

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE COLOSSIANS

LESSON 6: CHAPTER 3:5 TO 3:16

22 NOVEMBER, 2013

SPECIFIC SINS THAT WE ARE INSTRUCTED TO PUT AWAY

Colossians 3:5 “**Mortify therefore your members.**” Why? Because “**ye are dead**” (verse 3). In God’s eyes, our old nature is dead. He sees our new man that is born of God. The old nature continues to try and come back to life, so we have to mortify (kill) it with all its desires and lusts and sinful traits.

Fornication: any sexual immorality.

Uncleanness: any other kind of immorality.

Inordinate affection: affection (lasting and abiding loyalty) that is out of order. Our affection should be in heaven (Colossians 3:2) not on things on the earth. That’s out of order. If we spend more time focused on earthly pleasures than we do with the Lord, something is wrong.

Evil concupiscence: unchecked or unrestrained satisfaction of lust.

Covetousness: wanting things even if we don’t need them. This is a form of lust. People think these things will make them happy, but they are quickly looking for the next thing to satisfy that craving for more stuff.

Covetousness, which is idolatry: The objects you buy are not the idols. You are the idol. You want to present an offering to yourself.

Verses 6-7: “**For which things' sake** (because of all those kinds of sins) **the wrath of God cometh on the children of DISOBEDIENCE:**” Who is that? That’s what you WERE “**when ye lived in them**” (vs. 8) before you got saved (notice the past tense). **Ephesians 2:1-3** is similar. Now that you are a child of God, you are not a child of disobedience. You should not live like them. Your flesh still wants to do those things. That’s why you must mortify the flesh; count it as dead.

MORE SINS THAT THE CHRISTIAN MUST PUT OFF: These are specific. These are biblical. These are not a man’s opinion.

Verse 8: “**But now ye** (saved people) **also put off all these.**”

Anger: Christians get angry. Some anger is justified. Be ye angry and sin not (Eph. 4:23). Don’t become angry over the wrong things. Practice by not reacting in anger the next time somebody disrespects you or almost kills you in traffic.

Wrath: Hot anger that will cause a man to lose control and probably do something he’ll regret.

Malice: a desire to see somebody suffer for their actions or get punished or judged. A desire to get even or to get revenge.

Blasphemy: a lack of reverence or respect for God. Misrepresenting God. Hating God.

Filthy communication: cursing, dirty stories, sick jokes, rude and hateful remarks, insults. The next time you feel the urge to abuse someone with your words, remember that Jesus Christ does not make rude remarks about you to the Father, but rather, He pleads your case.

Verse 9: (To saved people) “**Lie not one to another!**” Christians lie to other Christians. When you do that, you damage your reputation (Proverbs 22:1). Strive to be honest and always tell the truth. If you can’t answer a question honestly, don’t say anything.

Verse 10: You have put on the NEW man, which is renewed in knowledge. Just as your flesh doesn't forget how to sin, your new man doesn't forget spiritual truth, thanks to the Holy Spirit (Jn 4:14).

"After the image of him that created him." Our new man is being conformed to God's image.

Verse 11: In the new man (as a born again Christian) the lines of distinction (racial, ethnic, financial, social standing, heritage, etc) are erased. **"Christ is all, and in all."** Your new standing in Christ is more important than any previous distinctions you had when you were a lost sinner.

WHAT TO PUT ON:

Verse 12: **"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved"** (he is addressing believers as elect, holy and beloved. That's what we are in the eyes of God. This is not included in what to put on.

Bowels (the inner man) **of mercies:** If you must be merciful to someone, then they've done wrong. God is merciful to me, a sinner. Don't break fellowship when someone does wrong. Be merciful. Help them get right.

Kindness: a Christian virtue. God is kind to me. He wants me to be kind to others.

Humbleness of mind: Don't pretend to be humble (Col. 2:23). Don't think more highly of yourself than you ought to think.

Meekness: receiving wrong without being changed or affected by it. Somebody wrongs you, but it doesn't change your heart toward them.

Longsuffering: somebody may wrong you many, many times. You are able to take it with the Holy Spirit in control.

Verse 13: **Forbearing one another:** The ability to put up with people who never seem to get better or nicer. You are able to restrain yourself from reacting to their bad behavior.

Forgiving one another: When someone does you wrong, you don't hold it against them or hate them. You grant them a full pardon **"even as Christ forgave you."**

Verse 14: **Put on charity:** Charity is what holds the whole thing together; loving others.

Verse 15: **Let the peace of God rule in your hearts."** God wants to give me peace, but I have to let it rule in my heart. Stop thinking about things or people that upset you. Think about the Lord.

To the which also ye are called in one body: God has called us to be at peace with each other. Notice the reference to the body. We are ONE body. If your body is fighting itself, you're unhealthy.

And be ye thankful: It displeases the Lord when we are not thankful. (Romans 1:21 **"When they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful."**)

Verse 16: **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.** This shows the importance of getting a LOT of God's Word in you. Don't neglect your Bible reading and Bible studies!

Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs: This verse doesn't say anything about the style of music. In fact, no Bible verses do. Any instrument is capable of playing many styles of music. Here's what is certain, according to this verse: What you sing should TEACH me something about Christ and what you sing should ADMONISH me (provoke in me a desire to live for Christ).

Singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. My heart has to be right or the singing will be wrong. Your motive must be right. Don't sing to show off. Sing to please the Lord.