

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: When Christ Is All

SERMON REFERENCE: Colossians 3:1-5, 11

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2207

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Jesus Christ does not want just a place in your life.
 - i) Jesus desires, deserves and demands preeminence.
 - (1) Colossians 1:18
 - ii) Does Jesus Christ have preeminence in your life?
- b) Colossians 3:1-5, 11
 - i) Christ is all.
 - (1) That leaves nothing out.
 - (2) Jesus is everything.
- c) Is Jesus Christ all to you?
 - i) Is He all, and is He in all?
- d) In Colossians 3:4, the Apostle Paul said that Christ is our life.
 - i) Jesus doesn't just give life, but He is our life.
 - ii) John 14:6
- e) Cults do not believe that Jesus is our life.
 - i) They twist and distort Scripture.
 - (1) For instance, some distort John 17:3 to say, "This is eternal life, that they may receive knowledge about you..."
 - (2) But the King James version of Scripture says, "This is eternal life, that they may know thee..."
 - ii) We can have knowledge about someone without knowing that person.
 - iii) We don't just receive knowledge of Jesus; our life is knowing Jesus.
- f) It is Jesus only.
 - i) It is not knowledge about Jesus.
 - ii) It is not Jesus plus anything.
 - iii) We can get to know Jesus better, but we can never know anything better than Jesus.
 - iv) We can go deeper into Jesus, but we can never go beyond Jesus.
- g) In Colossians 3:11, the Apostle Paul says that Christ is all in all.
 - i) We have been crucified with Christ.
 - (1) Colossians 3:3
 - (2) His death had our name on it.
 - ii) We have also been raised with Christ.
 - (1) Colossians 3:1
 - iii) Because we were crucified with Him and risen with Him, we live with Him.
 - (1) Colossians 3:4
 - (2) We have the resurrection life of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - iv) We are hidden in Christ.
 - (1) Colossians 3:3
 - (2) As believers, we are in Jesus, and Jesus is in God.
 - (a) Therefore, in order for the devil to get to us, he must go through God the Father and God the Son.
 - (i) That's where we are hidden.

- h) Colossians 2:3
 - i) All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in Jesus.
 - ii) There's nothing worth knowing outside of Jesus.
 - (1) There's no wisdom that this world offers that can compare with the only true wisdom that is in Jesus Christ.
- i) There are three major verbs in our passage in Colossians 3 that form the foundation for our message today:
 - i) Seek
 - (1) Colossians 3:1
 - ii) Set
 - (1) Colossians 3:2
 - iii) Mortify
 - (1) Colossians 3:5
 - (2) Another word for mortify could be "slay."
 - iv) Today's message will focus on three specific things that will happen in our lives when Christ is all and in all.

2) JESUS CAPTIVATES OUR AMBITIONS (COLOSSIANS 3:1)

- a) Colossians 3:1
- b) What we seek is our ambition.
 - i) Our ambition is to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.
 - (1) Matthew 6:33
- c) The devil doesn't care what on Earth we seek, as long as we do not seek those things which are above.
- d) In Colossians 2, the Apostle Paul writes about things which are on the Earth, things that we might be prone to seek:
 - i) The reasonings of the world
 - (1) Colossians 2:8
 - (a) The word "rudiments" means the basic elements of the world.
 - (b) The word "spoil" here literally means to carry you off as a captive.
 - (c) The Apostle Paul is warning us to not let anyone carry us away as captives.
 - (2) The cults don't want converts as much as they want captives.
 - (a) They will come to church goers and church members who are not well grounded and will try to carry them off captive.
 - (i) They will try to do this through philosophy and vain deceit.
 - (3) We need to beware of the reasonings of this world.
 - ii) The rituals of the world
 - (1) Colossians 2:13-17
 - (a) In this passage, the Apostle Paul is speaking to people who had been in the Jewish religion.
 - (i) They had certain religious rituals that they had kept in the past, such as certain drink offerings, meal offerings, and observance of certain days.

