

E. Let the Word about Christ Dwell in You Richly. (3:16)

F. Live as unto Him. (3:17)

G. Be Devoted to Prayer (4:2)

It is in prayer that we reset our clocks to the heavenly time-zone.

LIVE THE STORY

We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.

- What 3 Gospel truths are central to the apostolic Gospel and Paul's argument in 2:9-15? What does it mean to say we "in Him" or "with Him" in each of these?
- Why might Paul use baptism as proof of you have died in Christ, that your old life is a thing of the past?
- How does the Gospel call you to walk in light of being raised with Christ? What impact does this have on your thinking about life?
- How is being raised with Christ to effect how we dress?
- How is being raised in Christ's body supposed to transform our thinking about keeping peace with one another?
- How should this resurrection change how we work, treat our spouses, children, parents?
- Why is thanksgiving a necessary product of resurrection with Christ? Why is complaining a complete contradiction?
- What do you think Jerry meant by, "*It is in prayer that we reset our clocks to the heavenly time-zone.*"

Colossians: Christ in You, the Hope of Glory

Living in Light of Gospel Realities

Jerry Cisar—December 20, 2009

Text: Colossians 2:9—3:4

Introduction: What Gospel Realities?

A. vs. 8 "...and not according to Christ."

i. "as of first importance": (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

- that **Christ died** for our sins
- that **he was buried**,
- that **he was raised** on the third day

B. Christ died... Who is Christ?

i. 2:9 "*In Him the fullness of deity dwells bodily...*"

a) Because He is God—fully God—He isn't lacking.

b) Word Commentary: "*He is the place in whom God in all his fullness was pleased to take up his residence. All the attributes and activities of God—His Spirit, Word, Wisdom and glory—are perfectly displayed in Christ.*"

ii. 2:10 "*and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.*"

C. How is it that we receive fullness in Christ?

I. Christ died...and you died. (vs. 11)

A. When we believe in Christ we are joined to Christ. So what He did, we did in union with Him.

B. He died:

i. **like** and **not like** circumcision.

ii. Paul is saying that the shadow, circumcision, pointed to Christ's death, putting of the body of flesh.

II. Christ was buried...and you were buried.

A. You don't bury living men...but dead men.

B. Your burial proves that a real death has occurred and therefore your old life is a thing of the past!

III. Christ was raised...and you were raised.

A. Death and resurrection begins to meld together...

B. The implications of what this means.

IV. How do we live in light of Gospel Realities?

vs. 1-2: *"Since you have together with Christ been raised, **the above seek**, where Christ is at the right-hand of God seated; **the above think about**, not about the earth(y)."*

A. The above things think about... seek...

i. Live, think, act as if you were there.

a) Romans 13:11-13

ii. How do we set our minds on the above things?

B. Set your minds on Christ...

➤ Matthew 6:25, 32

➤ Matthew 6:33

C. Change your clothing... Put on Jesus Christ (Col. 3:12)

➤ Romans 13:14

D. Let the Peace of Christ Rule (3:15)

i. We can no longer deal in relationships on our terms... our time-table.