

The Consecrated Life II August 23rd & 24th, 2014

Colossians 1:27-29

Paul proclaimed Jesus and the truth of His Word! He declared the warnings and the teachings of the Scriptures for the purpose of presenting everyone mature in Christ!

Paul desired to present everyone mature in Christ!

📖 Hebrews 5:11-14

❖ Immaturity consists of...

... continually needing the basic principles of God's Word taught again and again.

Hebrews 6:1 "Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,"

... being unskilled in the Word.

2 Timothy 2:15 "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."

... an undeveloped moral fortitude trained by constant practice.

1 Peter 1:14-15 "As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,"

... an inability to clearly distinguish between good and evil.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 "'All things are lawful for me,' but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be dominated by anything. ..." (verse 12)

❖ Maturity is growing in Christ and His Word to the degree of being able to teach and train others, which is the goal of discipleship!

John 15:8 "By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

Paul encouraged the Christians at Colossae to walk in the new life Christ has given us!

📖 Colossians 3:1-17

❖ Set your minds on things that are above because Christ is your life!

❖ Put to death (render unresponsive) these areas of sin...

... Sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry

Sexual immorality: "from the Greek *pornia* of illicit [not permitted or allowed—unlawful] sexual intercourse."¹

Adultery: "from the Greek *moichos* meaning unlawful sexual intercourse with the spouse of another."¹

➤ Passion, evil desire, covetousness all have to do with our thinking!

➤ Why avoid these areas? "On account of these the wrath of God is coming"!

❖ Put away these things in which we once participated...

... Anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth

Anger: "from the Latin *angro* to choke or strangle...a violent passion of the mind..."²

Malice: "personal gratification...from a spirit of revenge"²

Obscene: "offensive to chastity and delicacy; impure...something which delicacy, purity, and decency forbid; to be exposed."²

❖ “Do not lie to one another...”

Proverbs 6:16-19 “There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, ... and one who sows discord among brothers.”

The old self must be put off and the new self is put on – a completely new way of thinking!

📖 Colossians 3:10-11

Questions for Reflection:

What did Paul urge the Christians to do in Ephesians 4:1?

What four things did Paul pray that the Colossian Christians would do? *Colossians 1:10*

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____

As the return of Christ draws near, what kind of people ought we to be? *2 Peter 3:10-14*

Endnotes:

¹ Vine, W.E. *Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997.

² Webster, Noah. *American Dictionary of the English Language (1828 Facsimile Edition)*. San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1989.

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