many men that have struggled deeply with this. And I've had to look them in the eyes with the deepest love and say to them, "If you continue doing this at the behavior pace that you're doing it right now, I hate to break you the news, but you don't love God. Irv: Yeah. Vince: And guys are almost agasp when I say that to them. But it is the bottom line truth. For us to go out and commit adultery of any kind - sexual, or in this case - with any kind of object. Even something manufactured by our own mind, our heart we're committing adultery. Which is to say to God, "I hate you." Irv: Yeah. And it's basically making yourself an enemy of God. Now God's got to fight you. He's got to oppose you to get your heart. He wants your heart back. And you have run after an idol. Vince: Yeah. It's not - and we don't want to be enemies, God. That's a losing battle right there. And the best part about it is God does want us to love him. Like he- Irv: Yeah. Vince: He wants us to come to a place, where we can see that God will give us over to ourselves. If we want to sin, he will give us over to our sin. And then our sin will become a judgment unto ourselves. Irv: Yeah. Vince: Right? As Paul has laid out so beautifully throughout the entire book of Romans. If you want to sin and you want to sin and you want to live in sin - well God will give you over to that sin, and then you will live under the law - Galatians 5. Irv: Yeah. Vince: But if you want freedom, and you want life - you will live by the spirit, and you will fall in love with him. And you'll become sensitive and conscious to God. And you will not commit adultery of any kind - sexual immorality or even sexual addiction or idolizing pornography - or whatever it is. Irv: Sure. Vince: We will cut that off, and we will turn our love toward God. And that is a very hard feat, I think for guys. Irv: Yeah, I do too. I think for an awful lot of guys, it's easier to run hard after what I can see and what I can taste and what I can see him, I can't taste him, I can't taste him, smell him - maybe he's not even really there? So that feeds into unbelief. And the idol, I can see. Vince: Yeah. Irv: I mean - if I work hard, if I work 108 hours a week, I'm probably going to get promoted. Vince: Yeah. Irv: Somebody's going to recognize, buy it - for sure, I'm going to make a ton of money. Vince: Yeah. Irv: And that's validating to my ego. Vince: Yeah. Irv: That makes me feel like I'm really valid, and I'm doing a great job. Vince: Yeah. And maybe that's it? Maybe it's because we're really struggling, as it says in Galatians 5? Between the things that we cannot see. And of course, it's easier for us to worship the things that we can see, rather than the things we cannot see. Where God is pleading with us. He's pleading with us to lean into him, to trust in Him. I - it makes me think of a couple of verses here, as we begin to close, Irvine. I'm so grateful for your wisdom and for some of the things they delight in do not profit." Irv: Yeah. Vince: Stop it. Irv: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Vince: Stop it. Irv: Yeah. Vince: That's one of the verses that - this makes me think of Leviticus 19:4 says, "Do not turn to idols or make for yourself any Gods of cast metal. I am the Lord, your God. Their God is pleading with us. Can you hear His voice?" Irv: Yeah. Vince: That's His voice. God says, "Do not turn to idols or make for yourself any Gods of cast metal. I am the Lord, your God. Their God is pleading with us. Can you hear His voice?" Irv: Yeah. Vince: That's His voice. God says, "Do not turn to idols or make for yourself any Gods of cast metal. I am the Lord, your God. Their God is pleading with us. Can you hear His voice?" Irv: Yeah. Vince: That's His voice. God says, "Do not turn to idols or make for yourself any Gods of cast metal. 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Their God is pleading with us. Can you hear His voice?" Irv: Yeah. Vince: That's His voice. God says, "Do not turn to idols or make for yourself any God says, "Do not turn to idols or make for yourself any God. Their God. Their God is pleadin turn to idols of any kind." Now we're not just talking about metal, we're talking about anything that we manufacture in our mind. 'Cause that's where everything comes from the desires of our heart, right? All these things that are manufactured in our world come from our heart. They come from our mind. We manufacture them in our mind. And in Psalm 16:4, says, "The sorrows of those who run after another God shall multiply." Irv: Yeah. Vince: "Their sadness - their emptiness will multiply. Their drink offerings of blood, I will not pour out or take the name - or take their names on my lips. God will not even bless them, he will have nothing to do with them." Oh man, these are things we don't want to do, gentlemen. Turn your love toward God. Worship him only. Do not engage in the idolatry of your heart, where sin begins. Guys, turn away. Heed Irv's advice, heed God's advice. There are not 2 Gods that you can worship. You cannot worship God and Mammon, the things of this world. So, guys, we'll leave it there with you today. And I pray that if you need a heart change, that you will seek Him with all your heart, mind, soul and strength today. For he is the Lord, your God. And that's the show, thanks for listening. As we close today, I want to remind you of a couple of things. First, if you want to connect with Irv, you can do so at Hopewell Counseling. There are links on this podcast if you'd like to connect directly with him. Also, as we close, I want to remind you that we have great content for your men's groups. Excellent small group videos and participant handbooks that will empower the men of your church to lead. Check it all out at beresolute.org/free-trial. That's free dash trial. And yes, I will see to it that you get a free trial and a Resolute Men's study guide to go with it. So, guys, I hope you enjoyed this episode of Man Talk, but please know that the time that we spent together today is worthless, unless you choose to act on it. So do something today - by getting off the bench, and into the game. And I'll see you right back here next time on another edition of Man Talk. New International VersionPut to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. New