

In Colossians 1-2, Paul sets out to establish the supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus in everything. Chapter 3 begins the application of Christ's supremacy and sufficiency for daily living. In a series of 8 messages, we will explore this one key thought:

When you truly believe Jesus is supreme and sufficient in everything, you can have a healthy perspective on all of life and live faithfully.

The first thing to happen if you are to become the person God created you to be, you must view everything in this life against the background of eternity. You must no longer live as if this world is all that matters. **Paul challenged the Colossians to live daily with Jesus as the preeminent focus of their lives!**

QUESTION: HOW DO WE TAKE THE TRUTH OF CHRIST'S PREMINENCE, AND APPLY IT TO OUR LIVES EACH DAY?

It is not enough for Christ to be preeminent in the Gospel, the cross, creation, and the church; He must also be preeminent in our lives. Paul states very specifically how we should "practice the preeminence of Christ." *Wiersbe*

1. WHAT MUST I DO? You must set...

- a. Your heart – Affection
Verse 1-2; Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:3-4

- b. Your mind – Attention
Verse 1-2

A preoccupation with heaven should govern our earthly responses. If one is preoccupied with heaven, they are so with Christ. What matters are His purposes, His plans, His provisions, His power. In 3:2, Lightfoot paraphrases Paul's thought: "You must not only seek heaven, you must also think heaven"

2. HOW CAN I DO THIS? You must remember...

Paul is not advocating a form of mysticism. Rather, he desires that the Colossians' preoccupation with heaven govern their earthly responses. To be preoccupied with heaven is to be preoccupied with the One who reigns there. It is also to view the things, people, and events of this world through His eyes and with an eternal perspective.

- a. Your life is hidden in Christ – Position
Verse 3; 1 Corinthians 6:7; 2 Peter 1:4

- b. Christ is your life – Power
Verse 4

Paul adds a wonderful parenthetical thought. He describes Christ as our life. Christ does not merely give life; He is life.

A closing question: Is Christ your life?