**Colossians 8**

Colossians 3:1-5

9/14/25 AM

**When I was growing up, I lived on Chicken nuggets.**

* If we went out to eat, went through a drive through, or I got to pick, it was chicken nuggets all the way.
* In fact, my mom and dad tell a story that when my brother and I were little, we were on the road and had gone through a drive through and in the backseat my brother looked at me and said, *“Sam, if I took a bite out of you, it would taste like a chicken nugget.”*

PAUSE

There’s an old saying that goes, *“You are what you eat.”*

* In other words, what we eat affects our body.
* Now, in 2025 we know this to be true.
* In fact, last year there was a documentary on Netflix based on an 8-week study conducted by Stanford University that put 22 sets of genetically identical twins on opposing (but healthy) diets: omnivore and vegan.
  + After eight weeks, the twins on the vegan diet had “a 10% to 15% drop in LDL cholesterol, a 25% drop in insulin, and a 3% drop in body weight just by making changes to their diet.”
  + So, there’s a lot of truth in the old saying, we are what you eat.

**But here’s an equally truthful saying – *“We are what we think.”***

* Just as our health is determined by the food we consume, so the courses of our lives are determined by the thoughts we think.

PAUSE

**Today, we’re going to continue our way through the NT book of Colossians.**

* Paul wrote this letter to a group of Christians he had never met but for whom he felt responsible.
* **False teachers were threatening this young church by telling the Colossians that Jesus was just a steppingstone.**
  + If they really wanted to be fulfilled/liberated, they needed to open their minds to the cultural ideas of the day, they needed to consider Greek philosophy, incorporate the rites and rituals of Judaism, or maybe even adopt the materialism and might of the Roman Empire.
  + The false teachers didn’t encourage anyone to renounce Jesus, they just said he wasn’t enough. He wasn’t supreme and he wasn’t sufficient.

So, in response, Paul just shines the spotlight on Jesus, calling for his readers to continue in Christ alone, to say no to all the counterfeits that contend for our attention and keep us from undivided devotion to Christ.

**And Paul spends the first part of this letter telling us why we should stick with Jesus.**

But in chapter two, he begins telling us how to stick with Jesus. And so far, he’s told us that we can stick with Jesus by:

* Walking with him.
* Fixing our eyes on him.
* Avoiding distorted versions of the gospel.

**In our text today, the apostle is going to tell us that we stick with Jesus by living as those who’ve been made alive in Christ.**

* Once again, it almost sounds like a cliché. But if we dig in, Paul’s instruction is packed with practical action.

So, turn to…

***Colossians 3:1-4 NLT*** *Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand.****2****Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.****3****For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.****4****And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.*

So, from what believers are not supposed to do—which is allow false teachers to impress their agenda upon them [that’s what we talked about the last time we were together] (cf. esp. vv. 8, 16, 18)—Paul now turns to what believers are to do—which is focus on the new, heavenly dimension of reality that has dawned with the coming of Christ.[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Paul tells us that since we have been raised with Christ, we are to seek with diligence, to pursue, chase after, the things above.[[2]](#footnote-2)**

* If we are in Christ, then our priorities are to be shaped by the things that get top billing in heaven.[[3]](#footnote-3)

PAUSE

**Church, once again Paul reminds us that to commit ourselves to following Christ is to take on a whole new life.[[4]](#footnote-4)**

To be “in Christ” means to “have Christ in us.” And this indwelling fellowship with Christ has potent consequences in our lives.[[5]](#footnote-5)

In John Mark Comer’s book *Practicing the Way*, he writes…

*“The original name for the community of Jesus’ apprentices was “the Way” or “followers of the Way…[In the book of Acts] the Greek word for “way” is hodos. The word literally means “a road or path,” but Jesus used it as a metaphor for apprenticeship to him. In this word picture is a simple but revolutionary idea: The Way of Jesus is not just a theology (a set of ideas that we believe in our heads). It is that, but it's more. And it’s not just ethics (a list of dos and don’ts that we obey or disobey). It is that, but it’s still more. It's exactly what it sounds like — a way of life…Christianity is more than a theory about the universe, more than teachings written down on paper; it is a path along which we journey— in the deepest and richest sense, the way of life.”*[[6]](#footnote-6)

