

Wednesday in the Word

Digging Deeper

January 20, 2021

Colossians 3:5-11

No Apologies

Please take a moment to remove children or sensitive individuals from the room. It almost seems necessary to ask forgiveness for tonight's lesson but remember this is God's Word! Hard as it is to hear this we must. Either some of this exists in our lives or in the lives of our families, friends or acquaintances. Paul felt it needful to present this lesson to the church at Colosse and hence here at FRBC. This was well preached on Sunday and bears repeating. A close look at the horrors of our past lives or the temptations of the present might bring to light the gravity of our relationships with Jesus Christ. Remember who you represent in this world and this evil generation. We are told to put to death or consider dead the very parts of our flesh or of our minds that our old nature desires to retain. Consider also, the growing agenda sweeping across the nation. Cleaning our own lives prepares us to be a light to others and a defense of Godly values. John 8:12, Ephesians 5:8, Philippians 2:15. Here following are the full definitions of the key Greek words from today's passage.

Fornication; Porneia; harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively idolatry: - fornication. Illicit sexual intercourse, adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, intercourse with animals etc. Sexual intercourse with close relatives; Lev. 18. Sexual intercourse with a divorced man or woman; Mark 10:11,12. Metaphorically, the worship of idols, the defilement of idolatry, as incurred by eating the sacrifices offered to idols or performing sexual sacrifices to idols.

Uncleanness; Akatharsia; impurity; the quality of being physically or morally unclean.

Inordinate Affection; Pathos; properly suffering; that is (subjectively) a passion (especially concupiscence): - (inordinate) affection lust, specifically, a calamity, mishap, evil, affliction, a feeling which the mind suffers, an affliction of the mind, emotion, passion, passionate deed, in a bad sense, depraved passion, vile passions.

Evil Concupiscence; Kakos; worthless; that is (subjectively) depraved or (objectively) injurious: - bad evil harm ill noisome wicked. (Plus) Epithumia; a longing (especially for what is forbidden): - concupiscence desire lust (after). Desire, craving, longing, desire for what is forbidden, lust.

Coveteousness; Pleonexia; avarice that is (by implication) fraudulency extortion: - covetous (-ness) practices greediness.

Idolatry; Eidōlolatrea; image worship (literally or figuratively): - idolatry; the worship of false gods; of the formal sacrificial feasts held in honour of false gods; of avarice, as a worship of Mammon.

Wrath; Orgē; properly desire (as a reaching forth or excitement of the mind) that is (by analogy) violent passion (ire or [justifiable] abhorrence); by implication punishment: - anger indignation vengeance wrath.

[8] But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. [9] Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. Tonight's lesson is less about the terrible state of the world today and more about the fact that we are a part of it and sometimes we look like it. We must be radically different but not so as to condemn. Rather, our love must be genuine and attractive. Darkness hates the light but the lost want something they have not had. Love, calm, acceptance, peace. Each sinner you encounter has the same needs you do. To feel honored, respected, uniquely cared for. Not looked down upon. Made to feel worthless. We are that tiny mouse pulling the thorn out of the lion's foot. We may get bitten and clawed as our Lord was but eternal friendships can be created. Isaiah 53:4-6. God wants to use us to do mighty works but we limit Him by hanging on to sin. If we place our will under the control of the Holy Spirit we will be able to get our lives right and be more useful to Christ.

[10] And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: [11] Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Got that? You are a new creation after His Image! You know new and wonderful things that others can't see from the outside. This world and our beautiful nation are so divided, yet in Christ we are one. Our church body must be a starting point for living at peace. As we get it right, God will expand it out to the unsaved. May we cause them to desire what they see in us. Unity, fellowship, other centeredness. Share the love. Share the gospel. Share Jesus Christ. There's enough of Him to go around.