



*** Start Recorder ***

Announcements:

A. Embracing Destiny Foundation:

- (Keith Edwards please attend Christmas in the Shack 09-Dec 10am)
- If you wish to volunteer, please see Keith Edwards.
- You must do a background check to work with kids.
- B. Building the Ministry: Each of us is here because we were invited.
 - Make a *habit* of inviting men to join us.
 - Invite your church buddies and other men of the church.
 - Invite dad, adult sons, uncles, cousins, friends, neighbors, co-workers.
 - Invite any adult male believers without a church home.

C. Need a Communications Manager:

- Manage small groups rosters.
- Reminder texts, special communications, etc.
- One-page, bi-weekly newsletter (items posted to website).
- Member of the church in good standing.
- Mature, faithful, and trustworthy individual.
- Time availability: 1-2 hours a week.

D. Small Groups Forming Now:

- Several Small Group Leaders have answered the call.
- Could use 2-3 more men to lead a small group.
- You may be invited to join a group, but you can choose your own.
- Bring your Bibles and perhaps a notebook or a prayer journal.

*** START RECORDER ***

Colossians 3:6-11 (02-Dec-2023)

Opening Prayer

Read Colossians 3:6-11

Colossians 3:6 (NOTES)

- "Because of these" That is, because of the existence of these things in the world, God, who is perfectly righteous and just, must judge them.
- "the sons of disobedience" Who are these people? They are not children of God, and if not His, then whose? These are the unsaved destined for the eternal fire. These are the children of Satan.
 - In 8:44 "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him.
 Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies."
 - Co 1:12-14 "giving thanks to the Father For He rescued us from the domain of darkness [as children of the devil], and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son [as children of God], in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."
 - 1Pe 2:9 "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God s own possession who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

• "the wrath of God will come" - This is not a warning to the believers at Colossae, but to whom? The Gnostic heretics, the false teachers, who are themselves unbelievers, and their unsaved followers.

Discussion: God's wrath is evidence of His justice, but how is it evidence of His love?

* God s justice is an expression of His love. He loves his children, and He brings vengeance upon those who harm them. He has compassion on the victim, the down-trodden, and because He loves the world, He must also bring judgment against it. God is just precisely because He is love. Love is an attribute of God s nature (His ontology), and justice is a moral manifestation of His attribute of love. All of God s moral attributes - mercy, grace, justice, compassion, sympathy, forgiveness, long-suffering, benevolence - flow from His heart of love.

Colossians 3:7 (NOTES)

* "walk ... lived" - <u>Walk</u> regards conduct; <u>lived</u> regards attitudes. Those old ways belong to that old life. That is your past, but, it is not your future. #1Co 6:9-11

Colossians 3:8 (NOTES)

* "put them all aside" : - Note the progression.

* "rid yourselves" - Literally, rip from your life as you would strip yourself of a filthy garment.

* "anger" - Having an angry disposition, overriding negativity, discontentedness and incessant complaints (Gr. - orge).

* "rage" - In appropriate outbursts directed at others (Gr. - thymos).

- * "malice" A disposition that seeks to harm others (Gr. kakia).
- * "slander" Speaking ill of others (Gr. blasphemia).

* "filthy language from your lips" - Both foul and abusive language (Gr. - aischrologia).
#Eph 4:29, 5:4

Colossians 3:9 (NOTES)

- * "Do not lie" Literally, stop lying (Gr. pseudesthe).
- * "since you laid aside the old self" We must partcipate in our sanctification.

Colossians 3:10 (NOTES)

* "put on the new self" - Practically, how do we do this? A relationship with Christ, of course, is a pre-requisite. One must be born again, regenerated by the Holy Spirit (made new, and given a new heart).

* There are at least 5 ways to put on the "new self" - 1). prayer, 2). study of God's Word, 3). yielding to the Holy Spirit (saying Yes), 4). resisting temptation (saying No), 5). trusting God, looking to Him for fulfillment in life, and for future rewards in eternity (an eternal perspective/attitude). #Eph 6:13-18

* #1 - Without the prerequisite of a saving relationship with Christ, without whose shed blood, no man's sins are covered, <u>God will not hear your prayers</u>. You are praying to the ceiling. If your sins are not covered by the shed blood of Jesus Christ, you are still in your sins, wicked in the sight of God, and destined for eternity in Hell, separated from Him. Your prayer life is dead. #Pr 15:29, 1Pe 3:12, Php 3:7-9

* #2 - Without the prerequisite of a saving relationship with Christ, whose Spirit indwells every true believer and is the Revealer of all truth, <u>God will not</u> <u>open your eyes and ears to the truth</u>. Thus, the study of God's Word is unfruitful. You are just reading words, but they will have no meaning for you. #2Co 3:14-16,Joh 16:13

* "being renewed" - Sanctification, that is being conformed to the image of Christ.
#Ro 12:2,Eph 4:17-32

Colossians 3:11 (NOTES)

* "[a renewal" - A regeneration ...

* There is no distinction between persons in the body of Christ. We are all the same in Christ.

* "Greek or Jew" - No distinction based on national privilege or heritage.

* "circumcised or uncircumcised" - No distinction based upon the law or works.

* "barbarian, Scythian" - No distinction based on culture.

* "slave or free" - No distinction based on social status.

* "Christ is all, and is in all" - Christ is everything that matters, and the foundation of all these groups being unified into one body. Christ indwells each one. He is the equalizer and unifier.

Colossians 3:12 (NOTES)

"as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved" - That is, since you have been chosen by God, set apart for His purposes and are loved by Him, let the fruit of His Spirit be produced in you and flow out of you.

* "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" This is the fruit of the Spirit who indwells every believer. Don't let your pride or your sinful flesh hinder your fruit production! #Gal 5:22-26

* "compassion" - pity and tenderness expressed toward others who are suffering or in misery. (Gr. - splanchna oiktirmou)

* "kindness" - sweetness of disposition, acts of generosity and graciousness. (Gr. - chrestotes)

* "humility" - humble disposition, not thinking lowly of ourselves (which is false humility), but rather seeing ourselves rightly, for who we really are - "warts and all," so to speak. (Gr.
- tapeinophrosyne)

* "gentleness" - not self-assertive or demanding of ones own preferences and will, but rather considerate of others and willing to make concessions. (Gr. - prautes)

* "patience" - longsuffering, self-restraint, able to endure insult and injury without retaliation. (Gr. - makrothymia) **Application:** Were there any new concepts you picked up today? Is there anything you're having trouble accepting in these doctrines? Did anything stand out that may prompt you to do further study? Do you feel confident that you can explain the doctrines of deity and trinity to your family, other believers, nonbelievers?

Closing Prayer

Small Groups