**And for the apostle Paul, it begins, appropriately, with a summons to think differently—to think about what we’re thinking about—to adopt a mind-set that reflects our new identity and life in Christ.[[7]](#footnote-7)**

PAUSE

In his book *Winning the War on Your Mind*, best-selling author Craig Groeschel argues that our lives are always moving in the direction of our strongest thoughts.[[8]](#footnote-8)

* What we think shapes who we become and who we are becoming.[[9]](#footnote-9)
  + Every action we take, every word we say, and every attitude we express originates in our thoughts.[[10]](#footnote-10)

**So, if we’re going to live as people who have been made new in Christ, it begins with being intentional about setting our minds on things above.**

* And in our text today, Paul doesn’t leave us guessing, he gets into how we go about this with a couple of tangible steps.

So, let’s tease these out and then we’ll wrap up our time together with a crucial question.

* And we’ll actually consider Paul’s instruction in reverse order. So, working backwards, Paul tells us that…

1. **We must not think about the things of earth.**

**We live as those who’ve been made alive in Christ by not setting our minds on the things of earth.**

* Now obviously, this doesn’t mean that believers are to live in a kind of mystical fog or that we neglect the affairs of life.[[11]](#footnote-11)

That’s an impossible interpretation. Taken like that, Paul would be advising Christians to have nothing to do with this life at all.

* So, a Christian could never be a mechanic, a surgeon, a businessman, a technician, or a chef; or even a good husband, wife, employer, *etc.* as Paul expounds later. [[12]](#footnote-12)

**So, the question becomes what does Paul mean when he says, “think not of the things on earth?”**

Well, Paul uses the same Greek phrase in verse 5 to refer to sins that are to be crushed, put to death.

* And the first step in putting sins to death, as every Christian knows, is not to set our minds upon them.

One commentator explains, *“it is fundamental to apostolic teaching that we cannot set our minds on Christ and sin at the same time, and that to concentrate on sinful, earthly things is to seriously to weaken, and even threaten, our fellowship with Christ.”*[[13]](#footnote-13)

PAUSE

**Church, in this letter, Paul often refers to the non-Christian past of his readers.**

He talks about how they used to be people who were completely out of harmony with God, enmeshed in idolatry and slavery to sin, hostile towards God and godless in their actions.[[14]](#footnote-14)

* That’s who they used to be.

**But God had brought about a mighty change in their lives by reconciling them to himself through Christ’s death on the cross (1:22).[[15]](#footnote-15)**

As followers of Christ, they now shared in his resurrection life, so their lives were to be different.

* Their interests were to be focused on Christ; their minds, aims, ambitions, in fact their whole outlook, was to be centered on that heavenly realm where Christ rules and where their lives truly belonged.[[16]](#footnote-16)
* And Paul tells us that a continuous, ongoing effort is required (lit. ‘keep on setting your minds/hearts’) for such a focus does not come automatically.

**So, as Christ-followers we must think about what we’re thinking about.**

And I’ve got some diagnostic questions that I think will be beneficial. Charles Stanley…

1. **Where will my strongest thoughts lead me?**

If I keep on traveling this path, where is it going to lead me?

* Our thoughts are going to lead us somewhere.

1. **Are my strongest thoughts leading me where I want to go?**

And to answer that question we have to determine where we want to go.

* Who do I want to be as a man? Or who do I want to be as a woman?
* Where do I want to be in 10 years, what kind of legacy do I want to lay down over the next 10 years?

1. **Are my strongest thoughts Scripturally acceptable?**

Do these thoughts line up with the truth of God’s Word?

* And church, I think this is an area where we need to be brutally honest about our tendency to create loopholes for ourselves.

And it’s so easy to adopt a victim mentality.

* This is the hand I’ve been dealt, environment, how the world turns.

**But we do not have to engage what we know is not right.**

***John 14:15-18 NLT*** *“If you love me, obey my commandments.****16****And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.****17****He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn’t looking for him and doesn’t recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.* ***18****No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you.*

* If we follow Jesus, we have the Spirit of God living within us and He will enable us to do whatever is necessary to overcome whatever we’re facing.

1. **Are my strongest thoughts building me up or tearing me down?**

It’s one or the other.

* Conforming or transforming, but never is it neither.

