

## ***COLOSSIANS: Complete In Christ***

### Lesson 4

## How Those Who Are “Complete In Christ” Should Live (3:1 – 4:6)

### Introduction

Paul’s portrayal of the Christ has been powerful. He is everything man needs, and He has done everything man needs (2:10; 2 Pet. 1:3). This is especially true re: how Christians can be protected from the perils of religious error and man-made doctrines that are false (2:4, 8).

In all of Paul’s epistles to local churches, an application section *always* follows his main presentation. The letter to Colossae is no different. Col. 3:1 – 4:6 instructs saints who are “complete in Christ” on daily living. The gospel of Christ is only helpful to the extent Christians can apply what it teaches in everyday situations.

### In Their Own Minds (3:1-4)

- 1) Be able to connect 3:1a with 2:12-13, 20. (cp. Rom. 6:3-4; Eph. 2:1-6)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) What is the command to the “complete Christian?” (3:1b-2) Write down in practical terms how this gets accomplished.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) Why are saints commanded in this way? (3:3; Rom. 6:2, 6-7, 11-13; 13:14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 4) What benefit is for saints who succeed in doing this? (3:4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 5) Thought question: why would this command be listed first? (Mk. 7:18-23; Prov. 4:23; 23:7)

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#### *In Their Personal Conduct (3:5-17)*

- 6) Be able to connect 3:5a with the previous verses.
  
- 7) What is the command saints are to obey? (3:5a) What do you think it really means to “mortify” or “put to death” or “consider as dead?”
  
- 8) *Thought question:* why the command to “put to death” if saints have already had to remove the body of sin and bury him? (2:11-12a)
  
- 9) What is listed in 3:5 that is to be “put to death?” Comment on each one.
  
- 10) Why are these actions and/or attitudes to be “mortified?” (3:6-7; 1:21; Eph. 2:3)
  
- 11) What other actions and/or attitudes are to be “put off” or “put aside?” (3:8-9) Comment on each one, providing other Scripture(s) for reference.

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12) Besides removing the ungodly characteristics, what else should saints do? (3:10a, 12-14)  
Comment on each one, providing other Scripture(s) for reference.

13) What is accomplished when the new man replaces the old man? (3:10b-11) [*A participle in the present tense...continuous action*] What do you think this “renewal” represents? (Rom. 12:2)

14) In 3:15-17, Paul deals with 3 important aspects of the Christ the renewed man must appreciate, seek, and respect. Comment on each one in the spaces provided below.

v. 15 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

v. 16 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

v. 17 \_\_\_\_\_

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### ***In Their Human Relationships (3:18 – 4:6)***

15) What is said re: each role or responsibility?

3:18 \_\_\_\_\_

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3:19 \_\_\_\_\_

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3:20 \_\_\_\_\_

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3:21 \_\_\_\_\_

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3:22-25 \_\_\_\_\_

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4:1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

16) What does Paul exhort the Colossians to do in 4:2? Specifically, to pray for what? (4:3-4)

17) Besides praying for Paul's efforts re: unbelievers, how does the apostle encourage the Colossians in their own dealings with the lost? (4:5; Mt. 5:13-16; 1 Pet. 2:12; Eph. 5:15-16)

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- 18) What part of the Colossians' conduct toward outsiders does Paul address? (4:6; 1 Pet. 3:15)  
Explain what you think is meant by the expression "...seasoned as it were with salt."