

COLOSSIANS 3

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PAUL URGES THE DISCIPLES TO SEEK THE THINGS ABOVE

1 So then, if you have been raised up together with the Anointed One¹, keep seeking the things above where the Anointed One is, the One Who is sitting at the right hand of the God.

2 Keep being well aware of the *things* above; not of the *things* upon the Earth. 3 For, you died. And, the Life *that* is yours has been lastingly hidden together with the Anointed One in connection with the God. 4 Whenever the Anointed One – the Life *that* is ours² – is made manifest, then also you, *for your parts*, shall be made manifest together with Him in connection with your expectation³.

PAUL URGES THE DISCIPLES
TO MORTIFY THEIR EARTHLY MEMBERS

5 So then, mortify the members *that* are yours⁴ – namely, the *members* upon the Earth in regard to

- unchastity,
- uncleanness,
- passion,
- desire – *that is*, evil *desire*, and
- the Covetousness, which is idolatry,

6 because of which things the wrath of God comes upon the Sons of the Non-compliance, 7 in connection with whom you, *for your parts*, also walked at one time, when you were living in connection with them⁵.

PAUL URGES THE DISCIPLES
TO PUT EVIL THINGS AWAY FROM THEMSELVES

8 Now, however, you, *for your parts*, also put away for yourselves all these things:

- wrath,
- anger,
- moral badness,
- slander,
- foul language from the mouth *that* are yours.

¹ 'raised up together with the Anointed One' – that is 'in connection with the Dipping in Water (Baptism)'. Cf. Colossians 2:12-13 and Romans 6:4-5/

² 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the possessive pronoun that is translated here as 'that is ours'.

³ 'expectation' – The Greek word is δόξα which can also mean 'glory, splendor, magnificence.'

⁴ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the possessive pronoun that is translated here as 'that are yours' here.

PAUL DESCRIBES WHAT DISCIPLES HAVE STRIPPED OFF
AND WHAT THEY PUT ON

9 Stop speaking falsehoods to one another,

- as ones having stripped off themselves the Old Man together with his evil practices and
- as ones having put on the New Man – *namely*, the one being renewed in regard to a determination, to end in an image of the One Who created him, 11 where *there* is not being –
 - "Greek and Jew,"
 - "Circumcised and Uncircumcised,"
 - "Barbarian⁶ and Scythian⁷,"
 - "Slave and Free Man;"

rather, the all – yes, in connection with all! – *there is* an anointed One!

12 So then, as

- Elected *ones* by the God,
- Holy Ones, and
- Ones having been lastingly loved, clothe yourselves with
 - deep, inner feelings of compassion,
 - kindness,
 - lowly-mindedness,
 - gentleness,
 - long-suffering,

as

- 13 ones who are holding up one another and
- ones who are graciously forgiving each other, if ever any might have a cause for complaint against anyone.

Just as the Anointed One⁸ has graciously forgiven us, thus also you, *for your parts*, graciously forgive each other.

14 Now, in addition to all these things put on the Love, whichever⁹ is a perfection of that which binds us together.

⁵ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'them' here instead of 'these'.

⁶ 'Barbarian' – that is, 'non-Greek'

⁷ 'Barbarians or Sythians' – both were categories of people despised by Greeks.

⁸ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'Anointed One' here instead of 'Lord'.

⁹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), an indefinite, relative pronoun here instead of a relative pronoun.

PAUL EXHORTS THE DISCIPLES TO LET THE PEACE OF GOD
ACT AS UMPIRE IN THEIR HEARTS

15 And, let the Peace of the God¹⁰ act as a umpire in the Hearts *that are* yours, toward which *Peace* you have also been called in connection with one body.

And, become ones who are beneficent.

