

Sunday, May 2, 2021—Colossians 3:11 Christ is All And In All

Introduction/Review

- Last Sunday we finished up our discussion of verse 10. In doing so we observed that the believer has already “put on the new” and that the new man is already “renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.”
- In addition, we observed the activity of God the Holy Spirit in your life by virtue of the fact that you are the new self.
 - Romans 5:5—“. . . the love of God is shed abroad into our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”
 - II Corinthians 1:22—God has given us “the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”
 - Galatians 4:6—according to this verse, the Spirit of God resides within your heart and is crying Abba Father right now as you listen to this message. This happens all the time. Even when you don’t read the scriptures is God the Holy Spirit doing something in your life? Yes.
 - Romans 8:15—in this verse we are the one’s crying “Abba Father.” Why? How? Because God the Holy Spirit is in your heart also crying “Abba Father” all the time.
 - Romans 8:16—the Holy Spirit “beareth witness” with spirit that I am child of God. The verb translated “beareth witness” is in the present tense, the active voice, and the indicative mood. Which means that right now in the present God the Holy Spirit is communicant my spirit in my inner man.
 - Romans 8:26-27—God the Holy Spirit is constantly advocating for God’s truth in our lives.
 - Ephesians 1:13-14—God didn’t give us the Holy Spirit as the earnest of our inheritance until the day of redemption only to put a gag order on Him your life.
 - The Holy Spirit cries Abba Father
 - The Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit.
 - The Holy Spirit makes “intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”

- II Corinthians 4:16—your inward man, the core of who you are is renewed day by day by God the Holy Spirit. How can this be the case?
- Romans 6:6—because your “old man” is crucified with Christ. He is dead, gone, and taken out of the way and God the Holy Spirit has taken up occupancy of your heart from which renews our inner man day by day.
- Romans 12:2—our hearts are not in process, but our heads are. We battle conformity to the world (the default setting) by being transformed (*metamorphoō*) by the renewing of the mind. The renewing of the mind transforms the carnal brain into a servant of righteousness by establishing new pathways in the brain that are tuned into God’s word and who God has made us in Christ.
- Colossians 3:11 what we are going to see today is that all of these things are part and parcel with being in the body of Christ.

Colossians 3:11

- **Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.**
- This “new man” that we have “put on” is not only “renewed in knowledge” but it is a place or location, note the use of the word “where” at the beginning of verse 11. The place “where” the new man has been put on is in the body of Christ.
- There is only one place where racial, national, social, and economic distinction are erased. That is the body of Christ.
 - Greek—is a translation of the word *hellēn*. This word is used sometimes to refer to Gentiles under the influence of Greek culture (Acts 11:20; 14:1) or Greeks by nationality or descent. Other places the word is used to include all races apart from the Jews i.e., gentiles (Acts 20:21; Rom. 1:14, 16, 2:9-10, 3:9)
 - Barbarian—these were the uncultured opposite of Greeks (Rom. 1:14, Acts 18:2, 4). They were a people who lacked the ability to communicate in the common language (I Cor. 14:11).
 - Scythian—or an inhabitant of Scythia which correlates with the modern territory of Russia. Apparently, the Scythians were looked upon as the wildest of the barbarians.
 - Bond nor Free—there are no slave and free man distinctions in the body of Christ. All social and economic barriers have been done away. The servant and the master are both to serve Christ (Eph. 6:5-9)

- Colossians 1:23, 28—Paul preached his gospel to “every creature which is under heaven” i.e., every type of person that would listen. Only in the body of Christ are all of the things that divide men in the earth erased. The body of Christ has any every man ministry.
- Ephesians 2:11-12—God dealt with the world in “time past” based upon a distinction between Jew (circumcision) and gentile (uncircumcision).
- Ephesians 2:13-15—the body of Christ is the “new man.” As believers our identity is enveloped in Christ.
 - Colossians 3:9-10—when the believer “put off the old man” and “put on the new man” he/she literally “put on Christ.”
 - Galatians 3:26-28—putting on the “new man” is synonymous with putting on Christ. Notice that for those who have “put on Christ” there is unity and not division in verse 28.
 - Add male and female to the list of distinctions that divided men in the earth that have been done away in Christ.
- Ephesians 2:16-18
- I Corinthians 12:12-13, 18, 24—God has taken this group of misfits and placed them into the body as it hath pleased him.
- Colossians 3:11—you are one with every other member of the body of Christ. There are no racial, national, cultural, or economic differences in the body of Christ.
- Colossians 3:1-2—as members of the body of Christ our affection needs to be set on things that are above not on the things that divided men in the earth.
- Romans 12:2—we need to renew our minds about this because the world comes at us emphasizing how these very things divide us. When need to view the situation the way God does.
- Colossians 1:18—Christ is the preeminent one in all things.
- Colossians 3:12—the solution to what plagues us found in the body of Christ practically putting on Christ and walking in our new identity.