

Mortify? (Slide 1)

Colossians 3:5-10

Reading: Colossians 3:1-10

When someone may ask you what is your life, you can and should consider in your answer:

Colossians 3:4 (Slide 2)

4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

He is our life! He is above all else in our lives!! There can be no other answer for Christians!!!

The word "Mortify" is found at the beginning of verse 5 of Colossians 3 in the KJV. Translated in the NASB1995 as: ***Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead***

Greek for Mortify means "to put to death" - "to kill" - "to subdue"

Mortify then seems to be a word that in action seems extremely harsh, yet, we are called as Christians to put certain things to death.

One way we use the word *mortify* or *mortified* in English is to convey: *extreme embarrassment, shame, or humiliation.*

It reveals a stronger feeling than just being embarrassed about something because it causes one to want to hide feelings or actions.

As Christians we should be Mortified because of Sin! Thus, sin in our lives should be put to death!

When we think of putting something to death, even someone to death as a penalty, even when justified, we still have a negative take on "*putting to death*."

But in this lesson we will see that putting something to death, Spiritually speaking, is a positive.

So, killing some things for the sake of "*True Christian faith*" in pursuit of a faithful walk with Christ is a *good thing*!

It's amazing that *putting to death* can be considered a positive.

I have read that within our bodies, in particular, our digestive system, lives trillions of microbiomes. They circulate within our system playing a vital role in our digestive health. They are always looking to eliminate, that is, kill harmful microorganisms that can harm the body.

The *Word of God* acts in much the same way. When the *Word* is put up against what may be harmful to us *Spiritually*, God's *Righteousness* will eliminate harmful unrighteousness.

Of course, we must be willing to ingest and digest His Word and then let His *Word* do its work!

In the case of *Mortify*, the role of the Word is to guide and help us "*put to death*" deadly earthly allurements. The *Word of God* has already determined what it is we must "*Mortify*."

Isaiah 55:8-9 (Slide 3)

8 "*For My thoughts are not your thoughts,*

***Nor are your ways My ways,*" declares the LORD.**

9 "*For as the heavens are higher than the earth,*

So are My ways higher than your ways

And My thoughts than your thoughts.

Since God is purely righteous, evil cannot cohabit in His presence.

James 1:13 (Slide 4)

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

Because He is pure and sovereign, He can dictate what is right and what is wrong! It is what man has ingested and then digested that is often in opposition to God's Holiness that causes him to be tempted.

James 1:14 (Slide 5)

But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

It is up to mankind to listen:

1 Samuel 3:9-10 (Slide 6)

9 And Eli said to Samuel, "Go lie down, and it shall be if He calls you, that you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

(Slide 7) ***10 Then the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for Your servant is listening."***

When we enter into Christianity through the Blood of Christ, we are to "put to death" the old man and become a new creature and for all matters, listen to the Word of God:

Ephesians 4:17-24 (Slide 8)

17 So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, 18 being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; (Slide 9) 19 and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to

sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. 20 But you did not learn Christ in this way, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, 22 that, in reference to your (Slide 10) former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

It's been my experience that that old man doesn't go down without a fight. He's hard to kill but I would encourage you to keep fighting!

If we have put on Christ we are to live differently:

Ephesians 5:6-9 (Slide 11)

6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them; (Slide 12) 8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light 9 (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth)

What God considers unclean and impure covers a wide range of topics that are contrary to His nature.

Ephesians 5:3-5 (Slide 13)

3 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; 4 and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. (Slide 14) 5 For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

Proverbs 4:23-27 (Slide 15)

23 Watch over your heart with all diligence,

For from it flow the springs of life.

24 Put away from you a deceitful mouth

And put devious speech far from you.

(Slide 16) ***25 Let your eyes look directly ahead***

And let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you.

26 Watch the path of your feet

And all your ways will be established.

27 Do not turn to the right nor to the left;

Turn your foot from evil.

We are to put to death the deeds of flesh as listed in Paul's letter to the Galatians then we are to let our Spiritual thoughts live and focus on things above.

Psalm 37:1-6 (Slide 17)

1 Do not fret because of evildoers,

Be not envious toward wrongdoers.

2 For they will wither quickly like the grass

And fade like the green herb.

(Slide 18) ***3 Trust in the LORD and do good;***

Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.

4 Delight yourself in the LORD;

And He will give you the desires of your heart.

(Slide 19) ***5 Commit your way to the LORD,***

Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light

And your judgment as the noonday.

What's at stake if we put to death some things but keep others alive? What if one has controlled the temptation to covet but continues in anger? What if one has been successful in putting away the old man of riotous living but still engages in coarse jesting? It cannot be a partial change; one must be fully engaged in being an *"Imitator of the pure nature of God."*

What's at stake if we don't kill it all:

Revelation 21:5-8 (Slide 20)

5 And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." 6 Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. (Slide 21) I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. 7 He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. 8 But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable (Slide 22) and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Invitation

So the admonition from this lesson is to Mortify, that is; put to death anything that would separate us from God. All sin separates us from God but we need not continue in them.

The washing and renewing Spiritually through Baptism allows us to enjoy the benefits of the forgiveness of sin. We encourage you that if you haven't been washed in the Blood of the Lamb to do that today.

If you have been Baptized but need the prayers of your Brethren for whatever reason, please let us know.

Let us know how we may serve you this day.....

Reading:

Colossians 3:1-10

1 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. 6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, 7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.

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