

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

COLOSSIANS 1:13-23

INTRODUCTION:

1. What does Jesus mean to your life? The book of Colossians helps us to answer that question. (Col. 1.18)
2. Colossians emphasizes Jesus as the Christ. (cf. Matt. 16.18)
3. In our text, Jesus as the creator and authority is also identified as our Savior. (cf. Matt. 1.21; Luke 19.10)

I. BECAUSE OF JESUS, I HAVE REDEMPTION

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.14:** *“in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”*
1. Spiritually, we are enslaved by sin. (John 8.34)
 2. The purchase price for our freedom well more than anyone can afford. (Ps. 49.6-8)
 3. Only the blood of Christ is valuable enough to be a ransom for our freedom. (Matt. 20.28; 1 Pet. 1.18,19)
- B. What does Jesus mean to me?
1. God is both just and forgiving. (Rom. 2.5; Jonah 4.2)
 2. Through Jesus, I am saved from God’s justice allowing Him to be merciful. (Rom. 3.26).

II. BECAUSE OF JESUS, I HAVE PEACE

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.20:** *“having made peace through the blood”*
1. Peace with God is accessed through faith. (Rom. 5.1; 4.12)
 2. Jesus is the One who made that possible. (Col. 1.20)
- B. What does Jesus mean to me?
1. I am no longer subject to God’s wrath. (Rom. 5.9)
 2. God is no longer angry with me. (Heb. 3.10,11)

III. BECAUSE OF JESUS, I HAVE RECONCILIATION

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.21:** *“yet now He has reconciled.”*
1. At one time, we were *“alienated and enemies”* (Co. 1.21).
 2. Why? *“in your mind by wicked works.”* (Col. 1.21)
- B. What does Jesus mean to me?
1. Through Jesus, I am *“holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight.”* (Col. 1.22).
 2. But my reconciliation is conditional. (Col. 1.23).

CONCLUSION: Are you pleasing to God? (Heb. 11.6)

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

June 21, 2015

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

IT MATTERS WHAT YOU THINK

On the campus of the University of Kentucky, a group of students were selling T-Shirts with the expression, “It doesn’t matter what you think. Just Think!” Such a sentiment seems to express the philosophy of this generation. Too many have the mindset that the truth is not important as long as you are thinking for yourself.

It is true that we need to think for ourselves. The Bereans did not accept the teachings of Paul but *“searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so”* (Acts 17.11). Later Paul wrote that we need to *“work out your own salvation”* (Phil. 2.12).

The problem does not lie in someone thinking for himself. It lies in the conclusions at which he arrives. It is essential that you not merely think and conclude what you want to think, but in your own studies and research come to the knowledge of the truth. Paul warned of those who are *“always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”* (2 Tim. 3.7).

Why did God give to us a divinely inspired book? Jesus reveals the simply answer: *“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”* (John 8.32). Everyone needs to be thinking for themselves. But according to the word of God it is important what we think.

CLP

HOW TO BE A GOOD MOTHER

LUKE 1:30,31

INTRODUCTION:

1. On the cross, Jesus showed concern for His mother.
 - a) **JOHN 19.25:** The mother of Jesus stood near the cross.
 - b) **JOHN 19.26:** He charged John to take care of His mother.
 - c) **JOHN 19.27:** *“the disciple took her to his home.”*
2. The Bible places great value on mothers.
3. In the example of Mary, the mother of Jesus, we can see what it takes to be a good mother.

I. A GOOD MOTHER IS DEVOTED TO GOD

- A. Mary was submissive to the will of God. (Luke 1.26-28)
 1. Mary is described as a virgin. (Luke 1.27,28,34)
 2. **LUKE 1.34:** *“I do not know a man?”* (cf. Gen. 4.1)
 3. What is the will of God? (1 Thess. 4.3)
- B. Mary was a worshipper of God. (Luke 1.46-50)
 1. **LUKE 1.46:** *“My soul magnifies the Lord.”*
 2. **LUKE 1.47,48:** *“He who is mighty:*
 3. **LUKE 1.49:** *“Holy is His name.”*
 4. **LUKE 1.50:** *“His mercy is on those who fear Him.”*
- C. The strong faith of a child often comes from his mother.
 1. Where did Timothy get his faith? (2 Tim. 1.5; 3.14,15)
 2. A child’s faith reflects that of his parents. (Prov. 22.6)

II. A GOOD MOTHER IS DEVOTED TO HER HUSBAND

- A. Mary respected her husband. (Luke 2.1-5)
 1. **LUKE 2.1-3:** Everyone went to their cities to be registered after Augustus Caesar called for a census.
 2. **LUKE 2.4,5:** Joseph and Mary took a long trip.
 3. Mary was willing to be put away to spare her husband any embarrassment. (Matt. 1.18-20)
- B. The faith of a child is often related to the relationship between husband and wife.
 1. **EPHESIANS 5:22:** *“Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord”*
 2. **EPHESIANS 5.23:** *“The husband is the head of the wife.”*
 3. **EPHESIANS 5:33:** *“...love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”*

CONCLUSION: Jesus grew up in an environment where His mother respected God, her husband, and believed in her Son.

NOTHING IS MORE SERIOUS THAN SIN

It is all too common for us to minimize the seriousness of sin. Yet the Bible associates sin with words like, *“separation”* (Isa. 59.2), *“death”* (Rom. 6.23), and *“hell”* (2 Pet. 2.4).

Why is sin taken so lightly? Why do so many not only fail to see the seriousness of sin but even boast in committing it? Primarily, most do not take sin seriously because there seems to be very little if any consequences.

The seriousness of the sin is often measured by the magnitude of the consequences. Committing murder is taken seriously because of the obvious consequences. Committing adultery is taken seriously because of the destruction it brings to the home. But if an unmarried couple decides to be intimate together, who does it harm? If some friends want to go out clubbing and get drunk, who is it going to hurt? What harm comes from telling a lie now and then? Because there is no immediate consequences, many do not see it as a serious problem. Some may even go so far as to believe that the lack of punishment indicates that God approves of their behavior (Ps. 50.21; Ecc. 8.11).

Jesus shows us the seriousness of sin, and He does so in two ways. First, consider His message. In Mark 9, Jesus teaches about Hell as a place where *“their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched”* (Mark 9.42-48). To keep ourselves from this place of eternal condemnation, Jesus tells us that *“if you hand causes you to sin, cut it off”* (Mark 9.43). Jesus says that sin is what sends us to Hell. So terrible is this place of eternal torment that Jesus tells that it is better to mutilate our bodies than to sin and end up there. Does that not speak to the seriousness of sin?

Second, Jesus shows us the seriousness of sin by what He did. Hebrews 10.5 says that Jesus was given a physical body for the specific purpose of offering it as a sacrifice. Philippians 2.7 tells us that Jesus gave up everything to come down and be infused into that body and live the life of a slave. Think about the unimaginable suffering that Jesus endured. With the scourging (John 19.1), the humiliation (Matt. 27.35), the emotional turmoil of being hated by His own people (Luke 23.21), the extreme torture of crucifixion (Mark 15.25), Jesus endured unimaginable horrors to purge us of our sins. Why would Jesus go through all of that if sin is “no big deal”?

Sin is as serious as it gets. *“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”* (1 Cor. 15.57). There is nothing more serious than sin. And there is no gift greater than the gift of forgiveness that comes through Jesus (2 Cor. 9.15). CLP