

“PUT TO DEATH” – “PUT ON”

(Col. 3:1, 5, 12)

“1 If then ye were raised together with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth. When Christ, who is our life, shall be manifested, then shall ye also with him be manifested,” Col. 3:1-4. **This chapter starts** with the idea of one being, *“raised together with Christ,”* and I take that to mean when one **obeys the gospel!** Those who obey the Gospel have a different **mindset,**” Rom. 8:24-25: *“24 For in hope were we saved: but hope that is seen is not hope: for who hopeth for that which he seeth? 25 But if we hope for that which we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.”* Jesus describes this as being born again; or, we might say, *“being born anew!”* We obey the gospel for the purpose of **being saved** – having the hope of going to heaven.

When one becomes a Christian, there is a **“mindset”** - this has to be a reality. All the ways and sins of the former life must be **abandoned!** The reckless and sinful life must be **put to death** – consider Paul’s statement: *“5 Put to death therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry; 6 for which things sake cometh the wrath of God upon the sons of disobedience: 7 wherein ye also once walked, when ye lived in these things; 8 but now do ye also put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, railing, shameful speaking out of your mouth: 9 lie not one to another; seeing that ye have put off the old man with his doings,”* Col. 3:5-9. You see, the former life is no more. *“13 Who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love,”* Col. 1:13. We have received the remission of our sins when we obeyed the gospel, *“38 Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins,”* Acts 2:38. We have been **cleansed, born again** and must remember those sins have been **washed away,** Acts 22:16.

There needs to be an effort made to **build a new character;** but the building is now with a **spiritual being, doing what is right.** *“12 Put on therefore, as God’s elect, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, longsuffering; 13 forbearing one another, an forgiving each other, if any man have a complaint: 14 and above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfectness. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to the which also ye were called in one body; and be thankful,”* Col. 3:12-15. Now, the whole thought of life is to be in: *“17 And whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him,”* Col. 3:17. The Lord has instructed us how to build the kind of life he expects; so, we should take heed and do all things the Lord expects of us.

Rom. 1:5, *“5 through whom we received grace and apostleship, unto obedience of faith among all the nations, for his name’s sake.”* Consider also, *“26 but now is manifested, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, is made known unto all the nations unto obedience of faith,”* Rom. 16:26. The building takes place through the instruction God has given us; thus. It is important for us to obey his will.

God teaches, we learn, we build and become approved of God – Put to death. Put on! Because of this we become a fit subject for heaven.

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