

Colossians Series

Lesson #51

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Dean Bible Ministries

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A landscape photograph showing a field of dry, brown grass in the foreground, a line of bare trees in the middle ground, and a range of mountains in the background under a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

COLOSSIANS:

Jesus Christ is All-Sufficient

Sin Nature: Reality Check

Colossians 2:20–3:7; Romans 6:1–23

The Problem:

Seeking help for life's problems apart from Christ results in Spiritual Decapitation which cuts us off from the:

- **authority of Christ**
- **nourishment from Christ**
- **spiritual growth from Christ**
- **the strength of Christ (cf., Philippians 4:13)**
- **future rewards, privileges, and blessings in the kingdom.**

The Solution:

- **understanding our position “In Christ” (Col. 2:10–11)**
- **living in light of its reality**
- **developing a mind-set based on reality (3:2)**
- **actively “putting to death” sin in our life (Colossians 3:5) and “putting off” these sins (Colossians 3:8)**

Misconceptions and distortions:

- **Spiritual growth is inevitable to the one who is “truly” saved (the “Lordship,” Reformed option)**
- **a one-time decision indicated by a second event of dedication (some sort of magic bullet) (the “higher life,” Keswick, holiness-pentecostal option)**
- **simply *doing* what the Bible says, without reference to the Holy Spirit (the morality, legalism option)**
- **the Holy Spirit communicates directly through me as to what I should do (the mysticism, asceticism option)**
- **I need to “crucify” self**

Col. 2:11–12, “In Him you were also [spiritually] circumcised . . ., by putting off [*ekduo*] the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, [by being] buried with Him in baptism, . . .

Col. 2:20, “Therefore, if you died with Christ ...”

Col. 3:1, “If then you were raised with Christ ...”

Col. 3:5, “**Therefore** put to death your members which are on the earth:”

Col. 3:8, “But now you yourselves are to put off [*apotithemi*] all these ...”

Col. 3:10–11, “[because you] have put on [*enduo*] the new man ... where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.”

Gal. 3:27, “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Gal. 3:28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

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Gal. 3:28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

**ἐνδύω (*endyō*),
aor mid ind
dress, clothe;**

**“Putting on Christ” happens simultaneously with the
Baptism of the Holy Spirit
(cf., Col. 3:10, in contrast to “put off” in Col. 3:8, 9)**

ETERNAL REALITIES

Positional Truth

Identification Truth

IN CHRIST

“You have put off the old man”
“you have put on the new man”
Col. 3:9–10

TEMPORAL REALITIES

Experiential Reality

FILLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

“Walking by the Holy Spirit”
“Put off” Col. 3:8
“Put on...” Col. 3:12ff
1 Jn. 1:9

ACTS 16:31

SIN NATURE

CARNALITY
Sin Nature Control

Col. 3:8, “But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. [Experiential]

Col. 3:9, “Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, [positional]”

3:8

**ἀποτίθημι *apotithēmi*
aor mid impera 2 plur
to put off, away**

“But now you put off all these: ...”

3:9

**ἀπεκδύομαι *apekduomai*
aor mid part masc plur nom
to take off; remove clothing, to disarm**

**causal,
“because you have already removed”**

Col. 2:20, “Therefore, if¹ you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations—”

Col. 3:1, “If¹ then you were raised with Christ, seek[!] those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Col. 3:2, “Set your mind[!] on things above, not on things on the earth.

Col. 3:3, “For [because] you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Rom. 6:3, “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”

Rom. 6:4, “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

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βαπτίζω *baptizō*

aor pass indic 1 plur

lit. to immerse, wash, dip, plunge

fig. for identification

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συνθάπτω *sunthaptō*
aor pass indic 1 plur
“to bury with”

περιπατέω *peripateō*
aor act subj 1 plur
used for a command

“to walk, walk around”
fig. to live, a reference to
lifestyle

ETERNAL REALITIES

Positional Truth

Identification Truth

IN CHRIST

New Life in Christ

Baptism by means
of the Holy Spirit



ACTS 16:31

TEMPORAL REALITIES

Rom. 6:5, “For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Rom. 6:6, “[because we know] knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.”

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γίνομαι *ginomai*

perf act indic 1 plur [completed action]

“to become, be, be born, be created”

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γίνομαι *ginomai*
perf act indic 1 plur [completed
action]

“to become, be, be born, be created”

εἶμι *eimi*
fut indic 1 plur
to be, exist (sum)

Rom. 6:7, “For he who has died has been freed from sin.”

ἀποθνήσκω *apothnēsko*
2aor act part masc sing
nom
to die

****the aor ptcp precedes the action of the main verb**

δικαίωω *dike*
perf pass indic 3
sing to pronounce
righteous, justify,
declare righteous

Because the one who has died (positionally with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit)

“has been and continues to be declared righteous from sin”

Rom. 6:5, “For if¹ we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Rom. 6:6, “[because we know] knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.”

Col. 3:9, “Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,”

Rom. 6:8, “Now if¹ we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

Rom. 6:9, “knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.”

Rom. 6:10, “For *the death* that He died, He died to sin once for all; but *the life* that He lives, He lives to God.

Rom. 6:11, “Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Rom. 6:12, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

Rom. 6:13, “And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

Rom. 6:14, “For sin shall not have dominion [!] over you, for you are not under law but under grace.”

present act imperatives

Standard behavior for the believer