Living TranslationSo put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. English Standard VersionPut to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desires, which is idolatry. Berean Study BiblePut to death, therefore, the components of your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which is idolatry, King James BibleMortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry. New American Standard BibleTherefore, treat the parts of your earthly body as dead to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.NASB 1995Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.NASB 1977 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. Amplified BibleSo put to death and deprive of power the evil longings of your earthly body [with its sensual, self-centered instincts] immorality, impurity, sinful passion, evil desire, and greed, which is [a kind of] idolatry [because it replaces your devotion to God]. Christian Standard BibleTherefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.American Standard VersionPut to death therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry;Aramaic Bible in Plain EnglishKill therefore your members that are in Earth: fornication, impurity, diseases, wicked desires, greed (which is idol worship),Contemporary English VersionDon't be controlled by your body. Kill every desire for the wrong kind of sex. Don't be immoral or indecent or have evil thoughts. Don't be greedy, which is the same as worshiping idols. Douay-Rheims BibleMortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, lust, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is the service of idols. English Revised VersionMortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desires at work in you, such as sexual immorality, indecency, lust, evil passions, and greed (for greed is a form of idolatry). GOD'S WORD® TranslationTherefore, put to death whatever is worldly in you: your sexual sin, perversion, passion, lust, and greed (which is the same thing as worshiping wealth). International Standard VersionSo put to death your worldly impulses: sexual sin, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). Literal Standard VersionPut to death, then, your members that [are] on the earth—whoredom, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and the covetousness, which is idolatry—NET BibleSo put to death whatever in your nature belongs to the earth: sexual immorality, impurity, shameful passion, evil desire, and greed which is idolatry.New Heart English BiblePut to death, therefore, whatever is worldly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Weymouth New TestamentTherefore put to death your earthward inclinations--fornication, impurity, sensual passion, unholy desire, and all greed, for that is a form of idolatry. World English BiblePut to death therefore your members which are on the earth: sexual immorality, uncleanness, depraved passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry; Young's Literal Translations Put to death, then, your members that are upon the earth -- whoredom, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and the covetousness, which is idolatry -- Additional Translations ...Page 2(15) The peace of God.--The true reading is the peace of Christ--that which He gives (John 14:27), that which He is (see Ephesians 2:14). The ordinary reading is, no doubt, borrowed from Philippians 4:7. This verse forms a link between the preceding exhortation to a loving and thankful service of God. The "peace of Christ" is the sense of unity in Him, with our fellow-men and with God. We are "called to it in one Body," of which He is the Head. (Comp. the fuller treatment of this subject in Ephesians 2:14-22; where, in accordance with the whole character of that Epistle, the unity "in one Body," here only alluded to, is worked out in vividness and detail.) Verse 15. - And let the peace of Christ be umpire in your hearts (Colossians 1:14, 20-22; Colossians 2:13-18; Romans 5:1, 10; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Acts 10:36; Hebrews 13:20; Philippians 3:14). "Of God," the reading of the Received Text, is borrowed from Philippians 4:7, where, however, "in Christ Jesus" follows (comp. ver. 13 b, and Ephesians 4:32). "The peace of Christ" is that which he effects in reconciling men to God, and to himself as their Lord (ver. 13 b; Colossians 1:2), see note; Romans 5:1). Here is the source of inner tranquility and health of soul (see note on "peace," Colossians 1:2); Romans 8:6-9; John 16:33); and of the outward union and harmony of the Church, the body of Christ (Ephesians 2:16; Ephesians 4:2, 3; Romans 14:15-19; Romans 15:7). In John 14:27, on the other hand, Christ's peace, his "legacy," is that which he possessed and exemplified - an idea foreign to this context. This "peace" is to "act as umpire" in the Christian's heart. The compound κατα βρά-βεύω ("act as umpire against you") has already been used in Colossians 2:18 (see note; also Philippians 3:14, cognate $\beta \rho \alpha \beta \epsilon \tilde{i} \sigma \nu$) of the false teacher who, in condemning the faith of the Colossian Christians as insufficient for the attaining of "perfectness" (ver. 14) without angel worship, etc., virtually took away their prize and judged them "unworthy of eternal life." The Greek commentators seem, therefore, to be right, as against most moderns (but see Klopper on the other side), in retaining the primary sense of the verb instead of generalizing it into "rule" or the like. It stands in precise antithesis, both of sense and sound, to Colossians 2:18: "Let not the deceivers decide against you, but let the peace of Christ decide in your hearts" (Cramer's 'Catena'). "The peace of Christ" dwelling within the heart is to be the security of the Colossian believer against the threats of false teachers: "They seek to rob you of it." Present, conscious peace with God is a warrant of the Christian's hope of everlasting life (Romans 5:1-11; Romans 8:31-39; Romans 15:13; Ephesians 1:13, 14; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Titus 3:7). This assurance is identical with "the witness of the Spirit" (Romans 8:15, 16; Galatians 4:6, 7; Ephesians 1:13, 14). The apostle argued in Colossians 1:4, 5 from the present