

**The New Testament Church**  
**Seek Christ in Heavenly Places**  
**Pastor Paul Jehle**  
**May 23, 2021**

**I Colossians 3:1-17**

*If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. <sup>5</sup> Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup> Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, <sup>7</sup> in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. <sup>8</sup> But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, <sup>11</sup> where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. <sup>14</sup> But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

**II Seek, Set and Let**

- A. Seek (aim for, desire) Christ above for our life is hid in Christ
  - 1. The things we are to seek in Christ are given to us in verses 10-14 – put on new man
  - 2. *We seek Christ who is all in all, with tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing one another, and forgiving one another as Christ forgave us*
- B. Set (direct the mind and exercise it toward) those things mentioned above
  - 1. We have a choice, to live “on earth” where the sins that capture us abide... or
  - 2. We can live out from the position we have in Christ – where His thoughts abide
  - 3. We are to *put off sins such as fornication (sexual relations outside marriage), uncleanness (impure thoughts), passion (lust), evil desire, covetousness...*
  - 4. To those sins of the body are added sins of the soul – such as *anger (attitude), wrath (with action), malice (to get even), blasphemy, filthy language*
- C. Let the peace of God rule (play the umpire) in our hearts
  - 1. When we step out of bounds, step down into the earth, the whistle blows
  - 2. We must learn to sense when we are out of peace with God
- D. Let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly – with songs
  - 1. The Word will come to mind with a song when needed...
  - 2. As we do this, the well of Christ’s riches will come to us – He is all in all!
- E. ***We do all this for the name of Jesus – in word and deed!***