

“Lifestyle for the Christian”

• HANDOUT •

► In this lesson's study-passage, Paul takes a close look at what it means to actually walk the Christian Lifestyle. He begins by reasoning with the Believers in Colosse. Those who have received the Lord into their lives must stop living as they did before they were Believers. Once again Paul addresses the list of sins which we looked at individually in our last study. This list becomes the basis for our current study. Paul's point: It doesn't matter who you are or where you came from, whether you are Jew or Gentile, Circumcised or Uncircumcised, Slave or Free. The Redeemed of the Lord reflect Him and therefore must begin eradicating these sins from their lives.

Colossians 3:7-8 • You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Q: What do the two verbs, “walk” and “lived” tell us about the Believers' pre-Christian lifestyle?

Q: What does the phrase “But now” tell us?

Q: What does the imagery in the phrase “rid yourselves” convey?

Q: What are the specific meanings of the attitudes and speech we are to remove from our lives?

Sinful Attitude & Speech	Greek Name	Meaning
1 Anger	Orge	
2 Rage	Thymos	
3 Malice	Kakia	
4 Slander	Blasphemia	
5 Filthy Language	Aischrologia	

Paul Adds One More Sin to the List ...

Colossians 3:9-10 • Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Q: Why does Paul single out the sin of lying for special mention?

Q: Most people feel that lying – especially the little white variety – is so common that it's no big deal. So why does Paul take such a strict attitude toward lying?

Q: How does Paul describe the “new self?”

Colossians 3:11 • Here, there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Q: What does the word “HERE” refer to?

Q: What do the various comparative groups mentioned in this passage refer to?

1	Greek or Jew	Reflects the differences in:
2	Circumcised or Uncircumcised	Reflects the differences between [This was also another way of speaking of]
3	Barbarians	Reflects foreigners who did not speak
4	Scythian	Reflects foreigners who were
5	Slave or Free	Reflects the social caste of being

Q: What is curiously missing from this list? [Ref: Galatians 3:28]

Q: What replaced that which was omitted?

Q: Why was this omitted from the Colossians passage?

How the Redeemed and Regenerated are to walk in the World ...

Colossians 3:12-14 • Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Q: No one is without sin this side of Glory. So, in what way are God's people “holy?”

Q: What are the ramifications of being God's chosen people?

Q: In verses 7 & 8, Paul told the Believers at Colosse to rid themselves of the “clothing” that represented the sinful things in their lives. Now he tells them to put on “new clothing.” What virtues are Believers to clothes themselves with?

Q: What do these virtues point to?

	Virtue	Greek Term	Description
1	Compassion	splanchna oiktirmou)	
2	Kindness	chrestotes	
3	Humility	tapeinophrosyne	
4	Gentleness	prautes	
5	Patience	makrothymia	

Q: Next, Paul expands his list with what admonition?

Q: What does it mean to “bear with and forgive?”

Q: What is the virtue in this list that is over-arching?

Now ... Paul presents the “Rule of Peace” for Believers ...

Colossians 3:15 · Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Q: What is the “Peace of Christ?”

▶ This can be understood in two ways:

John 14:25-27 · [Jesus said:] "All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Q: Why is the admonishment to be thankful added at the end of Paul's statement about the "Peace of Christ?"

► This is a promise the Lord makes in both the O.T. & the N.T. as shown below:

Deuteronomy 31:7-8 · *Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the Lord swore to their forefathers to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. 8 The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*

Matthew 28:16-20 · *Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

**Once the "Rule of Peace" has been established
His WORD must indwell us ...**

Colossians 3:16-17 · *Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

Q: What is the "WORD of Christ?"

► This should be understood in two ways:

- 1.
- 2.

Q: What is significant about Paul using the concept of the WORD dwelling in the Believer?

Q: What is significant about Paul adding the word "richly" to the concept of the WORD dwelling within the Believer?

Q: What does the indwelling WORD allow the Believer to do?

Q: What is the one restriction for the Believer?

Q: Is this why the majority of Christians end their prayers in Jesus' Name?

John 14:6 · Jesus replied, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Hebrews 4:14-16 · Therefore since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest incapable of sympathizing with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way just as we are, yet without sin.

Therefore let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and find grace whenever we need help.

John 14:13-17 · You can ask for anything in My Name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in My Name, and I will do it!

“If you love me, you will obey what I command.

And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever– the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.

John 16:23b-24 · I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in My Name. Until now you have not asked for anything in My Name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

Q: When Jesus said that if we “ask for anything in My Name I will do it,” does that mean He is obligated to give us what we ask for?

Q: After reading these scriptures, are you convinced that it is proper and necessary to end your prayers in the Name of Jesus? [ref: Matthew 28:18]

**Paul now turns to a new subject:
How being the Redeemed of the Lord with their new nature
affects their interpersonal relationship.
This is where we will pick up the study next time...**

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Next Time ◆ Lesson #7

“Interpersonal Relationship Under Christ”