**But we convince ourselves that we’re riding in the middle.**

Matt Chandler, “If I had to [guess], what hinders many of us in our relationship with Christ is not something that’s morally wicked but something that’s morally neutral. I couldn’t take you to Bible and say, “See, look that’s evil.” … I don’t think television is evil, I don’t think all movies are evil and I don’t think all hobbies and leisure are evil. For the record, we are [evil]. And because we are evil, we do those things and elevate those things beyond where those things should be and then don’t pursue God with the same diligence by which we pursue whatever the [neutral] thing is.[[17]](#footnote-17)

If our lives are always moving in the direction of our strongest thoughts, are our strongest thoughts building us up or tearing us down.

1. **Could I share my strongest thoughts with someone else?**

**Would I feel comfortable sharing these thoughts with a brother or sister in Christ?**

* My strongest thoughts, my repeated thoughts – would I feel comfortable sharing these thoughts with a brother or sister in Christ?
  + Would they tell me those thoughts are building me up or tearing me down?

1. **Where did these thoughts originate?**

**Not all thoughts are created equal, right?**

* Some thoughts do not originate from the Word of God, they don’t originate from Christlikeness, they don’t originate from anything holy, or from anything that is good for us.
* So, when we’re wrestling with feelings of anger, bitterness, hopelessness, entitlement, or what we know is immoral, we need to stop and ask ourselves, what is the source behind what I’m thinking?
  + Don’t Give the Enemy a Seat

1. **Do I feel guilty thinking these thoughts?**

The thoughts I’m thinking about myself, my children, my spouse, my coworkers, my boss, my friends.

* Do I feel guilty thinking these thoughts?
* **Another way to ask that question, do I find myself trying to justify the thoughts I’m choosing to dwell upon?**
* Church let’s level with each other – if we’re thinking about sinful things (let’s call it what is! Let’s address as Paul addresses it—if we’re thinking sinful thoughts and we’re entering this internal debate about why we’re free to engage in behavior that has never been appropriate for the people of God, then we need to think a little deeper.
  + We need to ask ourselves some questions…
    - Am I really trying to follow Jesus?
    - Am I really trusting Jesus?
    - Are my eyes fixed on Him or on the waves?
    - Have I really surrendered my life to Him?
    - Or am I trying to claim the blessings of Christ while not actually following Christ?

1. **Do my strongest thoughts fit who I am as a follower of Jesus?**

If we’re not a follower of Jesus anything goes. But once we trust Christ as our savior, there are some thoughts that no longer fit.

* They just don’t fit.

***Colossians 3:5-10 NLT*** *So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.* ***6****Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming.* ***7****You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world.* ***8****But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language.* ***9****Don’t lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds.* ***10****Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.*

If we find ourselves dwelling upon thoughts that do not fit, it’s time to get rid of them.

PAUSE

We have the right and the power to answer all those questions for our life. Nobody else can answer them for us.

* If we’ve trusted Jesus as our Savior, we’ve been given the HS, and we have the power to think heavenward.

**So, how do we think about the things of heaven?**

We must first identify the sinful, earthly thoughts that compete for our attention, and those questions can help us do that, and then we must choose not to dwell upon those things…

We live as those who’ve been made alive in Christ by not thinking about the things of earth. Secondly…

1. **Think about the things of heaven.**

**Psychologists and others who study how our minds work talk about the law of exposure. The law of exposure says that the mind absorbs and reflects what it is exposed to the most.**

* Which is what Paul teaches here. So, if we want to change our life, we have to change our thinking.[[18]](#footnote-18)

And how do we change our thinking?

* I’ll give you the centrals.
  1. **For everyone, it’s going to involve Scripture.**

We can guess about God, we can create our own version of God, or we can humble ourselves before Him and how He’s revealed Himself in the Scriptures.[[19]](#footnote-19)

* To think like people who’ve been made new, we must look to God’s Word.[[20]](#footnote-20)

***Colossians 3:16 NLT*** *Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives.*

* The Greek carries the idea that the message about Christ is to fill our lives abundantly, great degree, to the extreme.
* We don’t read the Bible like it’s a newspaper. It’s not a race to the end. We chew on it, think on it, and apply it.[[21]](#footnote-21)

If believers are to be transformed into the character of Christ, the word of Christ should find a home in our hearts. It should not come and go, show up occasionally, or be something we visit like a vacation spot.

