

SERMON OUTLINE Colossians 3:1-4

Christian, Lift Your Eyes

INTRODUCTION

CHRISTIAN, KNOW WHAT GOD HAS DONE (1, 3, 4)

You Died (3)

You Rose (1)

You Were Hidden with Christ in God (3)

CHRISTIAN, KNOW WHAT GOD WILL DO (4)

CHRISTIAN, LIFT YOUR EYES (1, 2)

Seek the Things that Are Above (1)

1. *Where Christ Is*

2. *Seated at the Right Hand of God*

Set Your Minds on Things that Are Above (2)

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this message is that by grace, through faith in Jesus, you died to your sins, your soul has been raised with Christ, your life is hidden in Christ, and you will appear with Jesus in glory. Therefore, you must let your eyes (your appetites and thoughts) follow. And then live entirely in light of what you see.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. How are Ecclesiastes and Colossians similar and different? If you could tell "the Preacher" one thing, what would it be?
3. Have you ever received the gift of being shown (by someone in your life) where true joy and satisfaction are NOT found?
4. Can you think of a specific time in which you discovered for yourself that something you thought would be satisfying was not?
5. What is the most satisfying thing you've ever experienced? Or, what is the most satisfied you've ever been?
6. Of all the things God has done, which is the most impressive to you?
7. Through faith in Jesus, you died with Jesus, you rose with Jesus, you are hidden with Jesus, and you will be glorified with Jesus. Which of these awesome, objective realities most affects your daily life?
8. How much of your gaze is upon the things of earth and how much is on the things above, where Christ is? Why? What's one thing you could do to move the percentage toward Christ?
9. What would an objective, outside observer say you are seeking most? Why are you seeking that thing?
10. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

11. Spend some time considering the connection between Ecclesiastes 1:14 and Colossians 3:1-4.
12. Spend some time meditating on the things God has done and promised to do that Paul names in our passage. Consider carefully their meaning and implications. Ask God to help you.
13. Find a way to find rest in the knowledge that your life is hidden with Christ in God (Psalm 27:5).
14. Read [Randy Alcorn's book, Heaven](#) as a means of stirring your desire to "appear with Him in glory."
15. Make a top 10 list of the things you are currently seeking. Rearrange them to prioritize "the things that are above."
16. Share with someone two ways God has helped you take your eyes off of the "things that are on earth" and put them on Christ.
17. Share the gospel with an unbeliever this week. Focus on the significance of the two deaths we must die.
18. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

PRAYER POINTS

19. Adoration. Praise God that He is life. Praise God for being honored above and victorious over all. Praise God that He is the greatest treasure. Praise God for being omnipotent, truth, and good. Praise God that He is eternal and glorious.
20. Confession. Confess any ways that you are trying to "muscle" your way into obedience instead of by seeking the things that are above. Confess any ways you have set your mind on worldly things. Confess a lack of appetite for the things of God.
21. Thanksgiving. Thank God that you have died, been raised with, and hidden in Jesus. Thank God that you will be glorified with Jesus. Thank God that Jesus is seated at His right hand. Thank God that Jesus is the greatest treasure and that He's offered Himself to all who will receive Him in faith. Thank God that we have Ecclesiastes and Colossians (and the whole Bible).
22. Supplication. Ask God to help us to believe what is true, such that we will live more fully out of it. Ask God to fill us with appropriate wonder and joy at the person, work, and promises of Jesus. Ask God to more fully cause our church to seek the things that are above and not the things of earth. Ask God to help us long for heaven.