faith and love of his readers to "the hope laid up for them in heaven;" here he bids them find in the peace which Christ has brought to their souls the earnest of their future bliss. It is but a generalizing of the same idea when he speaks in Philippians 4:7 of "the peace of God" as "garrisoning the heart and doubt. Unto which also ye were called, in one body (Colossians 1:12, 18; Colossians 2:2; Ephesians 4:14-18, 1-6; Philippians 1:27, 28; 1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 12:12, 13; Romans 12:5). So this "peace" is to be at once their inward safeguard, and the ground of their outward union. They are to stand together in its defence (Philippians 1:27, 28). Error, which blights the Church's hope, destroys her unity. So the maintenance of that "one hope of our calling," assured by a Divine peace within the soul, unites all Christian hearts in a common cause (compare the connection of vers. 18 and 19 in Colossians 2.). With St. Paul, the peace of God's children with him and with each other is so essentially one that he speaks almost indistinguishably of both (Ephesians 2:15, 16; 2 Corinthians 13:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:16). He adds, and be ye thankful (Colossians 1:3-5, 12; Colossians 3:17; Colossians 3:17; Colossians 3:17; Colossians 3:17; Colossians 1:3-5: comp. 1:12-14). The command to give thanks prevails in this Epistle, as that to rejoice in Philippians. "Be" is the Greek y(voµau ("become"); so in Ephesians 5:1, 17. It implies "striving after an aim as not yet realized" (Meyer: comp. John 15:8) - rather, therefore, "to be in act," "to prove" or "show one's self thankful" (see Grimm's 'Lexicon;' and comp. Romans 3:4; Luke 10:36). Parallel Commentaries ...Greek {Let] then (hē)Article - Nominative Feminine SingularStrong's 3588: The, the definite article; the.peacecion(v) (eirēnē)Noun - Nominative Feminine SingularStrong's 1515: Probably from a primary verb eiro; peace; by implication, prosperity of ChristXριστοῦ (Christou)Noun - Genitive Masculine SingularStrong's 5547: Anointed One; the Messiah, an epithet of Jesus.ruleβραβευέτω (brabeuetō)Verb - Present Imperative Active - 3rd Person SingularStrong's 1018: (lit: to act as arbiter in the games), I rule, arbitrate. From the same as brabeion; to arbitrate, i.e. to govern.inżv (en)PrepositionStrong's 1722: In, on, among. A primary preposition denoting position, and instrumentality, i.e. A relation of rest; 'in, ' at, on, by, etc.yourvuuw (hymon)Personal / Possessive Pronoun - Genitive 2nd Person PluralStrong's 4771: You. The person pronoun of the second person singular; thou.hearts, kap δ(a) (kardiais)Noun - Dative Feminine PluralStrong's 1519: A primary preposition; to or into, of place, time, or purpose; also in adverbial phrases.thisi)v (hen)Personal / Relative Pronoun - Accusative Feminine SingularStrong's 3739: Who, which, what, that. you were calledἐκλήθητε (eklēthēte)Verb - Aorist Indicative Passive - 2nd Person PluralStrong's 1722: In, on, among. A primary preposition denoting position, and instrumentality, i.e. A relation of rest; 'in, ' at, on, by, etc.oneέν (heni)Adjective - Dative Neuter SingularStrong's 4983: Body, flesh; the body of the Church. From sozo; the body, used in a very wide application, literally or figuratively.Andκαì (kai)ConjunctionStrong's 2532: And, even, also, namely. beyίνεσθε (ginesthe)Verb - Present Imperative Middle or Passive - 2nd Person PluralStrong's 1096: A prolongation and middle voice form of a primary verb; to cause to be, i.e. to become, used with great latitude.thankful.εὐχάριστοι (eucharistoi)Adjective - Nominative Masculine PluralStrong's 2170: Thankful, grateful. From eu and a derivative of charizomai; well favored, i.e. grateful.Jump to PreviousBelonging Body Christ Gives Hearts Indeed Members Peace Praise Preside Purpose Questionings Rule Ruling Settle Thankful TimesJump to NextBelonging Body Christ Gives Hearts Indeed Members Peace Praise Preside Purpose Questionings Rule Ruling Settle Thankful, grateful. From eu and a derivative of charizomai; well favored, i.e. grateful. Members Peace Praise Preside Purpose Questionings Rule Ruling Settle Thankful TimesLinksColossians 3:15 NIVColossians 3:15 BibleApps.comColossians 3:15 BibleApps.comColossians 3:15 Chinese BibleColossians 3:15 French BibleColossians 3:15 Chinese BibleColossians 3:15 KJVColossians 3:15 Chinese BibleColossians 3:15 KJVColossians QuotationsNT Letters: Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule (Coloss. Col Co) Page 3(14) Above all.--Properly, over all--as a bond or cincture to keep all together. Love is the general principle, harmonising all the special graces named above. The bond of perfectness.--The bond of that harmony of character which is perfection. The phrase is remarkable, apparently suggested by the claim to perfection, set up by the Gnostic teachers. They sought such perfection in knowledge peculiar to the few; St. Paul in the love which is possible to all. For as he elsewhere urges (1Corinthians 8:1)," Knowledge puffs up, charity builds up;" knowledge peculiar to the few; St. Paul in the love which is possible to all. For as he elsewhere urges (1Corinthians 8:1)," Knowledge peculiar to the few; St. Paul in the love which is possible to all. perfection.Verse 14. - And over all these things (put on) love, which (thing) is the bond of perfectness (Colossians 2:2; Philippians 2:2; 1 Corinthians 13:8-10; 2 Peter 1:7; 1 John 4:7-21; John 13:34, 35). In 1 Corinthians 13: "love" is the substance or substratum of the Christian virtues; in Galatians 5:22 it is their head and beginning; here it is that which embraces and completes them. They imply love, but it is more than them all together. They lie within its circumference; wanting it, they fall to pieces and are nothing. (For συνδεσμός ("bond" or "band"), comp. Colossians 2:19.) In Ephesians 4:3 we have the "bond of peace" (see next verse). Love is the bond in the active sense, as that wherewith the constituents of a Christian character or the members of a Church are bound together: peace, in a passive sense, as that wherewith the constituents of a Christian character or the members of a Church are bound together: peace, in a passive sense, as that where in the union consists (comp. 1 Corinthians 1:10; 2 Corinth