

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS
COLOSSIANS 3:5-11

INTRODUCTION:

1. There are things that we are to put away from us. [read text]
2. In context, we are reading about baptized believers who need to make some changes in their lives. (Col. 3.1,3)

I. WHAT WE ARE TO PUT OFF

- A. **COLOSSIANS 3.5:** *“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth”*
 1. Put to death. Literally, we are to separate ourselves from certain behaviors. (1 Thess. 5.22; Col. 3.8)
 2. Your members...on the earth. The parts of our bodies that are being used to sin. (Rom. 6.12,13)
- B. Put off immorality. (Col. 3.5)
 1. *“Fornication”* (porneia): Found most often in the Bible.
 2. *“Uncleaness, passion, evil desire.”* All connected to fornication. (1 Thess. 2.3; 4.5,7; Rom. 1.26)
 3. *“Covetousness”* Greediness.
- C. Put off mistreating others. (Col. 3.8,9)
 1. *“Anger, wrath”* (cf. Eph. 4.26)
 2. Verbal abuse. (Col. 3.8,9)

II. WHY WE ARE TO PUT THEM OFF

- A. To live a Christ-centered life.
 1. Contextually, we want to be with Jesus. (Col. 3.1-4)
 2. To be with Him, we must live like Him. (Eph. 5.1,2)
- B. To avoid the wrath of God.
 1. **COLOSSIANS 3.6,7:** *“Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience.”*
 2. The wrath of God in the past demonstrates what is waiting for the unfaithful. (Jude 4-9)
- C. To encourage unity in the church.
 1. **COLOSSIANS 3.9:** Putting on the new man, we become more like Jesus. (1 John 2.6; 1 Pet. 2.21-23)
 2. **COLOSSIANS 3.10:** When you and I are like Jesus, we become like each other. (1 Cor. 11.1; Phil. 2.1-5)

CONCLUSION: Have you put away your past way of life?

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

July 17, 2022

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

WHO ESTABLISHED THE CHURCH?

Ephesians 4.4 tells us that there is *“one body.”* Earlier in the chapter, we are told that this one body is the church (Eph. 1.22,23). This one body was not established by man, nor is it under the direction of man, but was established by God. (Dan. 2.44). Actually, we learn from the book of Acts that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were all involved in establishing the church.

The Son preached about the church (Acts 1.1-3). We learn that the first preaching Jesus ever did was in reference to the church (Matt. 4.17). One of the first times that Jesus sat down to teach, He taught about the church (Matt. 5.1ff). In His last days on earth before He ascended back up to the Father, we are told that Jesus spent forty days preaching about the church (Acts 1.3).

The Father promised the church. In Acts 1.4, Jesus tells His disciples to go to Jerusalem to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit. In John 14.26, 15.26, and 16.13, Jesus refers to the promise of the Holy Spirit which the Father would send. In Acts 2, the Father sent the Holy Spirit, and through His inspiration, the church was established (Acts 2.4,48).

The Holy Spirit predicted the church. In Acts 2, Jesus was preached (Acts 2.22-36). People obeyed the gospel (Acts 2.37-40). The church was established (Acts 2.47). All of this that took place was predicted by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2.16-21). CLP

THE MOST POPULAR VERSE IN THE BIBLE

JOHN 3:16

INTRODUCTION:

1. Printed on signs, grocery bags, and soda cups, John 3:16 is the most popular and well-known Bible verse of all.
2. The verse can be neatly divided into three phrases.
3. Three questions are answered by these words.

I. WHO?

- A. The Power of God.
 1. The universe created by His voice reveals *“His eternal power and Godhead”* (Rom. 1.20; Ps. 29.3-9).
 2. **PSALM 33.8,9:** *“For He spoke, and it was done.”*
- B. The Plan of God.
 1. God had a plan to bring salvation. (Titus 1.2; 1 Pet. 1.20)
 2. Nothing is too hard. (Gen. 18.13,14; Rom. 11.33-35)
- C. The Position of God.
 1. No one is higher than God. (Isa. 57.15; Isa. 66.1)
 2. Yet He despises evil. (Ps. 7.11; Nahum 1.6)
 3. He is good and severe. (Rom. 11.22; 1 Pet. 5.10)

II. WHAT?

- A. God has given us numerous gifts.
 1. The gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2.38)
 2. The gift of being right with God. (Rom. 5.17)
 3. The gift of eternal life. (Rom. 6.23)
 4. The gift of salvation. (Eph. 2.8)
- B. What a tremendous gift of His Son! (John 3.16)
 1. Do we understand the magnitude of this gift? (John 4.15)
 2. Consider what Christ gave up. (2 Cor. 8.9; Phil. 2.6)
 3. Consider His perfection. (Heb. 4.15; 2 Cor. 5.21)
 4. Consider His intercession. (Heb. 2.17; 1 John 2.1)

III. HOW?

- A. The gift is offered to all, but many will choose to refuse and reject it. (Heb. 12.25; Acts 13.46; Rom. 10.21)
- B. How do we accept the gift?
 1. **JOHN 3.16:** *“whoever believes in Him.”*
 2. We accept with an obedient faith. (1 Pet. 1.22)

CONCLUSION: God loved you so much that He gave Jesus!

BY FAITH YOU CAN OVERCOME

Hardships are a part of life. The difficulties we face from the day-to-day struggles to the catastrophic life events can shake our faith and cause us to lose our hope. When uncertainty and doubt fill our minds, where can we turn? The book of Hebrews is a book about people who struggled and had lost hope. The Holy Spirit writes to them to help them remain faithful even during hardship. If I am struggling, this is the book I want to study.

When I come to Hebrews 11, I find a chapter devoted to the subject of faith. The writer sets before his audience example after example of individuals who faced impossible odds, and were able to overcome because of their faith. Others were not able to overcome but suffered tremendous loss. Yet they remained true to God because of their faith.

Why is having faith so important when it comes to the struggles of life? How can having faith help me when I am feeling lost and hopeless? The beginning of Hebrews 11 tells us that *“Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”* The word “substance” is translated from the Greek word “hupostasis.” Literally, the word means “to stand under.” It carries the idea of a support or foundation. Our verse says that faith is what stands under and gives support to hope. It also says that faith is the evidence of things not seen. I cannot see heaven. I cannot see the resurrection. I cannot see forgiveness. However, when I look at the evidence of God’s word and read about these things, I can believe that someday I will be resurrected from the dead and enjoy eternal life in heaven because my sins are forgiven.

If I am struggling with feelings of hopelessness, I need to work on my faith. It is my faith that gives me hope, because I can see the evidence of better things to come. I need to put more time into studying my Bible because, *“faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”* (Rom. 10.17). I need to take what I learn in my Bible and put it to use in my life because *“I will show you my faith by my works”* (James 2.18). I need to trust in God to help me through the difficulties in my life as Abraham *“was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform”* (Rom. 4.21,22).

Everyone has challenges that they must face, but with faith we can *“cast all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you”* (1 Pet. 5.7).