



CHRIST THE KING
ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER IN HIM



An Upward Life

Colossians 3.1-4

Main Idea

Union with Christ gives the Christian a new trajectory for living that calls for death in this world and life in the Restored world that soon will be.

Overview

I. Set your mind on things above, for that is where Christ sits (Col. 3.1-3)

- Union with Christ means that Christ's death & resurrection are as true for the believer as it is for Christ Himself
- Given the truth of that doctrine: Our seeking and setting are grounded in the location of our Savior who is "above"...not here on the earth
- Christ inaugurated (began) His Kingdom and we as His children have an inheritance to that Kingdom
 - We should be living for the Kingdom that is here, but to come: Not the Kingdom of Death

II. Set your mind on Glorification (Col. 3.4)

- One of the "things above" that we ought to be setting our minds on is Glorification
 - The process whereby the Christian's body and the world at large will be made right
- The "When" that Paul mentions tells us that it is something that has not yet occurred: It is coming
 - At the Lord's coming "we" (the believer) in our union w/ Him will appear "in glory"
 - We will be glorified as Christ was/is
- This teaching should give us perspective in the world we live in today
 - There should be a forward lean or gaze that doesn't "need" the things of earth
 - This is due to what we have to look forward to

Questions

Discussion Starter: How often do you think of heaven, and if/when you do...what comes into your mind?

1. Discuss what it means to be "with Christ" or "in Christ" (Union with Christ).
2. Why would Paul want the Colossians to seek the things above where Christ is?
3. What does it mean to "set your minds on things above" as opposed to not "setting your minds on things of earth"?
4. What does that look like?
5. How does the Gospel inform this type of lifestyle?
6. Why would Paul inject the second coming of Christ and glorification into this point?
7. What is to be gained by seeking or setting our minds on things here vs. things above?
8. (Vice versa) How can we seek or set our minds on things above and have it be more comprehensive in living on the earth? Why?
9. What is Glorification?
10. How does a "Forward Lean" of Restoration inform our lives today?

Accountability Question: What are some ways that we can encourage one another towards a more upward gazing life? What are the “things of earth” that pull down your gaze?