When CHRIST JESUS is your ALL - Col 3:1-17

Intro:
A. This morning I want to start by looking at a passage of Scripture in Ephesians 5:1-7 (NKJV) — 1 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. 3 But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; 4 neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 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. - Please note the high lights.
1. Being an Imitators of God requires that we acknowledge certain facts - facts that are summed up in these statements - “IF you have been raised......” and WHEN JESUS CHRIST is your All In All ---- then these things WILL BE PRESENT in your daily walk and relationship with God and His Son.
2. What Is Jesus Christ to YOU?
   a. Does Jesus Christ “really” have pre-eminence in your LIFE?
   b. Because as a young boy - my dad always used to say ---- ACTIONS SPEAK Louder than WORDS!
   c. DO your actions speak louder than your words ----- “OH how I love Jesus.....” “I’ll be a FRIEND to Jesus” - just a few words we sing in our worship to GOD.
B. Let’s just take a note about the PRE-EMINENCE OF JESUS the CHRIST in the book of Colossians:
1. Christ, our Creator and Head, is supreme in all things (Col 1:15–20).
2. Through Christ’s death God has reconciled to Himself those who were aliens and enemies, but must continue in the faith - (Col 1:21–23).
3. God’s fullness (His provisions in Jesus), can be known & enjoyed by all through the gospel - (Col 1:24–27).
4. To this end we labor that everyone may be perfect in Christ (Col 1:28–29).
5. All true wisdom & knowledge is found in Christ - (Col 2:1–5; 1:19–11).
6. As you began with Christ, you must also continue in Him - (Col 2:6–7).
7. Don’t be deceived: God’s fullness is in Christ alone - not in human philosophy - (Col 2:8–10).
8. By putting on Christ in baptism, we have been freed from sin & made alive to God - therefore we must hold fast to Him - (Col 2:11–23).
C. All of this leads us to the text of our Lesson this morning - Colossians 3:1-17 (NKJV) - 1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. 5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. 8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all. 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which
is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

I. We are going to look at 3 major points here today - MY DESIRE & FOCUS

1. WHAT transpired in our LIVES - TOOK OFF THE OLD MAN

2. And PUT ON THE NEW MAN

II. MY DESIRE and MY FOCUS - IS TO PLEASE HIM - Col 3:1-4 - 1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

A. “If then you were” – First class conditional clause – i.e. “Since you have been”

1. “Raised with Christ” – A reference to what occurred when baptized into Christ – “raised with Him through faith in the working of God” - (Col 2:11-13)

a. Colossians 2:11-13 (NKJV) - 11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

2. The Christian has been made spiritually alive with Christ – (Col 2:13; Eph 2:5,6)

a. Colossians 2:13 (NKJV) - 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

b. Ephesians 2:5-6 (NKJV) - 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

3. “Seek those things which are above” - A whole-hearted search for the things of God – (Matt 5:6; 6:33; 13:44,45; Heb 11:13-16)

a. Matthew 5:6 (NKJV) - 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

b. Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) - 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

c. Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) - 44 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

(1) Matthew 13:45 (NKJV) - 45 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls,

d. Hebrews 11:13-16 (NKJV) - 13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

4. “Where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God” - Jesus given supreme honor & authority in my life – (Psa. 110:1; Matt 22:44; Acts 2:34; Eph 1:20; 1 Peter 3:15,22; 4:11)

a. Psalm 110:1 (NKJV) - 1 A Psalm of David. The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand,
Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

b. Matthew 22:44 (NKJV) - 44 ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool’ ‘?

c. Acts 2:34 (NKJV) - 34 “For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand,

d. Ephesians 1:20 (NKJV) - 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

e. 1 Peter 3:15 (NKJV) - 15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

f. 1 Peter 3:22 (NKJV) - 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

g. 1 Peter 4:11 (NKJV) - 11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

5. “Set your mind on things above,” - My values & loves to be set WHOLLY upon spiritual things—(Mt 6:19-24; Rom 12:1; 2; 1 Jn 2:15-17; Prov 23:7; Isa 26:3)

a. Matthew 6:19-24 (NKJV) - 19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 22 “The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

(1) Romans 12:1 (NKJV) - 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

(a) Romans 12:2 (NKJV) - 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

(2) 1 John 2:15-17 (NKJV) - 15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

(3) Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV) - 7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. “Eat and drink!” he says to you, But his heart is not with you.