* As Eugene Peterson translates this phrase, “Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives” …[[22]](#footnote-22)

So, for all of us, it involves the Scriptures.

* 1. **For everyone it’s going to involve prayer.**

Practicing the Way.

* Maybe morning maybe not.

So, for all of us, it involves prayer.

* 1. **It’s going to involve fellowship, community.**

We set our minds on things above by walking with others who are also interested and intentional in setting their minds on things above. It’s in community that the conversation frequently comes back to who He is, how He is and what He is accomplishing in our lives.[[23]](#footnote-23)

**So, church, these are kind of just simple, historic, spiritual disciplines of the church.**

They have always been there and always will be. If we are followers of Jesus, these components should be in all of our lives.[[24]](#footnote-24)

We live as those who’ve been made alive in Christ by not thinking about the things of earth and by thinking about the things of heaven and we set our minds heavenward through intentional, consistent engagement in Scripture, prayer and fellowship.

**PAUSE**

Crucial question

***Colossians 3:1 NLT*** *Since you have been raised to new life with Christ…*

***Colossians 3:1 ESV*** *If then you have been raised with Christ…*

**Who is Paul talking to here?**

He’s talking to those who’ve chosen to follow Jesus. He’s talking to those who’ve been born again, those who’ve been made alive in Christ.

* And it’s imperative that we recognize who Paul is talking to because if we miss that Paul is talking to Christians, that he’s talking to those who’ve been made alive in Christ, we’ll fall into the same trap as the false teachers in chapter 2 thinking that we can do a few things and not do a few other things and earn our way to heaven.
* We’ll read the rest of Colossians thinking that Paul is giving is a formula for earning salvation.
  + Well, I can just clean up my life a little bit and by cleaning up my act, I can curry favor with God.[[25]](#footnote-25)

But church, it is God alone who justifies, who makes us right before himself in Christ. It is Christ and Christ alone who raises us from the pit. We have nothing to offer Him that in the end will make right what we have wronged.[[26]](#footnote-26)

* So, what Paul describes in the rest of this letter is not a formula for earning our salvation. The apostle is describing the natural and appropriate response of those who’ve been redeemed and forgiven by Christ.

**So, the real question—the crucial question—becomes** **have we been raised with Christ?**

* Have you been raised with Christ?
* Have you been born again?
  + I didn’t ask if we admire Jesus and His teaching—have we been raised with Him?

Again, I think some diagnostic questions are helpful. So, I’m just going to ask a couple of questions. And if we answer “no” to some of them, then I think we can make the case that we are not a Christian. It’s just as simple as that.[[27]](#footnote-27)

1. **Have you recognized/acknowledged that we have sinned against God, that we have fallen short of His glorious standard and that wages of our sin is death?**

Do we believe that? If we don’t believe that, then we’re not a Christian.

Thomas Oden, “Regrettably the term salvation has been cheapened by an extensive history of misuse. To understand what it means to be saved, you must first understand what it means to be lost (appolu, Matt. 18:1; Tertullian, On Chastity 7-9). Those who have not yet grasped any real sense in which they are truly lost are not yet ready to hear about being saved (Luke 15:24,32; Augustine, Expos. of Luke 7.213-215). The metaphor of lostness comes from Jesus himself, who spoke of the lost son, the lost sheep, the lost coin (Luke 15). His parables set forth the power of being found, saved from lostness. A faraway pigsty was not where the prodigal son truly belonged. Only when he returned home to the father was, he saved. The lost sheep were saved not because they found their own way back but because the shepherd went out and diligently searched for them (Luke 15:3,4). If humanity had never fallen into sin, there would be no need of a Savior. Only the sick need a physician (Mark 2:17; Augustine, Letter 157 to Hilarius). But since human freedom has fallen, and humanity lives out of an actual history of sin, a saving act is required.”[[28]](#footnote-28)

**And this is hard for us because we live in a culture in which we’ve been trained to believe we can be our own saviors.**

* Despite all the sin in the world—all the sin that swirls around and engulfs humanity, we’ve been led to believe that we can become righteous/good on our own. We have believed the lie that we do not need a Savior; that we’re able to save ourselves.[[29]](#footnote-29)

**But church, in the only eyes that matter—sin is a terrible thing.**

* It is the willful violation of God's will for us.

