

Colossians :5-11

**TO LIVE *THE* LIFE –
LEAVE THE PAST BEHIND**

Three Isms of our day

- ◆ Individualism

What's in it for me

- ◆ Hedonism

If it feels good do it

- ◆ Minimalism

What's the least I can do & receive maximum benefit

Colossians 3

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Put to death

to cease completely from activity, with the implication of extreme measures taken to guarantee such a cessation—'to stop completely, to cease completely.

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). Vol. 1: Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: Based on semantic domains (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.) (660). New York: United Bible Societies.

- ◆ ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

What should be killed?

- ◆ sexual immorality :
Sexual immorality of any kind, fornication, prostitution
- ◆ impurity:
the state of moral impurity especially related to sexual sin
- ◆ lust
to experience strong physical desires, particularly of a sexual nature

What should be killed?

- ◆ evil desires

pertaining to being bad, with the implication of harmful and damaging to strongly desire to have what belongs to someone else and/or to engage in an activity which is morally wrong

What should be killed?

- ◆ Greed

a strong desire to acquire more and more material possessions or to possess more things than other people have, all irrespective of need

Other Insights

- ◆ 1 Corinthians 6:9–10

⁹ Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰ nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.



Other Insights

- ◆ Galatians 5:22–23

¹⁹The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Other Insights

- ◆ Ephesians 5:3–5

³ But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. ⁴ Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵ For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Colossians 3

⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming

- ◆ Freedom from condemnation does not mean freed from consequences

Colossians 3

⁸ But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other .

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Other habits to break

- ◆ Anger,

 - A relative state of anger

- ◆ Rage,

 - a state of intense anger, with the implication of passionate outbursts—'anger, fury, wrath, rage.'

Other habits to break

- ◆ Malice,

a feeling of hostility and strong dislike, with a possible implication of desiring to do harm

- ◆ Slander

to speak against someone in such a way as to harm or injure his or her reputation

Other habits to break

- ◆ Filthy language

obscene, shameful speech involving culturally disapproved themes—'vulgar speech, obscene speech, dirty talk.'

- ◆ Don't lie to one another

to communicate what is false, with the evident purpose of misleading

Colossians 3

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Colossians 3

⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Realize that you have choices

1. Take off
2. Put on
3. Remember where you are starting from

Colossians 3

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Realize that you have choices

1. Take off
2. Put on
3. Remember where you are starting from
4. Recognize that you have an enemy who embodies every thing that you are to avoid

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

James 4

Sow What?

- ◆ How do you respond to Paul's bold statements regarding your conduct and attitudes?
- ◆ Is it difficult for you to "put to death" the works of the flesh? Why?
- ◆ How can we move from resignation to determination in the areas that trouble you?