

ROOTED IN CHANGE

Following Christ is all about change.

(Colossians 3:1-11) So if you have been raised with the Messiah, seek what is above, where the Messiah is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on what is above, not on what is on the earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with the Messiah in God. When the Messiah, who is your life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Therefore, put to death whatever in you is worldly: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, God's wrath comes on the disobedient, and you once walked in these things when you were living in them. But now you must also put away all the following: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his practices and have put on the new man, who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of his Creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all.

1. The Old Man

A. The "pre-Christ" image of an individual that is characterized by darkness and death.

(Colossians 3:5a) Therefore, put to death whatever in you is worldly:...

(Colossians 3:6-8) Because of these, God's wrath comes on the disobedient, and you once walked in these things when you were living in them. But now you must also put away all the following:...

(Colossians 3:9) Do not lie to one another, since you have put off THE OLD MAN with his practices...

B. There's a great temptation to cling to the old man

(Romans 3:23) All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

(Romans 6:23a) The wages of sin is death,...

(Romans 6:23b) ...but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 10:9) If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

2. The New Man

A. Our "physical self" is temporary and eventually dies.

B. Our "spiritual self" is permanent and lives forever.

C. When a person gives their life to Christ, their old spiritual self (OLD MAN) dies, and a new spiritual self (NEW MAN) is born.

(2 Corinthians 5:17) If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come.

(Colossians 3:9-10) You have put off the old man with his practices and have put on the new man, who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of his Creator.

D. When a person dies who is NOT a Christ follower, their OLD MAN is given a new body – and lives forever, but SEPARATED from Christ.

E. When a person dies, who IS a Christ follower, their NEW MAN is given a new body – and lives forever UNITED with Christ.

3. The New Mind

(Colossians 3:1-4) So if you have been raised with the Messiah, seek what is above, where the Messiah is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your MINDS on what is above, not on what is on the earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with the Messiah in God. When the Messiah, who is your life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

A. "Seek what is above."

B. "Set your minds on what is above."

C. Heaven is "above."

(Philippians 3:20-21) Our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of His glorious body.

(Philippians 1:21&23) For me, living is Christ and dying is gain... I have the desire to depart and be with Christ - which is far better.