

Colossians 3:1-4 - “Set Your Mind on Things Above” Study Guide

Passage Outline

1.

Seek The Things That Are Above v. 1

1.

Ground: Union with Christ

Since then you have been raised with Christ

1.

Exhortation

seek the things that are above

1.

Location: Heaven

where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

1.

Set Your Mind on Things Above v. 2

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

1.

Because Christ Is Your Life vv. 3-4

1.

This Union Has Begun

3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

1.

This Union Will Be Completed

4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

For Discussion

1.

What are the grounds for Paul's exhortation implied by v. 1a? See Col. 2:12-13, 20.

2.

Does Paul's exhortation in v. 1b serve primarily to rebuke or to encourage you? Why? What benefits await us if we seek the things that are above? See Rom. 2:7.

3.

To what location does Paul direct our attention in v. 1c? What does Christ do for us "at the right hand of God?" Consider Rom. 8:34; Eph. 1:20-23.

4.

What are some biblical differences between "things above" and "things that are on earth?" Which ones does Paul have in mind in v. 2? Consider v. 1c; Matt. 6:19-20; Col. 3:5; Rom. 8:5-6; Phil. 4:8.

5.

Does Paul mean we should despise all earthly things? Consider Col. 3:5; 1 Tim. 4:4; Heb. 11:15-16, 12:16-17; Luke 14:16-18, 26; Matt. 6:33, Phil. 3:8-11.

6.

What are some practical ways you should “set your minds on things above?”

Consider Phil. 4:8, 1 Tim. 6:11.

7.

What is the vital reason in v. 4 why you should “set your minds on things above?”

8.

In what ways is our spiritual life related to the spiritual life that is in Jesus Christ? Consider vv. 3-4; 1 John 1:2, 5:11-12, 3:3; 2 Cor. 4:10-11; Gal. 2:20; John 14:19-20; Phil. 1:21; 3:20-21.