article - being that eminent, essential grace of Christian love (Colossians 1:4, 8; Colossians 2:2; 1 Corinthians 13; 1 John 4:16, etc.). "Perfectness" is genitive of object, not of quality: love unifies the elements of Christian goodness and gives them in itself their "perfectness" (Romans 13:10). (For "perfectness" is genitive of object," Colossians 1:28; and comp. 4:12.) Against Galatian teachers of knowledge, the apostle had magnified the supremacy of love (Galatians 5:6; 1 Corinthians 8:1-3); and so against the Colossian mysticism and asceticism he sets it forth as the crown of spiritual perfection, the goal of human excellence (comp. Ephesians 4:15, 16). Parallel Commentaries ...GreekAndδè (de)ConjunctionStrong's 1161: A primary particle; but, and, etc.overέπì (epi)PrepositionStrong's 3956: All, the whole, every kind of. Including all the forms of declension; apparently a primary word; all, any, every, the whole.these [virtues]τούτοις (toutois)Demonstrative Pronoun - Dative Neuter PluralStrong's 3778: This; he, she, it. [put on] love, i.e. Affection or benevolence; specially a love-feast.whichő (ho)Personal / Relative Pronoun - Nominative Neuter SingularStrong's 3739: Who, which, what, that. isέστιν (estin)Verb - Present Indicative Active - 3rd Person SingularStrong's 1510: I am, exist. [the] bondσύνδεσμος (syndesmos)Noun - Nominative Masculine SingularStrong's 4886: That which binds together; a band, bond From sun and desmon; a joint tie, i.e. Ligament, uniting principle, control.of perfect unity. reflection, maturity. From teleios; completeness.Jump to PreviousAdd Binds Bond Charity Completely Harmony Joined Love Perfect Perfectness Together Union Unity Virtues Walk WayJump to NextAdd Binds Bond Charity Completely Harmony Joined Love Perfect Perfection Perfectness 3:14 NIXColossians 3:14 RIVColossians 3:14 RIV 3:14 Chinese BibleColossians 3:14 French BibleColossians 3:14 French BibleColossians 3:14 Clyx QuotationsNT Letters: Colossians 3:14 Above all these things walk in love (Coloss. Col Co) Page 4(13) Even as Christ forgave you.--The MS. authority is in favour of the word "Lord" instead of Christ; but since the name "Lord" instead of Chri example, Ephesians 4:5) there is no real difference. In Ephesians 4:31 we have "God in Christ, as Son of Man, is afterwards to be set forth emphatically as an example of self-sacrifice (Colossians 3:2), and hence the free mercy of forgiveness is naturally attributed to "God in Christ." Here, in accordance with the emphatic exaltation of Christ, as all in all, the simpler phrase "Christ (or, the Lord) forgave you" is employed. Verse 13. - Bearing with one another, and forgiving each other (literally, yourselves), if any one have a complaint against any (Ephesians 5:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:1; 1 Th 2:10; Matthew 6:14, 15; Matthew 18:21-35; Mark 11:25; Luke 17:3, 4). (On "bearing with" or "forbearing," see 1 Corinthians 11:19, 20; Matthew 17:17.) It is ascribed to God, with "long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering," especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering, "especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering, "especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; Romans 3:26: comp. Acts 17:30). Long-suffering, "especially as shown in his dealing with the sins of men before the coming of Christ (Romans 2:4; R suffering may be shown towards all who do us injury; forbearance especially towards those from whom regard or obedience is due. It falls short of forgiveness, which can only ensue on repentance (Luke 17:3, 4: comp. Romans 3:25, 26; Acts 17:30). The change of pronoun in the two participial clauses appears also in Ephesians 4:2 and 32: the first is reciprocal, but the second is reflexive, implying the oneness of the forgiving and the forgiving a Christian brother, it is as though a man were forgiving a Christian brother, it is as though a man were forgiving and the forgiven party. Forgiven set of Divine forgiveness many se Colossians 2:13 (see note). The words, "if any have any complaint," etc., would certainly apply to Philemon 1:18, 19: comp. 2 Corinthians 2:5-11; Mark 11:25). Even as the Lord (or, Christ) forgave you, so also ye (Colossians 2:13; Ephesians 1:7; Romans 3:24-26; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Acts 13:38; Acts 5:31) 1 John 1:9; Matthew 9:1-8; Matthew 18:27; Exodus 34:6, 7; Psalm 103:3). This argument is latent in the appeal to the "elect" and "beloved" of ver. 12. The evidence for the alternative readings, "Lord" and that he forgave (comp. Colossians 1:20, note) is quite consistent with the assertion that God forgave (Colossians 2:13), for God forgave "in Christ reconciled us" (Colossians 1:20, 21; Ephesians 2:16). "Forgiving," supplied in thought from previous context, completes the sense of "so also ye" (Meyer, Alford, Ellicott). To suppose an ellipsis of the imperative, with Light foot and the English Version ("do ye"), is needlessly to break the structure of the sentence. Ver. 14 shows that the leading imperative, "put on," of ver. 12 is still in the writer's mind. For the reciprocal double $\kappa\alphai$ ("even.., also"), comp. Colossians 1:6 or Romans 1:13; it is characteristic of the writer. Parallel Commentaries ...GreekBear with ανεχόμενοι (anechomenoi)Verb - Present Participle Middle or Passive - Nominative Masculine PluralStrong's 430: To endure, bear with, have patience with, suffer, admit, persist. each other αλλήλων (allelon)Personal / Reciprocal Pronoun - Genitive Masculine PluralStrong's 430: To endure, bear with, be One another, each other. Genitive plural from allos reduplicated; one another.andκαì (kai)ConjunctionStrong's 2532: And, even, also, namely. forgive, (c) To show kindness. [any]τις (tis)Interrogative / Indefinite Pronoun - Nominative Masculine SingularStrong's 5100: Any one, some one, a certain one or thing. An enclitic indefinite pronoun; some or any person or object.complaintµoµφήν (momphēn)Noun - Accusative Feminine SingularStrong's 3437: A complaintµoµφήν (momphēn)Noun - Accusative Feminine SingularStrong (momphēn)Noun - Accusative Feminine SingularStrong (momphēn)Noun - Accusative Feminine Singula have žχη (echē) Verb - Present Subjunctive Active - 3rd Person SingularStrong's 2192: To have, hold, possess. Including an alternate form scheo skheh'-o; a primary verb; to hold.againstπρός (pros) PrepositionStrong's 4314: To, towards, with. A strengthened form of pro; a preposition of direction; forward to, i.e. Toward.one another.