

**In Christ Alone
Our Sufficiency in Christ
Practicing What You Believe
Colossians 3:1-4**

Psalm 10:4 - *The wicked, in the haughtiness of his countenance, does not seek Him. All his thoughts are, "There is no God."*

1 John 2:15-17 - *Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.*

3 realities to help you live out your faith

I. Your Present Position

Ephesians 2:8-9 - *For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-10 - *For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*

A. You're united with Christ

3:1 - *...raised up with Christ...*

3:1 - *...where Christ is...*

3:3 - *...hidden with Christ...*

3:4 - *...with Him in glory...*

B. Raised with Him

Colossians 3:1 - *Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ...*

"Paradoxically, before Christians can reach the world, they must first leave it." John MacArthur, Colossians, p. 125

Colossians 2:21 - *Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!*

Colossians 2:23 - *These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.*

C. Died with Him

Colossians 3:3 - *For you have died...*

Colossians 1:13 - *For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son...*

Romans 6:3-4 - *Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

Galatians 2:20 - *I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.*

2 Corinthians 5:17 - *Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*

D. Your life is hidden

Colossians 3:3 - *For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*

1. You share a common life with the Father and Son.

1 Corinthians 6:17 - *But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.*

2 Peter 1:4 - *...you may become partakers of the divine nature...*

2. This new life is concealed from the world.

1 Corinthians 2:14 - *But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.*

1 John 3:2 - *Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be...*

3. Christians are eternally secure, hidden protectively from all spiritual foes.

John 10:28 - *...and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.*

II. Your Purposeful Pursuit

A. Keep seeking things that are above

Colossians 3:1 - *...keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.*

zeteo – continuous action – keep seeking

Matthew 6:33 - *But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

B. Set your mind on things above

Colossians 3:2 - *Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.*

phroneo – think – have this inner disposition (MacArthur, p. 129)

Philippians 2:14 - *Do all things without grumbling or disputing...*

III. Your Future Presentation

Colossians 3:4 - *When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.*