

- C. The peace of Christ must rule in your (pl) hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace (15).
 - i. Isaiah 9:6-7
 - ii. Peace is not merely the absence of conflict.

 - iii. Peace begins with peace between us and God (1:21-22).

- B. Jesus' cause is revealed in His commands (16).
 - i. V16 involves the people of Christ taking seriously His commands and holding each other to account.

James Wilhoit: *"The complementary action to proclaiming the gospel is that of confronting the false gospels and idols, which are always present in our lives."*

- ii. This a true community—community intent on doing everything Jesus commanded us!
- C. A community overflowing with gratitude (17)

Questions for Discussion

- Were you surprised in the reading of Colossians 1 & 3, using King for Christ, at the obvious kingdom aspects of Paul's message?
- How does Deuteronomy 32:46-47 help us understand what Paul means by saying that Christ is to be our life? (See also Rom. 10:8-9.)
- Discuss: *"The biggest problem with a gospel that tells people Jesus came to fulfill our dreams, is that our dreams are aligned with the purposes of the dragon, not the purposes of our King."*
- Read the James Wilhoit quote above. What does this look like in your life? Why is this important in all of our lives?
- What are some of the ways we are prone to live treasonous lives against King Jesus? ... *as if* the old king will return to power?
- Discuss: *"Gratitude grows out of humility. The messianic community is a humble community—one accustomed to washing feet, and humble service."*

Text: Colossians 3:1-17

Introduction

I. Embracing the Cause of the King. (3:1-4)

- A. The Above Things
 - i. How do we spend our lives seeking stuff in heaven that we can't see, don't really even know what it is?

 - ii. The *above things* are the things that proceed from the throne of the King. *They are the cause and purposes of the King.*

- B. The entire orientation of our life must change until Christ's glory is manifest in us.

- C. What does it mean for our life to be hidden in the King, and for the King to be our life?
 - i. Deuteronomy 32:46-47

 - ii. 1 Corinthians 9:21 "the law of the King"
 - a) Romans 10:8-9
 - b) Colossians 1:10
 - iii. "Christ in You, the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27)
 - Habakkuk 2:14

II. Rejecting a Life of Treason (3:5-11)

- A. *"the things on the earth"*

i. Contrasted with “*the above things*”

ii. “on the earth” (Genesis 3:1 LXX)

- a) Genesis 3:1
- b) Revelation 13:4, 8
- c) Colossians 1:13
- d) Ephesians 2:2

The biggest problem with a gospel that tells people Jesus came to fulfill our dreams, is that our dreams are aligned with the purposes of the dragon, not the purposes of our King.

iii. What is the “cause” of the *conquered king*?

- a) Fornication
- b) Impurity
- c) Lustful passions
- d) Evil desire
- e) Covetousness

➤ “*experts in greed*” (2 Peter 2:14)

➤ “*Which is idol worship!*”

B. On account of these things the wrath of God is coming *on the sons of those who reject belief and therefore refuse to obey.*

C. “*In which you once walked, when you lived in them*” (7).

i. Now we are to walk worthy of our Lord (1:10). Now we are to walk *in* King Jesus (2:6) because we are located in Him!

ii. But now put away all these things ... (8).

- a) Wrath
- b) Intense rage
- c) Malice

d) Slander – defamatory speech

e) Obscene talk

f) v. 9 Do no lie to one another.

➤ Philemon 1:5

Loyalty to the King is loyalty toward one another. You cannot lie to one another. That is the same as lying to Jesus!

D. *The old man with his practices.*

Now kingdoms are defined differently: We do not belong first to this kingdom or that kingdom, this family or that family, but to King Jesus and one another!

III. Living Under the Rule of the King (3:12-17)

A. An Entirely New Wardrobe

i. Clothe yourself in glory (Isaiah 52:1)

ii. *Chosen of God, Holy, and beloved.*

iii. What are these garments?

- a) compassionate hearts
- b) kindness
- c) Humility
- d) Meekness
- e) Patience (Long-suffering, Steadfastness, endurance)
- f) bearing with one another
- g) if one has a complaint against another, forgiving ...

iv. Love is the unifying principle of the entire wardrobe!