τινα (tina)Interrogative / Indefinite Pronoun - Accusative Masculine SingularStrong's 5100: Any one, some one, a certain one or thing. An enclitic indefinite pronoun - Nominative 2nd Person PluralStrong's 4771: You. The person pronoun of the second person singular; thou.asκαθώς (kathos)AdverbStrong's 2531: According to the manner in which, in the degree that, just as, as. From kata and hos; just as, that.theo (ho)Article - Nominative Masculine SingularStrong's 3588: The, the definite article; the.LordKύριος (Kyrios)Noun Nominative Masculine SingularStrong's 2962: Lord, master, sir; the Lord. From kuros; supreme in authority, i.e. controller; by implication, Master.forgaveέχαρίσατο (echarisato)Verb - Aorist Indicative Middle - 3rd Personal / Possessive Pronoun - Dative 2nd Person PluralStrong's 4771: You. The person pronoun of the second person singular; thou.Jump to PreviousBear Bearing Christ Complaint Forbearing Forgave Forgive Forgiven Forgiveness Forgiving Gentle Grievance Other Quarrel Readily Whatever WrongLinksColossians 3:13 NIVColossians 3:13 NIV QuotationsNT Letters: Colossians 3:13 Bearing with one another and forgiving each (Coloss. Col Co) Page 5New International VersionTherefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. New Living TranslationSince God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. English Standard VersionPut on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with hearts of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.Berean Literal BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on hearts of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,King James BiblePut on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;New King James VersionTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;New American Standard BibleSo, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience;NASB 1995So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; NASB 1977 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put of the second secon sanctified for His purpose] and well-beloved [by God Himself], put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience [which has the power to endure whatever injustice or unpleasantness comes, with good temper]; Christian Standard BibleTherefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and dearly loved, put on compassion, kindness humility, gentleness, and patience, Holman Christian Standard VersionPut on therefore, as God's elect, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, longsuffering; Aramaic Bible in Plain EnglishPut on, therefore, as the chosen ones of God, holy and beloved, mercy and compassion, kindness and humility of mind, gentleness and long-suffering; Contemporary English VersionGod loves you and has chosen you as his own special people. So be gentle, kind, humble, meek, and patient. Douay-Rheims BiblePut ye on therefore, as the elect of God, holy, and beloved, the bowels of mercy, benignity, humility, modesty, patience: English Revised VersionPut on therefore, as God's elect, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; Good News TranslationYou are the people of God; he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. GOD'S WORD® TranslationAs holy people whom God has chosen and loved, be sympathetic, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. International Standard VersionTherefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and loved, be sympathetic, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. International Standard VersionTherefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and loved, be sympathetic, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. patience. Literal Standard VersionPut on, therefore, as chosen ones of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with a heart of mercy, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, meekness, long-suffering,NET BibleTherefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, yearnings of mercies, kindness, humble-mindedness, on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, gentleness, kindness, low people holy and dearly loved, with tender-heartedness, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, low people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, gentleness, how people holy and beloved, how people holy and how people holy and how people holy and how people holy and how chosen ones, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility, and perseverance; Young's Literal Translation Put on, therefore, as choice ones of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, holy and beloved, holy and above, not on earthly things.New Living TranslationThink about the things of heaven, not the things above, not on things that are on earth. English Standard VersionSet your minds on things that are on earthly things. New Living TranslationThink above, not the things above, not the things of heaven, not the things above, not the things above, not the things above, not on earthly things. Serean Literal BibleSet your minds on the things above, not the things ab on the earth.King James BibleSet your affection on things on the earth.New King James VersionSet your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.NASB 1995Set your minds on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.New King James SibleSet your minds on the things above, not on the things above, not on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.New King James VersionSet your minds on the things above, not on the things above, n that are on earth.NASB 1977 Set your mind on the things above, not on things that are on earth.Amplified BibleSet your mind and keep focused habitually on the things above, not on things above, not on earthly things.Holman Christian Standard BibleSet your minds on what is above, not on the earth.American Standard VersionThink about that which is above and not that which is in The Earth,Contemporary English VersionThink about what is up there, not about what is here on earth. Douay-Rheims