

Risen With Christ. Colossians 3:1-4

- 1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.
- 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

The most important even in world history since the creation was the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

From a naturalistic stand point, someone had conquered death. All that the world had know since the creation was life and then death. Each baby that came into the world, came with and expiration date. And although no one knew when that would be, they were sure that it would happen.

But now the cycle had broken. Jesus had triumphed over our greatest enemy. After dying a most dreadful death at the hands of the supposed followers of God, His cold lifeless body and stirred and revived to life. The wounds were healed, the heart began to beat, the blood began to flow, the breath returned to His exanimate corpse.

From a spiritual side the power of sin had been broken. Every person since Adam was a sinner. Each one of a differing degree, but each one still a sinner. Every child, so innocent, so sweet and cute had the potential of a murder, a thief, a blasphemer. And so as they aged their depravity was displayed.

But Jesus had come with no sin, no guile, no jealousy or pride. There was in Him no rebellion against God. There was only a desire to please His heavenly Father, to obey His parents, and to go about doing good to others and never ill.

From's God's prospective sin had been truly atoned for. The penalty for sin had always been death of the sinner. Eze 18:20 "The soul who sins shall die. Ro 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The only way a man could approach God was through a priest and a sacrifice. But now the way had been opened to all those who repent and have faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ. This is seen in Matthew's gospel. Mt 27:51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split.

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

But this morning I want to talk about what the resurrection of Jesus Christ means to us in our personal lives.

- I. If then you were raised with Christ
 - A. Seek those things which are above
 - 1. Mt 6:20 "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.
 - 2. Paul does not mean that we should never think the things upon the earth, but that these should not be our aim, our goal, our master. The Christian has to keep his feet upon the earth, but his head in the heavens. He must be heavenly-minded here on earth and so help to make earth like heaven.
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 - B. Where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
 - C. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.
- II. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
 - A. "For you died." Definite event, aorist active indicative,
 - 1. We have died to sin, shall we then sin; Ro 6:2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?
 - B. Col 2:20 Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations —
 - C. Col 2:12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.
 - D. Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.
- III. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.
 - A. What a great transaction took place that Sunday morning 2000 years ago.
 - 1. For we who were once all about this world, now mind heavenly things.
 - 2. We who once were are wrapped up in our own lives and now wrapped up in the life of Christ.
 - 3. We will inherit all with Him.
 - a. Eph 1:11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

- b. Eph 1:18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
 - c. Heb 9:15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.
 - d. 1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
4. 1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.
 5. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs — heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.
 6. 1Ti 6:14 that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,
 7. 2Ti 4:8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.
 8. Tit 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
 9. Heb 9:28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.
 10. 1Pe 5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