You’ve maybe heard before that the word for sin is generally translated from an original word that meant "to miss the mark."

* It is to miss life’s true purpose, its valid end. It violates what we were intended by our Creator to be.
* Sin is more than a mere mistake; it is rebellion and disobedience.
* Sin is not merely missing the bull's eye of the target; it is shooting at the wrong target. It is not merely stumbling on the path; it is to walk the wrong path…
* Sin must be seen as alienation from God. It is a barrier to fellowship and communion with him. It leaves us lonely and afraid. The consequent guilt drives us into ourselves, so that we feel defensive. Sin is idolatry, putting in first place what is not of first importance. It is turning from the Creator who made us and exalting what has been created.
* Sin alters character and relationships. It destroys confidence. It produces guilt. It shatters self-respect. It twists thinking and confuses values. It changes perspective. It clouds moral sensitivity and perception.

As Paul said, it leads to death. Eternal separation from God.

**So, let us be honest with ourselves today—do we understand and recognize that we have offended and rebelled against the God of the universe?[[30]](#footnote-30)**

* Maybe you are hearing this today and you’ve already found forgiveness in Christ. You’ve heard the blessed good news of the gospel, and you have responded.
  + You’ve trusted in Christ as your Savior, and you have submitted to Him as Lord.
* But maybe you’re hearing this today and if you were honest, you’d admit that haven’t turned to Christ as Savior.

To understand what it means to be saved, we must first understand what it means to be lost.

1. **Have you recognized/acknowledged that Jesus died for our sins in our place and that He is the only way to the Father?**

Do you believe that Christ was crucified for your sin, for your rebellion and raised again on the third day? If our answer to that is “no,” then we are not a believer. We aren’t buying into orthodox Christianity. We have created something that is not historical or biblical Christianity.[[31]](#footnote-31)

**Humanity does not need merely to be instructed by example but by an actual historical event of redemption from sin acceptable to God.** According to classic Christianity, we are not only ignorant but corrupt; not merely finite but sinners; not merely those who feel guilty but who are guilty. Christ's death means more than mere instruction. It involves the good news that the prisoner is released and can go home free since another has paid his penalty, dying in his place.[[32]](#footnote-32)

John Chrysostom*, “We don’t deserve eternal life, but we receive it through faith in Christ. Christ does not deserve death but offers death through obedience on the cross for sinners.”[[33]](#footnote-33)*

Jesus Christ has paid the penalty for our sin. And guilt, the result of sin, can be cured in only one way: by repentance and confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

* So, to the lost one who asks, “Can a sinner like me be saved?” the answer is “Yes. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.”[[34]](#footnote-34)

**So, let us be honest with ourselves today—do we recognize that Christ died for us in our place and that He is the only way to the Father?**

* Maybe you are hearing this today and you’ve already found forgiveness in Christ. You’ve heard the blessed good news of the gospel, and you have responded.
  + You’ve trusted in Christ as your Savior, and you have submitted to Him as Lord.
* But maybe you’re hearing this today and if you were honest, you’d admit that haven’t turned to Christ as Savior.

***Romans 10:9 NLT*** *If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

1. **Do you have genuine affection for God?**

Are we serious about following God? Is there in you a genuine desire to submit and to humbly walk with the God of the universe?[[35]](#footnote-35)

* 4% of those surveyed.

**Church, we need to be honest…**

* No real desire to obey Jesus’ teaching.
* No willingness to submit to Him as Lord.
* No intention or readiness to deny our sinful flesh and take up our cross.
  + Then there is no way biblically…that we can define ourselves as disciples of Christ.

**So, how would you answer these three questions? And if you know you need to answer them differently, what step will you take today?**

PAUSE

Because church, the veil between this life and the next is so thin.

Today, a memorial service is being held for Charlie Kirk in Glendale, AZ. Over 100,000 people are expected to attend.

* But his assassination is deeply disturbing to us, beyond the terrible event itself, because it’s a reminder that we’re all one heartbeat away from death and eternity.
* And then the day after his assassination…

The veil is very thin. We are only safe in eternity if we are safely in Jesus Christ. There is, quite literally, a heaven to gain and a hell to shun. Choose wisely. You never know when there is no more time to choose.

