

Sunday, September 26, 2021—Colossians 3:23 Heartily As Unto The Lord

Colossians 3:23

- **And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;**
- **Whatsoever**—Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* defines “[whatsoever](#)” as follows:
 - “a compound of what, so, and ever, has the sense of whatever, and is less used than the latter.”
- The idea behind the word “whatsoever” is everything or every single thing, whatever it is, or regardless of what it might be, believers should do it “heartily, as to the Lord, and not to men.”
 - Colossians 3:17—“whatsoever ye do in word or deed” are the two ways that believers express themselves.
 - Paul is talking about everything we do. Your life has eternal significance even in the small and seemingly mundane things.
 - Every individual thing (“whatsoever”) that believers say and do adds up to a sum total of many things; therefore, Paul says, “do **all** in the name of the Lord Jesus.” Don’t miss Paul’s point, every-single-thing is to be done in the name of the Lord Jesus. Paul is leaving no room for believers to say or do a single thing which cannot be said or done in the name of the Lord Jesus.
 - The application of this Christ-honoring principle should cause us to be slow and careful before we speak and act. The supreme test is whether what we are about to say or do can be done in the name of the Lord Jesus.
 - Colossians 3:16—the word of Christ dwelling in us richly equips us to “do all in the name of the Lord Jesus” in verse 17.
 - Not only is everything we say and do to be identified with the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, which as we have seen is identification with His person, but through Him we are to continually be giving thanks to God the Father.
 - Colossians 3:15
- **do it heartily**—the verb “do” is yet again another verb in the imperative mood. This constitutes Paul’s 15th and final imperative command in this chapter.
 - 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”
- Col. 3:18—“Wives, **submit** yourselves to your own husbands”

- Col. 3:19—“Husbands, **love** your wives”
 - Col. 3:20—“Children **obey** your parents in all things”
 - Col. 3:21—“Fathers **provoke not** your children to anger”
 - Col. 3:22—“Servants, **obey** in all things your masters”
 - Col. 3:23—“**do it** heartily, as the Lord, and not unto men;”
- Whatsoever we do is to be done “heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.” The word translated “heartily” is the Greek noun *psyche*. In the scripture the word *psyche* is related to the soul i.e., the core of who you are as a person. Consider the following outline of Biblical usage.
 - the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart, soul etc.)
 - the (human) soul in so far as it is constituted that by the right use of the aids offered it by God it can attain its highest end and secure eternal blessedness, the soul regarded as a moral being designed for everlasting life
 - the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body)
 - Mark 12:30, 33
 - Noah Webster’s American Dictionary of the English Language defines “[heartily](#)” as follows:
 - HE'ARTILY, adverb [from hearty.] From the heart; with all the heart; with sincerity; really.

I heartily forgive them.

 1. With zeal; actively; vigorously. He heartily assisted the prince.
 2. Eagerly; freely; largely; as, to eat heartily
 - Ephesians 6:6—believers have the capacity to make the faith choice to do God’s will “from the heart.” This means that our hearts are no longer dirty. We have the capacity to serve God from our *psyche* or soul i.e, the core of who we are.
 - Romans 5:5
 - Romans 6:6

- II Corinthians 5:16-17
- Galatians 5:6
- Colossians 3:9-11
- Colossians 3:23—in the context Paul was commanding servants to “obey in all things your masters” in verse 22. They are to do that “not with eyeservice, as men pleasers; but in singleness of heart fearing God.” Verse 23 provides further elaboration, “whatsoever ye do” can be done from the heart i.e., the core of your being “as to the Lord, and not unto men.”
- God’s will for the Body of Christ is that our work would serve as a testimony of his grace. Now that we have been justified and redeemed from sin, we have the capacity to restore work to the purpose for which God created it as a means of serving him.
- Colossians 3:24—all of the imperative commands in this chapter are given in light of verse 24. We serve the Lord Christ and will receive “the reward of the inheritance.”