- (b) There were those who told these people that, even though they had been saved, they needed to continue to keep the Jewish diets and observe the Jewish days.
 - (c) Paul said that they should not let anyone judge them of those things.
 - (2) There are people who would like to judge us and put us under some ritualistic diet or ritualistic days, but those things were taken out of the way.
 - (a) They were nailed to the cross.
 - (b) These things are but shadows of things to come.
 - (i) They are not substance but shadows.
 - (3) There are people who substitute rituals for reality.
 - (a) They're seeking things which are below, not things which are above.
- iii) The religions of this world
 - (1) Colossians 2:18-19
 - (a) Paul warns the people not to follow after some angelic being or some religious philosophy.
 - (i) Hold on to Jesus.
 - (2) Satan is not against religion, as long as it's the religion of this world.
 - (a) He doesn't mind if we seek the reasonings of this world, which is vain philosophy.
 - (b) He doesn't mind if we seek the rituals of this world, which are days and diets.
 - (c) He doesn't mind if we seek the religions of this world, which worship things other than Almighty God.
- iv) The regulations of this word.
 - (1) Colossians 2:20-23
 - (a) The word "ordinances" means "laws."
 - (b) The Apostle Paul is saying that a list of do's and don'ts will not make us more like Jesus.
 - (i) It may look good and may have a show of wisdom and humility, but it is "will-worship" and not God-worship.
 - (ii) It will just simply increase our pride, and it wrongly indicates to our neighbors that Christianity is just a list of do's and don'ts.
 - (2) Many people have the idea that they are spiritual if they do or don't do certain things.
 - (3) Christianity is not a legal relationship; it's a love relationship.
 - (a) This is not to say that there are certain things we ought not to do, but the difference is whether it is will-worship or God-worship.
 - (i) We can even read our Bible out of will-worship.
 - (ii) A person can read their Bible and not love God.
 - 1. But if we truly love God, we will read our Bible.
 - 2. It is why we do it, not what we do.

- e) Colossians 3:1
 - i) What the Apostle Paul says in this verse is in relation to all that he had said in chapter 2.
 - ii) We are to seek Jesus.
 - f) Jesus is the one who captures our ambition to be like Jesus.
- 3) JESUS DOMINATES OUR ATTENTION (COLOSSIANS 3:2)
- a) Colossians 3:2
 - i) The way to seek Him is to set our affections.
 - ii) The word “affections” literally means “attention.”
 - (1) What we seek, we have to set our mind to.
 - (a) Proverbs 23:7
 - iii) This verse is telling us to be Heavenly-minded.
 - (1) Jesus is to dominate our attention.
 - (2) We are to set our mind on Him.
 - b) To set our mind and affections is not referring to mystical meditation.
 - i) We are to keep our mind with all diligence.
 - (1) Proverbs 4:23
 - c) Isaiah 26:3
- 4) JESUS REGULATES OUR ACTIONS (COLOSSIANS 3:5-11)
- a) Jesus is the one who is to regulate our actions.
 - b) Colossians 3:5-11
 - i) If Christ is our life, then we are to live like Christ.
 - ii) The verb “mortify” means “to put to death forcefully and immediately.”
 - c) There are some things that, as Christians, we need to learn to hate.
 - i) We could not have love without hate any more than we could have high without low or hot without cold.
 - (1) For instance, if we love justice, then we hate crime.
 - (2) If we love purity, then we hate pornography.
 - ii) There are things that God hates.
 - (1) Proverbs 6:16-19
 - (a) Love without corresponding hate is hypocrisy.
 - (b) There are certain things that we should hate; that need to be mortified.
 - iii) Psalm 119:104
 - (1) The Psalmist said that he hates every false way.
 - iv) Psalm 119:163
 - (1) The Psalmist said that he hates lying.
 - v) Psalm 119:113
 - (1) He states in this verse that he hates vain thoughts.
 - vi) We are to hate any sin in our own lives.
 - (1) It needs to be put to death because Christ is all and in all.

5) CONCLUSION

- a) The Christian life is not church, prayer, or doing good.
 - i) It is Jesus Christ.
- b) Christ is our life.
 - i) He is all and in all.
- c) We need to love Jesus.
- d) We need to know Him, not just know about Him.
 - i) Do you know Jesus?
- e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16