

Sunday, February 28, 2021—Colossians 3:3 Understanding Our Security in Christ

### **Introduction**

- Last Sunday we began studying the second half of the book of Colossians. In doing so, we reviewed the structure and outline of the book from our Introduction back in the Fall of 2019.
  - Colossians 1:9-10
    - DOCTRINAL—“THAT YE MIGHT BE FILLED” (Cps. 1-2)
    - PRACTICAL—“THAT YE MIGHT WALK WORTHY” (Cps. 3-4)
- The order of teaching in all of Paul’s epistles is doctrine first then practice. How we live is always determined by what we believe. Doctrine is the basis of practice.
- Paul begins the practical section of Colossians by presenting Christ as the highest of all inspirations for the believers conduct and the basis for a worthy walk.
  - Colossians 3:1—“. . . seek those things which are above. . .”
  - Colossians 3:5—“Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth. . .”
- Notice the three tenses in Colossians 3:1-3 that serve as the basis for our life and service to Christ.
  - Past Tense—“If ye then be risen with Christ. . .”
  - Present Tense—“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”
  - Future Tense—“When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”
- The argument of Col. 3:1-2 is that our strength is found in entering experimentally into that identification which in already an accomplished fact.
  - The Accomplished Fact—“If ye then be risen with Christ”
  - The Experimental Appropriation—“Seek” . . . “Set” (Welch, 230)

### **Colossians 3:3**

- **For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.**

- **For ye are dead**—we have already discussed this many times in our studies through the book of Colossians. Through the process of spiritual identification believers “are,” in the present, identified with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection.
  - Colossians 2:11-13, 20
  - Romans 6:4-5
- Colossians 3:3—it is a categorial fact that all believers are presently “dead with Christ.”
- **and your life is hid with Christ in God**—here once again we see the interesting phenomena that while we are identified with Christ in his death we are also identified with Christ’s resurrection and are therefore given new life with Christ.
  - Colossians 2:13
  - Galatians 2:20
  - Romans 6:8-11—we live with Christ.
- Colossians 3:3—notice that Paul says that this new life that we have with Christ “is hid with Christ.” Also note that this use of the word “is” indicates the present reality of what Paul is teaching.
- Paul is saying that when we accepted Christ and received his life at a given point of time in the past that new life that we received was hidden, concealed, or secretly laid up in Christ and presently continues as such.
- So, the life that we have in Christ is hidden with Christ in God. So, in order for you to be denied this life God the father would have to reject his own son in whom he is well pleased.
- God the father cannot reject his son, therefore he cannot reject you.

### **The Mechanics of Eternal Security**

- Understanding your eternal security begins with a clear understanding of how you got saved to begin with.
- Colossians 1:14—our salvation is based upon the redemption that Christ provide through His shed blood and the faith application of that blood to our account.
- Ephesians 1:7
- Romans 3:24
- I Corinthians 12:13—the moment you believe that Christ shed his blood to pay for your sins God the Holy Spirit spiritually baptizes you into the Body of Christ. It here that we receive the life of Christ by virtual of being part of his body and identified in his death burial and resurrection.

- Ephesians 4:30—the Holy Spirit then seals us into our position with Jesus Christ. Notice that you are sealed unto the day of Redemption. Wait a minute I though we were already redeemed.
  - Ephesians 1:13-14—not only is the H.S. our seal but he the earnest of our inheritance until the day of redemption.
- Romans 8:23—the Holy Spirit is the down payment assurance of the future redemption of our bodies from the bondage of corruption that is in creation.
- Colossians 3:3
- II Timothy 2:13—God cannot deny himself.
- For you to lose your salvation God the Father would have to reject his son. God the Son would have to take back the life that he gave to you freely. God the Holy Sprit would have to cease being your seal unto the day of redemption.
- If could not earn your own salvation and it was given to you freely by his grace than nothing you do can cause you to lose it.
- Romans 8:35-39—“any other creature” would include ourselves. God’s got us, we can’t mess this up.