1. Douglas J. Moo, [*The Letters to the Colossians and to Philemon*](https://ref.ly/logosres/pntccolphm?ref=Bible.Col3.1-4&off=920&ctx=ve+focus+in+2%3a8%E2%80%9323.+~From+what+the+believ), The Pillar New Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2008), 243. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Max Anders, [*Galatians-Colossians*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc69ga?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=1730&ctx=ions+and+new+minds.+~Paul+tells+us+that+s), vol. 8, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1999), 326. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Anders, [*Galatians-Colossians*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc69ga?ref=Bible.Col3.2&off=242&ctx=+on+earthly+things.+~This+does+not+mean+t), 327. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Harold W. Hoehner, Philip W. Comfort, and Peter H. Davids, [*Cornerstone Biblical Commentary: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, Philemon.*](https://ref.ly/logosres/cstonecm70eph?ref=Bible.Col3.1-4&off=5889&ctx=urther+Barna+1990).+~To+really+commit+one), vol. 16 (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2008), 284. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Thomas Oden, *Classic Christianity*, 652. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Comer, *Practicing the Way*, 24-25. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Moo, [*The Letters to the Colossians and to Philemon*](https://ref.ly/logosres/pntccolphm?ref=Bible.Col3.1-4.1&off=617&ctx=1%E2%80%932%2c+Paul+shows+how+~identification+with+), 243. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Groeschel, *Winning the War in Your Mind*, 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Groeschel, 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Groeschel, 92. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Anders, [*Galatians-Colossians*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc69ga?ref=Bible.Col3.2&off=242&ctx=+on+earthly+things.+~This+does+not+mean+t), 327. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. R. C. Lucas, [*Fullness & Freedom: The Message of Colossians & Philemon*](https://ref.ly/logosres/bstus72col?ref=Bible.Col3.2-4&off=923&ctx=+follows+this+is+an+~impossible+interpret), The Bible Speaks Today (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1980), 136–137. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Lucas, [*Fullness & Freedom: The Message of Colossians & Philemon*](https://ref.ly/logosres/bstus72col?ref=Bible.Col3.2-4&off=923&ctx=+follows+this+is+an+~impossible+interpret), 136–137. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. O’Brien, [“Colossians”](https://ref.ly/logosres/nbc?ref=Bible.Col&off=1041&ctx=ruth+of+the+gospel.%0a~Paul+often+refers+to), 1260. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. O’Brien, [“Colossians”](https://ref.ly/logosres/nbc?ref=Bible.Col&off=1486&ctx=and+godless+(2%3a13).%0a~God%2c+however%2c+had+ef), 1260. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. O’Brien, [“Colossians”](https://ref.ly/logosres/nbc?ref=Bible.Col3.1-2&off=118&ctx=raised+with+Christ.+~They+now+share+in+hi), 1272. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Matt Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=20654&ctx=n+temporary+things.+~If+I+had+to+bet%2c+wha) in *Matt Chandler Sermon Archive* (Village Church, 2010), Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Groeschel, 93. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=12657&ctx=ou+for+seven+years.+~For+everyone%2c+it%E2%80%99s+g) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Groeschel, 86. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=13840&ctx=this+is+so+key.+You+~don%E2%80%99t+read+the+Bible) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Anders, [*Galatians-Colossians*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc69ga?ref=Bible.Col3.16&off=6&ctx=be+preserved.%0a3%3a16.+~If+believers+are+to+), 331–332. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=14246&ctx=olved.+You+set+your+~mind+on+things+above) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=13072&ctx=+for+all+of+us%2c+but+~these+should+be+comp) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=1921&ctx=s+right+before+God.+~In+cleaning+up+their) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=2244&ctx=ut+love+for+Christ.+~It+is+God+alone+who+) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=2419&ctx=ou+have+wronged.%0aSo+~the+big+question+bef) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. Oden, [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. Bob Moss, *What Ever Happened to Sin*, 9. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=2742&ctx=belled+against+God%3f+~Do+you+believe+that%3f) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=3394&ctx=fice+for+your+sins%3f+~Do+you+believe+that+) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. Oden, 430. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. Oden, 651. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. Moss, 11. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. Chandler, [“If You Are Raised with Christ,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/mttchndlrsrrchv?ref=Bible.Col3.1&off=5356&ctx=ave+the+difficulty.+~Here+is+what+I+mean+) Col 3:1. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)