PAUL EXHORTS THE DISCIPLES TO LET THE WORD
OF THE ANOINTED ONE DWELL IN THEM ABUNDANTLY

16 Let the Word of the Anointed One dwell in you abundantly in connection with all wisdom, as

- ones who keep on teaching and
- ones who keep on admonishing themselves with
 - songs *sung to stringed instruments*, and¹¹
 - hymns, and¹²
 - spiritual songs of praise, as
- ones with ¹³ gratitude singing with the heart¹⁴ *that* is yours to the Lord¹⁵.

17 And, all – what anything¹⁶ – you might ever¹⁷ do in word or in deed – do in connection with a name – *namely*, YaHWeH¹⁸, *that is*, Jesus, as ones who are expressing gratitude to the God and ¹⁹ Father by agency of Him.

PAUL EXHORTS THE WOMEN

18 As for the Women: keep on setting yourselves in order under the Men *that are* your own²⁰, as is fitting in connection with YaHWeH²¹.

PAUL EXHORTS THE MEN

19 As for the Men: keep on loving the Women. And,

stop being embittered toward them.

PAUL EXHORTS THE CHILDREN

20 As for the Children: keep on hearkening to the Parents in relation to all things. For, this is well-pleasing²² in connection with YaHWeH²³.

PAUL EXHORTS THE FATHERS

21 As for the Fathers: stop exasperating the Children that are yours, in order that they might not be despondent.

PAUL EXHORTS THE SLAVES

22 As for the Slaves: keep on hearkening to the Masters according to flesh in relation to all things, not in connection with eye-service as man-pleasers. Rather, *keep on hearkening* in connection with sincerity of heart, as ones who are fearing God²⁴.

PAUL EXHORTS ALL

TO WORK FROM OUT OF THE PSYCHE FOR THE LORD

23 And, all – what anything²⁵, if ever you might do *it*, work from out of psyche – as for the Lord and not for men, 24 having lastingly known that from YaHWeH²⁶ you shall receive²⁷ the reward of the Inheritance! For, you serve as a slave for the Lord, an anointed One!

PAUL WARNS DISCIPLES OF THE CONSEQUENCE

OF IGNORING THESE PRINCIPLES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

25 Now,²⁸ the one who is acting unrighteously shall get back for himself what he did unrighteously. Yes, *there* is NOT a respect of persons!

¹⁰ 95.2% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'God' here instead of 'Anointed One'.

¹¹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction 'and' here.

¹² 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction 'and' here.

¹³ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), do not include the definite article 'the' here.

¹⁴ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'the heart' here instead of 'the hearts'.

¹⁵ 96% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'Lord' here instead of 'God'.

¹⁶ 80% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'what anything' here instead of 'that'.

¹⁷ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'you might ever' here instead of 'if ever you might'.

¹⁸ Curiously, Paul uses the unarticulated word 'Lord' (Κυρίω) here. Often this unarticulated Greek title is used in the New Testament to translate the name YaHWeH, especially in Old Testament references.

¹⁹ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction 'and' here.

²⁰ 80% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include word translated as 'that are your own' here.

²¹ Again Paul uses the unarticulated word 'Lord' (Κυρίω) here. Often this unarticulated Greek title is used in the New Testament to translate the name YaHWeH, especially in Old Testament references.

²² 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order 'is well-pleasing' here instead of 'well-pleasing is'.

²³ Again Paul uses the unarticulated word 'Lord' (Κυρίω) here. Often this unarticulated Greek title is used in the New Testament to translate the name YaHWeH, especially in Old Testament references.

²⁴ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'God' here instead of 'YaHWeH'.

²⁵ 79.3% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'And, all – what anything' here. On the basis of 4% the NU has 'What'.

²⁶ Again Paul uses the unarticulated word 'Lord' (κύριον) here. Often this unarticulated Greek title is used in the New Testament to translate the name YaHWeH, especially in Old Testament references.

²⁷ 80% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'you shall receive' here instead of 'you shall receive from' (needlessly repeating the idea of the preposition in the previous prepositional phrase).

²⁸ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'Now,' here instead of 'For,'.