BibleMind the things that are above, not the things that are upon the earth. Good News TranslationKeep your minds fixed on things there, not on things here on earth. GOD'S WORD® TranslationKeep your mind on things above, not on worldly things. International Standard VersionKeep your minds on the earth, NET BibleKeep thinking above, not things that are on the earth, New Heart English BibleSet your mind on the things that are above, not to the things that are on the earth. Woynouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are on the earth. World English BibleSet your minds to the things that are on the earth. Weymouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are on the earth. Weymouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are above, not to the things that are on the earth. Weymouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are on the earth. Weymouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are above, not on the things that are on the earth. Weymouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are above, not to the things that are on the earth. Weymouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are above, not to the things that are above, not to the things that are on the earth. Weymouth New TestamentGive your minds to the things that are above, not to the things that are above, ye, not the things upon the earth, Additional Translations ... Page 7III.(1-4) As the partaking of the death of Christ taught the negative lesson of the spiritual life. We observe that this celebrated passage occupies a place at the close of the doctrinal portion of the Epistle exactly corresponding to the even greater passage on the unity of the Church in God in the Epistle to the Ephesians (Ephesians 4:1-16). It is unlike that passage, because, summing up the main teaching of this Epistle, it dwells simply on the close personal relation of all souls to God in Jesus Christ, who is at once "the image of God," and the one Mediator between God and man. It is like it (and like other passages of the Epistles of the even now, and look forward to the bliss of heaven in the hereafter.(1) If ye then be risen (rather, ye rose) with Christ.--In these words is marked the beginning of the spiritual life, referred evidently to baptism. (See Colossians 2:12.) It is a "resurrection with Christ; as such it is dwelt upon in detail in Romans 6:1-14. We may note that this phrase, implying a sudden passing from death unto life, accords more exactly with the idea of adult baptism, accepted in conscious faith, and leading at once to a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new condition, but as having only the undeveloped germ of the new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing only the undeveloped germ of the new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing, indeed, at once into a new life; while the later phrase, "regeneration" (Titus 3:5), which speaks of the soul as passing as the soul as the soul as passing as the soul as passing as the soul as passing as the soul as other. Here this spiritual resurrection is taken for granted, and the Apostle goes on at once to the next stage of the spiritual life.Christ.--The name, four times repeated, has in all cases the article prefixed to it. Evidently it used emphatically to refer to our Lord, as our Mediator--our Prophet, Priest, and King.... Verses 1-17. - SECTION VII. THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE. The apostle, having delivered his attack on the system of error inculcated at Colossae, now passes from the controversial to the more practical purport of his thought; for throughout this chapter he urges the pursuit of a practical Christian life in a sense and in a manner silently. opposed to the tendencies of Gnosticizing error. How much more congenial was the task to which he now addresses himself we may judge, perhaps, from the ease and simplicity which mark the language of this chapter, as compared with the abrupt and seemingly embarrassed style of the last section. We may analyze the hortatory section of the 3767: Therefore, then. Apparently a primary word; certainly, or accordingly.sinceEi (Ei)ConjunctionStrong's 1487: If. A primary particle of conditionality; if, whether, that, etc.you have been raised withouvηγέρθητε (synēgerthēte)Verb - Aorist Indicative Passive - 2nd Person PluralStrong's 4891: To raise along with. From sun and egeiro; to rouse in company with, i.e. to revivify in resemblance to.Christ, Xριστῷ (Christō)Noun - Dative Masculine SingularStrong's 5547: Anointed One; the Messiah, an epithet of Jesus.strive forζητεῖτε (zēteite)Verb - Present Imperative Active - 2nd Person PluralStrong's 2212: To seek, search for, desire, require demand. Of uncertain affinity; to seek; specially, to worship, or to plot.the thingsτα (ta)Article - Accusative Neuter PluralStrong's 3588: The, the definite article; the.above, ανω (anō)AdverbStrong's 507: Up, above, up to the brim, things above, heaven the heavenly region. Adverb from anti; upward or on the top.whereoύ (hou)AdverbStrong's 3757: Where, whither, when, in what place. Genitive case of hos as adverb; at which place, i.e. Where, the Messiah, the Christs Noun - Nominative Masculine SingularStrong's 5547: Anointed One, i.e. The Messiah, an epithet of Jesus.isἐστιν (estin)Verb - Present Indicative Active - 3rd Person SingularStrong's 1510: I am, exist. The first person singular Strong's 1510: I am, exist. The first person singularStrong's 2521: To sit, be seated, enthroned; I dwell, reside. From kata; and hemai; to sit down; figuratively, to remain, reside.at¿v (en)Preposition Strong's 1722: In, on, by, etc.[the] right handδεξιά (dexia)Adjective - Dative Feminine SingularStrong's 1188: On the right hand, right hand, right. From dechomai; the right side or hand.of God. 600 (Theou) Noun - Genitive Masculine SingularStrong's 2316: A deity, especially the supreme Divinity; figuratively, a magistrate; by Hebraism, very. Jump to Previous Attention Christ Enthroned God's Hand Heaven However Life New Raised Right Risen Seated Seek Seeking Sitteth Sitting TogetherJump to NextAttention Christ Enthroned God's Hand Heaven However Life New Raised Right Risen Seated Seek Seeking Sitteth Sitting TogetherLinksColossians 3:1 NIVColossians 3:1 NIVColossia Chinese BibleColossians 3:1 French BibleColossians 3:1 French BibleColossians 3:1 Clyx QuotationsNT Letters: Colossians 3:1 If then you were raised together (Coloss. Col Co) Page 8Put On the New Self(Ephesians 4:17-32)1Therefore, since you have been raised together (Coloss. Col Co) Page 8Put On the New Self(Ephesians 4:17-32)1Therefore, since you have been raised together (Coloss. Col Co) Page 8Put On the New Self(Ephesians 4:17-32)1Therefore, since you have been raised together (Coloss. Col Co) Page 8Put On the New Self(Ephesians 4:17-32)1Therefore, since you have been raised together (Coloss. 