

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of November 13, 2022**

**THEME: "Letter to Colosse"**

**NEW LIFE**

**Sunday .....Read Colossians 3:1-10**

*"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."* To receive Christ as personal Savior begins a brand new life: goals and aspirations change. The believer now lives for eternal purposes as well as having temporal goals. Those who have never committed their lives to the Lord Jesus live only with goals and desires limited to this life on earth. Being connected to heaven by faith in Christ gives a believer the more abundant life of which Jesus spoke in John 10:10: *"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."* A believer can experience all the wholesome earthly joys that unbelievers have, but they have so much more with even far greater satisfaction and rewards. As a matter of fact, the believer's priorities are things of eternal value, things that bring honor and glory to God. What could be more satisfying than working with God to finish the work that the Lord Jesus began before He left earth to return to His home in heaven? Sharing the gospel and seeing people gain citizenship in heaven truly is life's greatest joy. One of the great truths and incentives in the entire Bible is that given in Proverbs 11:30: *"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."*

**OUR HEAD**

**Monday .....Read Colossians 1:18-20**

*"And He is the Head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence."* Being the Head is a responsible position! The Head makes decisions that affect the whole body. And the parts of the body follows the Head, or at least should! If any part of the body fails to follow the lead of the Head, the whole body does not function to full efficiency, making it much more difficult to accomplish what the Head wants to get done. It is vital for all parts to work together with each doing his or her part to accomplish the intended goal. Just one part being out of sync makes it harder for all! To maximize the effort to bring honor to our Lord, all members of a local church must do his or her part using the God-given talent with which God equipped him or her. God carefully placed each member in the body of His choice to get things done! We are in it together for the glory of God!

**SERVANTS**

**Tuesday .....Read Colossians 1:23-27**

*"Whereas I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God, which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God."* The true Christian is a servant of the Most High God! He or she should be totally committed to pleasing Him and working together with fellow-believers to get things done according to God's plan! Christians have been bought by the blood of Christ to become God's servants! Yes, God considers us to be a member of His family, but we must remember that God is in business and we are to help accomplish the goals of our Father's business. Jesus made the business of God clear in Matthew 16:18: *"And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church: and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."* Let us each do our part and work together to get it done for our Lord!

## ETERNAL TREASURES

**Wednesday .....Read Colossians 2:1-3**

*"In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."* Jesus addressed the topic of treasures in Matthew 6:19-20: *"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal."* Investors into earthly wealth try to choose safe investments so they do not lose what they had invested. Even the best of earthly choices, however, could be in danger, as many Americans found out in the Crash of 1929 followed by the Great Depression. Investing into God's work is safe, and the rewards are eternal. It is satisfying just to please our Lord, but to gain eternal reward in addition is a blessing indeed! Not only is our investing into God's work secure with eternal reward, it results in a proclamation of the gospel to touch many wayward lives! That alone is satisfying, to see people get on the road to heaven!

## INTERRELATIONSHIPS

**Thursday .....Read Colossians 3:12-15**

*"Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."* Athletes involved in the world of team sports know the importance of working together in trying to win games! How much more important is the great business of winning souls to get them to have spiritual life and get on the road that leads to a home in heaven for all eternity! Working together sometimes runs into difficulty because we are all subject to making mistakes. Handling the errors is a key to victory. No one is perfect! Winners minimize the effects of mistakes and refuse to allow them to get the "team" off course. When offended, forgive! As a matter of fact, go one step further and follow God's orders in Romans 12:21: *"Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."* That is winning! It is a win for Christ, and a loss for the devil, who tries to create division!

## TIME MANAGEMENT

**Friday .....Read Colossians 4:1-5**

*"Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time."* One of our most valuable possessions is time. We get 168 hours every week. How we spend our time pretty much determines the quality of our lives, far more than material wealth! Wealthiest people are those who live according to God's wisdom. Time management may be a major consideration at the Judgment Seat of Christ. How much time with God: in private and public worship? How much time did we spend with our family? with our Church family? Do we carefully plan our time or just let it happen? There's no question that time spent with God in private or public worship is time well spent. It is of personal value and to those with whom we spend time. Jesus set an example for time spent in private worship in Matthew 14:23: *"When he had sent the multitudes away, He went up into a mountain apart to pray."*

## SPEECH

**Saturday.....Read Colossians 4:5-6**

*"Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."* Our tongues can be a huge blessing or a harmful weapon; it can help others or injure them. The teaching in Colossians 4 instructs us to say things in good taste that comes across favorably to those listening. That is not to say we should never criticize, because there are times when that is essential to keep

things right. It is how it is done. Jesus mentions that it should be done privately in Matthew 18:15: *"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother."*