

COLOSSIANS

A *life* WORTH LIVING

SERIES 2 – LIVE YOUR LIFE WELL
Part 4 – Take Out The Garbage
Colossians 3:1-9

Pastor Mark Hartman
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2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” (NIV)

I. GOD INTENDS FOR US TO **LIVE** LIKE A CHRISTIAN IS TO LIVE. (Colossians 3:1-3)

A. *Colossians 3:1,3 “Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”*

B. Stop acting like an unbeliever and start acting like a **Christ follower**.

C. *Ephesians 5:8 “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.”*

II. ON THE SURFACE, THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE PASSAGE IS **MORALITY**.

A. *Colossians 3:5-9 “Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices.”*

B. It means something to be a genuine Christian. God has called us to live by His standard of **purity**.

C. *Colossians 3:5 “Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity,*

D. *Colossians 3:5* "... **lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.**"

The hunger for more and more stuff and more and more money is called **greed**.

E. Our **emotional** responses to life are to be different. (*Colossians 3:8*)

F. Our **language** is to be different. (*Colossians 3:8*)

Slander is saying even the truth about another with the intention of damaging their reputation in the eyes of others.

III. THE ISSUE BEHIND THIS PASSAGE IS **SELF-CENTEREDNESS**.

A. It is our nature to be selfish and self-centered. It is actually the root of self-centeredness that Paul is addressing in the passage because it is the root of our "**old nature**."

B. *Colossians 3:1-9* "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on **earthly things**. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your **earthly nature**: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your **old self** with its practices..." (NIV)

C. The opposite of a spirit-filled life is a **self**-filled life.

D. *Colossians 3:7* "You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived."

E. *2 Corinthians 13:5* "Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!" (NASB)

IV. HOW DO WE GET BACK ON TRACK? (*Colossians 3:1-2; 5, 9*)

Step One: Clean out the **garbage**.

A. *Colossians 3:5, 8* "**Put to death**, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature... ⁸ But now you must **rid yourselves of** all such things as these..."

B. The Bible's word for taking out the garbage is "**repentance**".

Step Two: Return to positive **habits**.

- A. *Colossians 3:1-2* “Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your **hearts** (desires) on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your **minds** (thinking patterns) on things above, not on earthly things.”
- B. *Proverbs 4:23* "Be careful how you think. Your life is shaped by your thoughts."
- C. Our thoughts don't just direct our life, they **are** our life.
- D. *Romans 12:2* "Be transformed by the renewing of your **mind**."
- E. The more we do the right thing the more we get the **right results**. It's as simple as that!

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Notes:
