# To Be Like God: Put On the New Self

Drs. Nick and Leona Venditti



## Introduction

- A Series on Holiness
  - Week 1- Why be holy?
    - Isaiah 6:1-8
  - Week 2- How to remain holy?
    - Colossians 3:1-17
  - Week 3- What is the reward for being holy?
    - Revelation 21-22

## **Biblical Background**

- Colossians is one of Paul's prison epistles which also include Ephesians, Philippians and Philemon
- Very little is known regarding the origin of the church at Colossae
- The legalistic believers declared that in order to be holy, one had to follow the total letter of the law

## **Biblical Background**

- Paul emphasized the total sufficiency that the believer has "in Christ"
- God provides everything the believer needs to live a successful life
- The believer is complete when he/she is "in Christ"
- That is why, a holy life can be lived "in Christ" and not by being a legalist

## **Biblical Text**

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (Colossians 3:1 ESV)

## **Outline**

Seek the Things That are Above- 1 to 4

• Put to Death What is Earthly- 5 to 9

Put On the New Self- 10 to 17

## Seek the Things That are Above

- Risen with Christ (v 1-4)
  - Christ is at the right hand of God
    - God has reserved for His people a life "in Christ"
    - Christ is the foundation of our holiness
    - Christ is the life of the believer
    - Christ and his people will reign together
  - Think of the things from above
    - Paul contrasts the heavenly and earthly

## Put to Death What is Earthly

- The earthly (v 5-9)
  - Contrasted with the things from above
  - It has to do with the life from within:
    - Sexual immorality
    - **Impurity**
    - Passion and evil desires
    - Covetousness which is idolatry
    - On account of these, the wrath of God is coming

## Put to Death What is Earthly

- The earthly (v 5-9)
  - Contrasted with the things from above
  - It has to do with the life from within:
    - Anger
    - Wrath
    - Malice
    - Slander
    - Obscene talk
    - Do not lie to one another

- The New Self (v 10-17)
  - Renewed in the knowledge of the Creator
    - Not important being a Greek
    - Not important being a Jew
    - Not important being circumcised
    - Not important being uncircumcised
    - Not important being a barbarian
    - Not important being a Scythian
    - Not important being a slave
    - Not important being a free person
- What is important--Christ is all, and in all

- The New Self (v 10-17)
  - God has chosen and loved His people to be holy and they are to:
    - Have compassionate hearts
    - Be kind
    - Be humble
    - Be meek
    - Be patient

- The New Self (v 10-17)
  - God has chosen and loved His people to be holy and they are to:
    - Bear with one another
    - Forgive one another
    - Forgive each other as the Lord has forgiven
    - Above all put on love
    - Let the peace of Christ rule in their hearts

- The New Self (v 10-17)
  - God has chosen and loved His people to be holy. They are to:
    - Be thankful
    - Let the word of Christ dwell richly
    - Admonish one another in wisdom
    - Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs
    - Be thankful to God
    - Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus

## **Outline**

Seek the Things That are Above- 1 to 4

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## Conclusion

- We are to continue in the process of holiness
- I am holy, I am being holy and I will be holy
- God has not finished His work in us. His resources are more than enough
- What do you have on? The earthly or heavenly self? Let's pray

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