

### Lesson: SET YOUR MIND ON THINGS ABOVE

After Christmas holidays, we are returning to the study of the Book of Colossians and chapter three.

We will divide chapter three into the following three sections of studies.

- 3:1-17 – Christian Life
- 3:18-21 – Christian Family
- 3:22-25 – Christian Employment

We will divide 3:1-17 into three studies.

- 3:1-4 – Set your mind on Things Above
- 3:5-11 – Don't set your mind on Things on Earth
- 3:12-17 – Beyond all These Things

Today's lesson will study **FIVE** aspects of **Set Your Mind on Things Above**.

1. Note the first marker "**Therefore**" establishes our study outline of **Col.3:1-17**. It carries the idea of **Review** what was previously said before engaging in what is about to be said.
  - 3:1 – **Therefore** (oun/ 2:16-23/ danger of works of Law/ 3:1-4)
  - 3:5 – **Therefore** (oun/ review to 3:5-11)
  - 3:12 – "and" is **Therefore** (oun / review to 3:12-17)

2. The second marker is the use of **imperatives Col.3:1-17**. The **Imperative** (command) is used ten times (**3:1, 2/ 5, 7, 9/ 12, 15(2x), 16, 17**).

In 3:1-4 – **Imperative** (2x) is used primarily in Present Imperatives.

In 3:5-11 – **Imperative** (3x) is used primarily in Aorist Imperatives.

In 3:12-17 – **Imperative** (5x) is used primarily in Present Imperatives.

3. Col.3:1-4 consists of two Greek sentences (3:1-2 and 3:3-4). Both sentences have a colon in the middle of them which is a hard break for the students to pause and reflect on what is being stated. 3:1 closes with a colon. The period is at end of 3:2.

Also note 3:1 begins with a **1cc** (if true in protasis and **then** true in apodosis) which continues into 3:2-3.

Also note 2 imperatives, **If what is true?** \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> –(then) keep seeking (zeteo/ p.a.impv.2pl) **the things ABOVE**) – Where Christ is seated

2<sup>nd</sup> – (then keep) setting your mind (phroneo/ p.a.impv.2pl) **on things ABOVE – Not on** the things on earth.

4. Col.3:3-4 is one Greek sentence. Paul does the same thing with the colon and period. There is a colon at the end of 3:3 and period at end of 3:4.

In Col.3:1-3, Paul introduced three of four Positional Sanctification doctrines: *RAPT*; *CPT*; and *EPT*.

In **Col.3:4**, Paul introduced the 4<sup>th</sup>, Ultimate Positional Truth (UPT), with **the Rapture**.

**Note how** Paul introduced **the Rapture** with **WHEN CHRIST** (hotan plus *a.p. subjunctive 3ps/ REVEALED*) and **THEN YOU, the Church** (tote temporal adverb/ nplm/ **REVEALED/ f.p.ind.2pl/ phaneroo**).

What two important features of the Rapture Paul identified in Col.3:4?

*This can be every believer's reality, if what is true?\_\_\_\_\_ (Col.3:1)*

5. Paul has taught **four doctrines** of **Positional Sanctification** in Col.3:1-4.

**RAPT** (Retroactive positional truth) – Gospel of Christ (Gal.2:20; **Col.3:3**; Rom.6:3-6, 8-11)

**CPT** (Current positional truth) – Session of Christ (2 Cor.5:17; Col.2:12-14; **3:1-3**/ BHS: Gal.3:27)

**EPT** (Experiential positional truth) – Indwelling of Holy Spirit (**Col.3:1**; Rom.6:12-14, 19-22; 1 Cor.6:19-20)

**UPT** (Ultimate positional truth) - Rapture and resurrection body (**Col.3:4**; 1 Cor.15:50-58; 1 Thess.4:13-18; Phil.3:20-21; 1 Pet.5:4; 1 John 2:28; 3:2)