

The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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The Resurrection Seldom Spoken About

TEXT - Colossians 3:1-4, "1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."



INTRODUCTION

Gnostics – Knowing ones - stars, angels

Perfect – Enlightened ones – initiates.

New Age – In tune with all elements.

In Chapter two, HE has told us:

× **He wants love and understanding of the mystery.**
Colossians 2:1-2, "1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; 2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full

assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ,"

× **He wants us to know all the treasures of both wisdom and knowledge which is hidden in Christ.**

Colossians 2:3, "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

× **He warns, "lest we be beguiled" (deceived by false reasoning).**

Colossians 2:4, "And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words."

× **He wants us to be:**
Colossians 2:7, "Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

- a. Rooted
- b. Built up
- c. Stablished
- d. Thankful

× **He warns us against:**
Colossians 2:8, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

- a. Philosophy – Love of wisdom.
- b. Vain deceit – Empty words supposedly given by angels.
- c. Traditions of men and world.
- d. Rudiments of the world supposedly given by astrology.

× **He acknowledges that fullness of the Godhead bodily dwells in Christ and we are complete in Him.**

Colossians 2:9, "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

× **He says that Christ is Head above all.**

Colossians 2:10, "And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:"

- a. Principalities
- b. Powers

I. **We Are:**

A. **Free from ordinances of the Law.**

Colossians 2:14, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;"

B. **Free from judgments of man.**

Colossians 2:16, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:"

C. **Free from alleged revelations of angels.**

Colossians 2:18, "Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen,

vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,”

D. Free from ordinances of men gained from the stars.

Colossians 2:20, “Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,”

E. Application:

1. All fullness dwells in Christ.
2. We are complete in Him.
3. We do not need extra revelation of men, stars, or angels.
4. We are to set our affections on things above, not on the earth.
5. Our life is hid with Christ so we are conformed to Him.

II. We Are:

A. Dead with Him.

Colossians 2:20, “Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,”

B. But we are buried with Him.

Colossians 2:12, “Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.”

C. We are made alive with Him.

Colossians 2:13, “And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;”

D. We are risen with Him.

Colossians 3:1a, “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above,…”

E. We are sitting with Him.

Colossians 3:1b, “...where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”

F. We shall appear with Him in glory.

Colossians 3:4, “When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”

G. Application:

1. So why obey principalities and powers?
2. So why obey the ordinances of angels, astrologists, or traditions of men or the old Law?
3. We were dead. Now our life is hid in Christ, Who is our life.
Colossians 3:3, “3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”

III. We Should:

A. Set our affections on things above.

Colossians 3:2, “Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”

B. Mortify our members.

Colossians 3:5, “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:”

C. Put off the old man with his sins.

Colossians 3:8, “But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.”

D. Put on the new man with his virtues.

Colossians 3:10, “And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:”

E. Let the peace of God rule (umpire).

Colossians 3:15a, “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body;...”

F. Be thankful – mindful of favors.

Colossians 3:15b, “...and be ye thankful.”

G. Let His Word dwell in you.

Colossians 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

H. Do all to God’s glory.

Colossians 3:17, “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”

I. Application:

1. This instructs wives regarding submission.
Colossians 3:18, “Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.”
2. This instructs husbands regarding love.
Colossians 3:19, “Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them.”
3. This instructs children regarding obedience.
Colossians 3:20, “Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.”
4. This instructs employees regarding work, as for Christ.
Colossians 3:22, “Servants, obey in all things *your* masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in

singleness of heart,
fearing God:"

5. This instructs masters regarding being just and fair.
Colossians 4:1, "Masters, give unto *your* servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven."
6. This instructs us in acting right toward unbelievers.
Colossians 4:5, "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time."
7. This instructs our speech in showing grace.
Colossians 4:6a, "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt,..."
8. This instructs us to have a ready answer for all men.
Colossians 4:6b, "...that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."

CONCLUSION

If we do not change, the resurrection of Christ was in vain.