(4) Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV) - 3 You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

b. I determine what I value & what I love - I choose my priorities — I set my mind on that which takes priority in my life - “Keep your mind with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life” (Proverbs 4:23)

B. Vrs 3 - “For You Died” – I.E. – You Were Separated From Sin – “Your Life” – I.E. – Now forgiven, you are spiritually alive - (Col. 2:11-13; Rom 6:3-11)

1. Colossians 2:11-13 (NKJV) - 11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made
without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

a. **Romans 6:3-11 (NKJV)** - 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. 10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. The Term Hidden Is From The Greek - (krypto) - - hide, conceal, cover (pass. often hide oneself); keep secret—Barclay Newman: NT Greek-English Dictionary

3. The BELIEVER (the one genuinely seeking & focusing on Jesus & His teaching; thus obedient), is secure IN Christ - ([John 10:27–29; Rom 8:35–39; 2 Tim 1:12; 1 Jn 2:4,5](#)

   a. **John 10:27-29 (NKJV)** - 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand.

   b. **Romans 8:35-39 (NKJV)** - 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

   c. **2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV)** - 12 For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

   d. **1 John 2:4 (NKJV)** - 4 He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

   (1) **1 John 2:5 (NKJV)** - 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

4. As long as we abide in Christ, we are secure through faith! – ([Heb 3:12, 10:29; John 15:1-10; 2 Pet 2:20-22; 1 Cor 10:1-13; 1 Pet 1:5; Rev 2:10](#)

   a. **Hebrews 3:12 (NKJV)** - 12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;

   b. **Hebrews 10:29 (NKJV)** - 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

   c. **John 15:1-10 (NKJV)** - 1 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He
prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. 9 “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

d. **2 Peter 2:20-22 (NKJV)** - 20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”

e. **1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NKJV)** - 1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. 6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. 7 And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.” 8 Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; 9 nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; 10 nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

f. **1 Peter 1:5 (NKJV)** - 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

g. **Revelation 2:10 (NKJV)** - 10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

C. Jesus is my LIFE - (both the source of my spiritual life as well as the FOCUS of my life) – (1 Jn 5:12; Jn 14:6; Gal 2:20)

1. **1 John 5:12 (NKJV)** - 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

   a. **John 14:6 (NKJV)** - 6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

   b. **Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)** - 20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.
2. When Jesus Appears – faithful Christians will be glorified together with Him – (All others rejected & lost!) - (Matt 7:21-23; 25:31; 1 Tim 6:14; 2 Pet 3:9-14; Rom 2:5-11; 2 Cor 5:9-11; Phil 3:20–21; 2 Thess 1:7-11; 2 Tim 4:8, etc)

a. Matthew 7:21-23 (NKJV) - 21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ 23 And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

b. Matthew 25:31 (NKJV) - 31 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

c. 1 Timothy 6:14 (NKJV) - 14 that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ’s appearing,

d. 2 Peter 3:9-14 (NKJV) - 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 14 Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;

e. Romans 2:5-11 (NKJV) - 5 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, 6 who “will render to each one according to his deeds”: 7 eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8 but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness —indignation and wrath, 9 tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; 10 but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 11 For there is no partiality with God.

f. 2 Corinthians 5:9-11 (NKJV) - 9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

g. Philippians 3:20-21 (NKJV) - 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

h. 2 Thessalonians 1:7-11 (NKJV) - 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed. 11 Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith
with power,

i. 2 Timothy 4:8 (NKJV) - 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

III. WHAT I HAVE DONE IN MY LIFE - Col 3:5-11 (NKJV) - 5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. 8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumsicd, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

A. FIRSTLY - THE OLD MAN is PUT OFF - everything including HIS DEEDS

1. “Put to death” – “Mortify” - i.e. – “utterly slay” – The idea means more than just suppress or control - (Gal 5:24)
   a. Galatians 5:24 (NKJV) - 24 And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

2. “Your Members” – The body, and its members serve as the medium through which sin works – (Rom 6:12,13,19)
   a. Romans 6:12 (NKJV) - 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.
      (1) Romans 6:13 (NKJV) - 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.
   b. Romans 6:19 (NKJV) - 19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.
   c. “Put to death every part of yourself which is against God and keeps you from fulfilling His will” – (William Barclay 174.)

