

Put to Death Your Earthly Members

Colossians 3:5-11 (Part One)

Stuart W. Bryan

- The Letter Opening (1:1 – 2:5)
- The Letter Body (2:6 – 4:6)
 - 3:1-4:6 – Love
 - Be Heavenly Minded (3:1-4)
 - Put Off the Old Man (3:5-11)
 - Put On the New Man (3:12-4:1)
- The Letter Closing: Greetings, Plans, and Instructions (4:7 – 18)

I. Far too easily pleased

“If there lurks in most modern minds the notion that to desire our own good and earnestly to hope for the enjoyment of it is a bad thing, I submit that this notion has crept in from Kant and the Stoics and is no part of the Christian faith. Indeed, if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.” C.S. Lewis

A. Heavenly Mindedness

1. Appearing with Him in glory

2. Raised with Christ

B. Love

II. Earthly Mindedness as Sexual Perversity

A. “Put to Death” Your Members on the Earth

B. Dealing with the Heart of the Issue (cf. Mk 7:20-23; Dt 5:21)

- Fornication –
- Uncleaness –
- Passion (Lust) –
- Evil desire –
- Covetousness –

“Sexual fantasies... are off limits for the Christian, not simply because of the actions they may produce, but because they are in themselves a way of worshiping a false god, the pagan divinity of erotic love. Like all pagan worship, this consists of giving one’s allegiance to something in the transient world of present experience, rather than to the living God, the creator.” N.T. Wright

C. Beware the Wrath of God (cf. Ro 1:17ff; 1 Cor 10:8; 1 Thes 4:1ff)

III. Application

A. Put to Death Sexual Immorality

B. Sexual Honor vs. Sexual Immorality (cf. Heb 13:4-6; Pr 5:15-20)

C. The Glory of Conquest

IV. Conclusion