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Col Co) Page 8Put On the Ne above, not on earthly things. 3For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4When Christ, who is youra life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. 5Put to death, therefore, the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience.b 7When you lived among them, you also used to walk in these ways. 8But now you must put aside all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9Do not lie to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices, 10and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, or free, but Christ is all and is in all. 12Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with hearts of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13Bear with one another and forgive any complaint you may have against someone else. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14And over all these virtues put on love, which is the bond of perfect unity. 15Let the peace of Christ richly dwell within you 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. 17And whatever you do, in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Christian Households(Ephesians 6:1-4)18Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. 20Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. 21Fathers, do not provoke your earthly masters in everything, not only to please them while they are watching, but with sincerity of heart and fear of the Lord. 23Whatever you do, work at it with your whole being, for the Lord as your reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. 25Whoever does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism. Page 9Absent in Body, Present in Spirit (Revelation 3:14-22)1For I want you to know how much I am struggling for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me face to face, 2that they may be encouraged in heart, knit together in love, and filled with the full riches of complete understanding, so that they may be encouraged in heart. know the mystery of God, namely Christ, a 3in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. 4I say this so that no one will deceive you by smooth rhetoric. 5For although I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit, and I delight to see your orderly condition and firm faith in Christ. Alive with Christ(Ephesians 2:1-10)6Therefore, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to walk in Him, 7rooted and built up in Him, established in the faith as you captive through philosophy and empty deception, which are based on human tradition and the spiritual forces of the world rather than on Christ. 9For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity dwells in bodily form. 10And you have been made complete in Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority. 11In Him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of your sinful nature, with the circumcision performed by Christb and not by human hands. 12And having been buried with Him in baptism, you were raised with Him through your faith in the power of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13When you were dead in your trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. against us. He took it away, nailing it to the cross! 15And having disarmed the powers and authorities. He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. 16Therefore let no one judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a feast, a New Moon, or a Sabbath, 17These are a shadow of the things to come, but the body that casts it belongs to Christ.c 18Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disgualify you with speculation about what he has seen. Such a person is puffed up without basis by his unspiritual mind. 19He has lost connection to the head, from whom the whole body, supported and knit together by its joints and ligaments, grows as God causes it to grow. 20If you have died with Christ to the spiritual forces of the world, do you submit to its regulations: 21"Do not touch!"? 22These will all perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. 23Such restrictions indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-prescribed worship, their false humility, and their harsh treatment of the body; but they are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh. Page 10Greetings from Paul and Timothy (Philippians 1:1-2; Philemon 1:1-3)1Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace and peace to you from God our Father.a Thanksgiving and Prayer(1 Corinthians 1:4-9; Philippians 1:3-11)3We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4because we have heard about your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all the saints— 5the faith and love proceeding from the hope stored up for you in heaven, of which you have already heard it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on ourb behalf, 8and who also informed us of your love in the Spirit. 9For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have full endurance and patience, and joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has gualified youc to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, 14in whom we have redemption, d the forgiveness of sins. The Supremacy of the son(Hebrews 1:1-14)15The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16For in Him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities. All things here created through Him and for Him. 17He is before all things, and in Him all things He may have preeminence. 19For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, 20and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross. 21Once you were alienated from God and were hostile in your minds because of your evil deeds. 