



# WORD OF FAITH INT'L CHRISTIAN CENTER

TEACHING THE WORD. DOING THE WORK. TOUCHING THE WORLD.

## A Study in Colossians

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes

### Introduction Summary

As we continue this study, let's remember the importance of understanding Scripture in its context. When we read in context, we see that God gave us His Word to instruct us. This next lesson teaches us that it must be our choice to live in the Light of the Word of God.

- I. 3:1-2 Focus on the seat of authority and power, where we sit (spiritually) with in Christ (Eph. 2:6).
- II. V3 Inside the real us—our spirit—lives the Holy Spirit, which is wisdom, power and authority.
  - A. We must reckon ourselves to be dead to sin and alive to God (Rom. 6:11-13).
  - B. We are in control of our own body (1 Cor. 9:27).
- III. V4 Christ is our life, not him or her or them. We shall appear with Him in glory.
  - A. Christians do not sorrow as if there is no hope beyond this life (1 Thess. 4:13-18).
  - B. The word "rapture" isn't found in Scripture, but the meaning of it is (V17-18).
- IV. V5-6 Mortify ungodly desires of the body. Mortify means to subdue or put down.
  - A. Fornication is sex outside of marriage.
  - B. Uncleaness is something that is not pure.
  - C. Inordinate affection means undue passions.
  - D. Evil concupiscence is longing for that which is forbidden.
  - E. Covetousness is a drive for what someone else has. It drives one's thinking and behavior.
- V. V6 God's mercy is available for us. We can repent and receive forgiveness (1 John 1:9, Heb. 4:16).
- VI. V7-9 The body use to be in control. Our spirit leads us to put off blasphemy (evil speaking) and lying (speak with intent to deceive).
- VII. Col. 3:10 God's will is not automatic. We must renew the mind with the precise knowledge of God.
  - A. God doesn't force anyone to love Him. We must choose to love Him, be with Him, read and meditate the Word and pray more. We are a team. God does His part. We must do our part.
    1. Change by renovating our mind to God's way (Rom. 12:1-2).
    2. Meditate means mutter, think about, repeat it constantly (Psa. 1:1).
    3. Prove means to allow. You allow God's will in your life (Rom. 12:2).
    4. We choose (Deut. 30:19).

- B. Example: I've been married to my wife, Deborah, for 46 years. I know more about her than anybody, because I have spent more time with her than anybody. The same is true with God. The more time we spend with Him the more we get to know Him and His ways.
- VIII. V11 Multiple races mean nothing for all who are in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:28). There are only three groups of people in the earth: The Jew, the Gentile and the Christian (1 Cor. 10:32).
- IX. Col 3:12-13 Forbearing one another and forgive one another.
- A. Forbear means to put up with.
  - B. Forgive: Mark 11:25 says when we pray, we must forgive so God can forgive us.
- X. Col 3:14 The Greek word for love is *agape*. That means to treat others as valuable and precious. That includes the unborn (Jer. 1:5). They are human beings.
- A. Love should be the basis for every decision we make (1 Cor 13:1-12 AMPC).
  - B. Out of faith, hope and love, the greatest of the three is love (1 Cor. 13:13).
  - C. Bond of perfectness: Love is what helps us get along with each other.
- XI. 3:15 One of the primary ways God leads and guides Christians is by His peace – quietness, prosperity and rest. We are called to operate our lives this way.
- A. Let this peace rule your heart. Rule means to arbitrate, govern or umpire.
  - B. If we have a big decision to make, we allow His peace to help us decide.
  - C. We are programmed to follow that peace instead of our own reasoning.
  - D. Kenneth Hagin, Sr. called it “that velvety smooth feeling” on the inside.
  - E. *Ex: I left a great job to go to Bible school to train for ministry. My family was against it. Even I didn't really see it. But I heard God speak to me and I had peace. It proved to be the right choice for me. Of course, that was over 40 years ago and the rest is history.*
- XII. To get that peace, know that Jesus said in John 10:27, “My sheep know my voice.”
- A. Get away and get quiet before God. Fast and pray, if necessary.
  - B. Listen on the inside and be thankful for the *safe guide* living inside us.
- XIII. 3:16-17 We must let the word teach and warn us.
- A. As parents, we are to teach our children what the Word says (Eph 6:1-4).
  - B. God's will is for a man and woman to marry, have children, and instruct them in His ways.

### **Closing Summary**

It is vital for Christians to understand that God's will, for their lives, is not automatic. God has given us free-will to love Him and walk according to the guidelines He has set forth. When we do that, we begin to see how great God is and how much He loves us. Walking in the light of Scripture and following His peace leads us into His perfect will, which is what He planned for us all along. Let's follow the Holy Spirit's guidance into a life filled with peace from heaven.