3. There are SENSUAL SINS mentioned in Colossians 3:5-7 (NKJV) - 5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.
   a. Fornication - porneia
      (1) A general term for any illicit sexual intercourse; includes adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, bestiality
   b. Uncleanness - akatharsia
      (1) Uncleanness in a moral sense: the impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living
   c. Passion (inordinate affection, KJV) - pathos
      (1) Used by the Greeks in either a good or bad sense; in the NT in a bad sense, it means depraved passion, vile passions – loving, enjoying the sensual.
   d. Evil desire (evil concupiscence, KJV) - epithumia
      (1) Desire, craving, longing, desire for what is forbidden, lust
   e. Covetousness- pleonexia
      (1) Greedy desire to have more, covetousness, avarice
      (2) Described by Paul to be equivalent to idolatry! - We are to set our minds on things above (where God is), but when we covet material objects we have our minds on things below,
f. NOTE these are serious - Col 3:6-7

(1) God’s wrath would come upon those who practiced “fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness.” – (1 Cor 6:9-11; Gal 5:19-21; Rev 21:8)

(a) 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NKJV) - 9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

(b) Galatians 5:19-21 (NKJV) - 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

(c) Revelation 21:8 (NKJV) - 8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

(2) Those practicing these things are “sons of disobedience” – (Eph 2:2,3; 2 Pet 2:14)

(a) Ephesians 2:2 (NKJV) - 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

i) Ephesians 2:3 (NKJV) - 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

(b) 2 Peter 2:14 (NKJV) - 14 having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children.

(3) The Colossians in the past had practiced some of these things – but no longer” – (1 Cor 6:11; Eph 2:2; Tit 3:3; 1 Pet 4:3,4)

(a) Ephesians 2:2 (NKJV) - 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

(b) Titus 3:3 (NKJV) - 3 For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

(c) 1 Peter 4:3 (NKJV) - 3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

i) 1 Peter 4:4 (NKJV) - 4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.

4. There are UNCHARITABLE SINS - Colossians 3:8-9 (NKJV) - 8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,
a. **Anger** - Grk., orge {or-gay'}
   (1) Movement or agitation of the soul, impulse, desire, any violent emotion, but esp. anger
b. **Wrath** - Grk., thumos {thoo-mos'}
   (1) Passion, angry, heat, anger forthwith boiling up and soon subsiding again
c. **Malice** - Grk., kakia {kak-ee'-ah}
   (1) Malignity, malice, ill-will, desire to injure
d. **Blasphemy** - Gr, blasphemia
   (1) Slander, detraction, speech injurious, to another's good name; impious and reproachful
   speech injurious to divine majesty
e. **Filthy language**- Gr aischrologia
   (1) Foul speaking, low and obscene speech
f. **Lying** - Grk., pseudomai
   (1) To lie, to speak deliberate falsehoods; to deceive one by a lie, to lie to.
g. NOW NOTE THESE SCRIPTURES:
   (1) **Romans 6:6** (NKJV) - 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the
   body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.
   (2) **Ephesians 4:22-23** (NKJV) - 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the
   old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the
   spirit of your mind,

B. **I PUT ON THE NEW MAN** ---- these include Our Thoughts and our Deeds - **Colossians 3:10-17**
   (NKJV) - 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image
   of Him who created him, 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised,
   barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all. 12 Therefore, as the elect of God,
   holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing
   with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ
   forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond
   of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one
   body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and
   admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts
   to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving
   thanks to God the Father through Him.