22But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy, unblemished, and blameless in His presence— 23if indeed you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope of the gospel you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creaturee under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. Paul's Suffering for the Church(2 Corinthians 11:16-33)24Now I rejoice in my sufferings for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions for the sake of His body, which is the church. 25I became its servant by the commission God gave me to fully proclaim to you the word of God, 26the mystery that was hidden for ages and generations but is now revealed to His saints. 27To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all His energy working powerfully within me.Page 111Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:Grace and peace to you from God our Father. Thanksgiving and Prayer3We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— 5the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day we heard it and truly understood God's grace. 7You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, 8and who also told us of your love in the Spirit. 9For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We have not stopped praying for you. continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, 10so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, 12and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has gualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. The Supremacy of the Son of God15The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16For in him all things have been created through him and for him. 17He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. 21Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 22But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— 23if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. Paul's Labor for the sake of his body, which is the church. 25I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— 26the mystery, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. 27To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me. Footnotes: 2 2 7 7 9 12 21 Page 121I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. 2My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, 3in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. 4I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. 5For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christies in C up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. 8See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. 9For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. 11In him you were also circumcised with a circumcised by the flesh was put off when you were also raised with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. 13When you were dead in your sins, 14having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. 15And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. Freedom From Human Rules16Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. 17These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. 18Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind. 19They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow. 20Since you died with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, do you submit to its rules: 21"Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22These rules, which have to do with things that are all destined to perish with use, are based on merely human commands and teachings. 23Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence. Footnotes: 8 11 11 13 15 Page 13Living as Those Made Alive in Christ1Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. 5Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. 12Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. 15Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17And 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. Instructions for Christian Households18Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. 20Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. 21Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. 22Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. 23Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, 24since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. 25Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism. Footnotes: 4 6 21 Page 141 Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven. Further Instructions2Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. 3And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim it clearly, as I should. 5Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Final Greetings7Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. 81 am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts. 9He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here. 10My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) 11Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. 12Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. 13I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. 14Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and bemas send greetings to the brothers and to Nympha and the church in her house. you in turn read the letter from Laodicea. 17Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord." 18I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.Footnotes: 7 8 11 Page 15Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 16Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 17Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 17Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 17Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 17Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. 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All rights reserved worldwide.Page 22Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 22Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 22Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 24Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.Page 24Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. 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