

Sunday, July 11, 2021—Colossians 3:16 Let The Word of Christ Dwell In You Richly

Colossians 3:16

- **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**
- **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom**—the first phrase of verse 16 is another imperative command. Col. 3:1—“seek those things were are above”
 - Col. 3:2—“set your affection on things above”
 - Col. 3:5—“mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth”
 - Col. 3:8—“put off all these”
 - Anger
 - Wrath
 - Malice
 - Blasphemy
 - Filthy communication out of your mouth
 - Col. 3:9—“lie not one to another”
 - Col. 3:12—“put on therefore as the elect of God”
 - Bowels of Mercies (v. 12)
 - Kindness (v. 12)
 - Humbleness of Mind (v. 12)
 - Meekness (v. 12)
 - Longsuffering (v. 12)
 - Forbearing one another (v. 13)
 - Forgiving one another (v. 13)

- Charity (v. 14)
 - Col. 3:15—“let the peace of God rule in your hearts”
 - Col. 3:15—“be ye thankful”
 - Col. 3:16—“let the word of Christ dwell in you richly”
- As we saw in verse 15 when speaking about “the peace of God,” letting the “peace of God rule” in our hearts of completely a matter of choice for the believer. We have a choice regarding the matter i.e., it is not automatic.
- Paul uses the term “word of Christ” as comparable to the word of God. The word of God for the Church of this dispensation, which is God’s program for today, has as its heart the truth of the mystery. The body of doctrine Paul received directly from Jesus Christ, and it would be most logically referred to as the “word of Christ.”
 - Romans 16:25
 - I Corinthians 14:37
 - Galatians 1:11-12
 - Ephesians 3:1-11
 - Colossians 1:24-29
 - I Timothy 6:3
- Colossians 3:16—Paul’s admonition is for the Colossians to “let” the word of Christ i.e., that body of doctrine revealed from heaven by the Lord the Jesus Christ to and through the Apostle Paul to dwell in them richly.
- **Dwell in you richly**—the word rendered “dwell” means to inhabit, live in, or make one’s home in. Paul is talking about the word of Christ being given access to live in believers and to inhabit their minds.
 - Romans 8:11—the Holy Spirit permanently indwells and resides in the heart of every believer.
 - II Corinthians 6:16
 - II Timothy 1:14

- Ephesians 5:18—is talking about allowing the Spirit of God that you already possess to be the dominant influential force in your life. Consider the comparison with being intoxicated.
 - Ephesians 1:13-14
- Colossians 3:16—practically speaking, as believers we all have the Holy Spirit residing in our hearts but how much is his presence manifested in our lives. How many things are we still trying to hang on to and oversee in the power of our own fleshly abilities. Letting the word of Christ “dwell in you richly” about allowing the truth of what God is doing today during the dispensation of grace to order and prioritize our lives.
- **Richly**—is an adverb indicating the quality of the dwelling that Paul is admonishing the Colossians with respect to. The word carries the idea of lavish and abundant provision.
 - I Timothy 6:17
 - Titus 3:6
 - II Peter 1:11
 - II Corinthians 4:15
- **In all wisdom**—letting the word of Christ dwell in you richly furnishes you with the ability to live your life on the basis of God wisdom in contradistinction to human viewpoint or man’s wisdom.
 - Colossians 1:9-10—Paul’s prayer for the Colossians in Chapter 1 was that they might be filled with wisdom so that they might walk worthy. The word of Christ furnishes us with the ability to walk in wisdom.
 - I Corinthians 1:17-2:8