1. They had been baptized into Christ thus they had put on the new man – (Col 2:11-13; Gal 3:27;
   2 Cor 5:17; 1 Pet 1:22,23)
   a. **Colossians 2:11-13** (NKJV) - 11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision
      made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of
      Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith
      in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your
      trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him,
      having forgiven you all trespasses,
   b. **Galatians 3:27** (NKJV) - 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on
      Christ.
   c. **2 Corinthians 5:17** (NKJV) - 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old
      things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
   d. **1 Peter 1:22** (NKJV) - 22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through
      the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,
      (1) **1 Peter 1:23** (NKJV) - 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but
      incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

a. Ephesians 4:23 (NKJV) - 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,
   (1) 2 Corinthians 4:16 (NKJV) - 16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.
   (2) 2 Peter 2:1 (NKJV) - 1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.
   (3) 2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV) - 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

b. According to the image of Him – (Gen 1:27; 2 Cor 5:17; Eph 4:24; 5:1; Rom 8:29)
   (1) Genesis 1:27 (NKJV) - 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
   (2) 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV) - 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
   (3) Ephesians 4:24 (NKJV) - 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.
   (4) Ephesians 5:1 (NKJV) - 1 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.
   (5) Romans 8:29 (NKJV) - 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

3. Vrs 11 - All physical barriers broken down in Christ – (Gal 3:26-29; Eph 2:14-18)
   a. Galatians 3:26-29 (NKJV) - 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.
   b. Ephesians 2:14-18 (NKJV) - 14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.
   (1) National barriers - “Greek / Jew” –
   (2) Custom barriers – “circumcised / uncircumcised”–
   (3) Cultural barriers – “Barbarian, / Scythian”–
   (4) Class barriers – “slave nor free”–

4. As A New MAN - WE PUT ON..... notice what God demands us to take OFF - is never left untouched {the devils playground} - GOD DEMANDS WE REPLACE WHAT IS TAKEN OFF WITH SOMETHING in its place:
   a. “as the elect of God, holy and beloved,” - The new man in Christ has been chosen by God, and is holy & beloved – (Isa 42:1; 1 Pet 2:9,10; Eph 1:6; 2:4,5)
      (1) Isaiah 42:1 (NKJV) - 1 “Behold! My Servant whom I uphold. My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.
      (2) 1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV) - 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
         (a) 1 Peter 2:10 (NKJV) - 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of
God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

(3) Ephesians 1:6 (NKJV) - 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

(4) Ephesians 2:4 (NKJV) - 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

(a) Ephesians 2:5 (NKJV) - 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

b. “Put on” (vrs 12) – The Christian’s new standing in Christ calls for a new mode of dress – i.e. the old garments of sin have been put off – now the new garments of righteousness and true holiness must be put on.— (Ephesians 4:24) - 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. ---- Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJV) - 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.)

(1) Tender mercies – [bowels of mercies KJV] … – figuratively – the seat of tender emotions such as kindness and compassion – (Phil 1:8; 2:1; Luke 1:78) – mercies - "pity, compassion for the ills of others," Vines - - - “A heartfelt compassion - a sympathetic heart.” Weaver

(2) Kindness –that goodness of heart that makes us act rightly in our dealings with others - (As with God - Titus 3:4; Eph 2:7)

(a) Titus 3:4 (NKJV) - 4 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared,

(b) Ephesians 2:7 (NKJV) - 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

(3) Humility – Lowliness of mind, realizing our total & complete dependance upon God – (Matt 5:3; Phil 2:3; Eph 4:2)

(a) Matthew 5:3 (NKJV) - 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

(b) Philippians 2:3 (NKJV) - 3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

(c) Ephesians 4:2 (NKJV) - 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

(4) Meekness –“Someone who is self controlled because of being God controlled” Barclay - - “Implies forces and strength held in check, under strong control - (of Christ - 2 Cor. 10:1; Matthew 11:29)

(a) 2 Corinthians 10:1 (NKJV) - 1 Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ— who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you.

(b) Matthew 11:29 (NKJV) - 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

(5) Longsuffering – “Patience, steadfastness, endurance, forbearance – (BDAG 489)

(a) “Bearing with one another” – i.e. putting up with each other using the qualities previously mentioned – (Rom 15:1; Eph 4:2)

 i) Romans 15:1 (NKJV) - 1 We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

 a) Romans 15:2 (NKJV) - 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification.

 ii) Ephesians 4:2 (NKJV) - 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,
(b) “And forgiving one another” – of debts – mistakes – grievances (Luke 17:3,4)
   i)  **Luke 17:3** (NKJV) - 3 Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.
   a)  **Luke 17:4** (NKJV) - 4 And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, ‘I repent,’ you shall forgive him.”
(c) “Even as Christ forgave you, so you must also do” – those who have been forgiven must always be forgiving - (Eph 4:32; Matt 6:12-15; 18:21-35; James 2:13)
   i)  **Ephesians 4:32** (NKJV) - 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.
   ii)  **Matthew 6:12-15** (NKJV) - 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. 14 “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
   iii)  **Matthew 18:21-35** (NKJV) - 21 Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. 23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. 28 “But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ 29 So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 30 And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. 31 So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. 32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ 34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. 35 “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”
   iv)  **James 2:13** (NKJV) - 13 For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

(6) **Love** is the supreme virtue – (1 Cor 13:1-8,13)
   (a) Love is to be put on – A command to be obeyed - (John 13:34; 15:12; 1 John 4:21)
   i)  **John 13:34** (NKJV) - 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.
   ii)  **John 15:12** (NKJV) - 12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
   iii)  **1 John 4:21** (NKJV) - 21 And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.
(b) Love “is the bond of perfection” – it binds all of these graces and virtues together – and thus binds believers together in unity - (Col 2:2; 1 Pet 4:8; Eph 4:1-4)

   i) Colossians 2:2 (NKJV) - 2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ,

   ii) 1 Peter 4:8 (NKJV) - 8 And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.”

   iii) Ephesians 4:1-4 (NKJV) - 1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

(c) cf Colossians 3:12-14 (NKJV) - 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

   c. Vrs 15 - Let the peace of God [Christ ASV] rule in your hearts – There is certainly peace within when I submit to the teaching of Christ - but here specifically speaking of how we deal with one another. - (John 17:20-21 (NKJV) - 20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.)

   (1) To which you were called in one body – (Eph 2:14-18; 4:1-3)

      a) Ephesians 2:14-18 (NKJV) - 14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

      b) Ephesians 4:1-3 (NKJV) - 1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

   (2) And be thankful - (Col 1:12-14; Eph 5:20; Phil 4:6)

      a) Colossians 1:12-14 (NKJV) - 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

      b) Ephesians 5:20 (NKJV) - 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

      c) Philippians 4:6 (NKJV) - 6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

   d. Vrs 16 - “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly” – i.e. to allow oneself to be brought completely under its influence. (Psalm 119:11 (NKJV) - 11 Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You. ---- John 15:7 (NKJV) - 7 If you abide in Me, and
My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.)

(1) “In all wisdom”– Wisdom receives the word of Christ – (Eph 5:17) - The word of Christ produces wisdom (Col. 1:9;2:3) - the word of Christ must be taught in wisdom – (Col 1:28)

(a) Ephesians 5:17 (NKJV) - 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

(b) Colossians 1:9 (NKJV) - 9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

(c) Colossians 2:3 (NKJV) - 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

(d) Colossians 1:28 (NKJV) - 28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

(2) I worship God in spirit & truth - (John 4:24 (NKJV) - 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”)

(a) We sing:
   i) To one another - teaching & admonishing
   ii) The Lord

(b) Psalms, Hymns, Spiritual songs

(c) With grace in heart

e. Vrs 17 - I submit to Jesus’ authority in everything said & done - (Col 3:17)

(1) Every word – every deed must be in submission to the authority of Christ – (2 John 9)

(a) 2 John 9 (NKJV) - 9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

(2) “He is most likely to do his duty well who goes to it with a heart overflowing with gratitude to God for his mercies;” —Barnes' Notes on the New Testament – (Eph 5:20)

(a) Ephesians 5:20 (NKJV) - 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

IV. In Conclusion:

A. WHAT is JESUS CHRIST to YOU?

1. Have you died and been raised with Christ - Col 2:11-13; 3:1-4
2. Have you put off the old man with his sin? - Col 3:5-9
3. Have you put on the New man according to the image of Christ - Col 3:10-15

B. Are you worshiping & submitting to every word and deed - authorized by Christ? - Col 3:16-17