“RISEN WITH CHRIST”

TEXT:

Col 3:1-2

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

KJV

INTRODUCTION: Are you raised with Christ? If you are a Christian, then you are raised with Christ. You now live on a higher plane. You now live by a higher standard. You possess a new set of values and aspirations. Your eyes have been lifted from the mundane to the heavenly, and from the temporary to the eternal.

1. RAISED WITH CHRIST
2. Fundamental is the grand truth that Christ is raised from the dead.

1 Cor 15:3-4

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

KJV

1. His resurrection is a declaration of his divinity.

Rom 1:3-4

Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

4 And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

KJV

1. This lesson is based on the proposition, “That we have been raised with Christ.”
2. How can we in this present world be raised with Christ? The scriptures answer:

Col 2:12-14

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,

NKJV

1. If you have not been baptized, it follows that you are not risen with Christ.
2. To be raised, we must first die. This same Apostle deals again with this concept in the Roman Epistle.

Rom 6:3-7

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.

NKJV

1. Those who have not been baptized are still dead in their trespasses and sin.
2. We must die before we can raised with Christ.
3. Raised to the new life in Christ. Rom. 6:4
4. Baptism is for the remission of sins, Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16.
5. Those who are Christians have been baptized into Christ.

Gal 3:27

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

KJV

1. All things made new in Christ.
2. Newness of life only in Christ, Rom. 6:4
3. A new creation.

2 Cor 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

KJV

1. Isn’t it amazing that folks believe that they can be raised with Christ without baptism? (Baptized into His death).
2. Having been raised with Christ, we now sit with him in heavenly places.

Eph 2:5-7

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,

NKJV

(Eph. 2:6) The full meaning of this verse is that Christians who have been baptized into Christ, therein being “made alive together with Christ” and being “raised with him,” are partakers of the full rights and privileges of the heavenly kingdom. (Coffman).

1. SEEKING THINGS ABOVE
2. Our Focus Has Changed.

Col 3:1-2

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.

NKJV

1. Worldly minded people are focused on earthly things.

Phil 3:17-20

Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. 18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame — who set their mind on earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

NKJV

1. We need to get our eyes and our desires fixed on heaven.
2. Jesus warns about having our treasures in the wrong places.
3. The sun will soon be setting on this life. Let us set our affection on thing above and not on things on the earth.

Matt 6:19-21

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.

NKJV

1. SOME THINGS TO PUT TO DEATH
2. Put to Death Your Members.

Col 3:5

Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

NKJV

1. Sexual immorality, all manner of impurity of heart and sinful practices, passion (vile affections), evil desires, and covetousness must be removed from our lives.
2. The body of this death.

Rom 7:23-24

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

KJV

1. This Apostle refers this to the old man in Col. 3:9.

Col 3:9

………..seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

KJV

1. Paul’s solution is Christ.

Rom 7:24-25

O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord………

KJV

1. It is important to consider these sins individually
2. Fornication---Thayer says it means unlawful intimacy in general, between the sexes,

Whether married or unmarried. It is a broader term than adultery.

1. Uncleanness is a general term and applies to any kind of defilement whether of body or spirit
2. Passion—the same idea is expressed in Rom 1:26.

Rom 1:26-27

26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. (Homosexuality)

NKJV

1. Evil desire---Thayer defines it as a desire for that which is forbidden.
2. Covetousness---“greedy desire” It is idolatry. It becomes one’s God.

Consider this statement:

1 Tim 6:10

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

KJV

Jesus said:

Matt 6:24

"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.

NKJV

1. FOR THOSE RAISED WITH CHRIST SOME THINGS TO PUT OFF.

Col 3:8-9

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,

NKJV

1. Anger
2. Anger-wrath-malice. If used alone these words have virtually the same meaning. When used in one sentence, they represent a growing intensity of evil temper, finally becoming fixed in a deep feeling and evil intention called malice. (E.M. Zerr)
3. Anger Danger.

Eph 4:26-27

26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27 Neither give place to the devil.

KJV

1. When anger is aroused in the heart that is the time the devil is most likely to get advantage of us, and cause us to say and do things we should not. What terrible words are spoken and what terrible deeds are done in a fit of anger. (Even murder).
2. Wrath
3. “The general opinion of scholars is that ….orge, Gr. (wrath), represents more of an abiding and settled habit of the mind……., with the purpose of revenge.” {Trench 1:178-179). The New Unger’s Bible Dict.

Eph 4:26

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

KJV

1. It seems to be anger that is allowed to simmer in the mind, and build up, causing one to act out in an evil way.

James 1:19-20

19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

KJV

1. Blasphemy
2. Blasphemy—is any kind of evil speaking, especially that which is prompted by the kind of heart just described.
3. Speaking evil of God or man.

James 4:11

11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

KJV

1. Surely this would include gossip and slander.
2. Filthy Communication.

Col 3:8

But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

KJV

1. Foul an indecent language. Vulgarity, Cursing, and euphemisms. (Four letter words substituted for hard core curse words.
2. We do not talk with the filthy, putrid, and unsavory language of worldly people, even when we may be angry.
3. Jesus warned about idle words. Hateful and injurious words.

Matt 12:35-37

35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

KJV (What a serious matter)

1. Lying

Col 3:9

Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

KJV

1. How about an “innocent little white lie?”
2. Deceit.

1 Peter 2:1

Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,

NKJV

1. Liars are destined to the Lake of Fire.

Rev 21:8

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."

NKJV

1. Those raised with Christ have some things to put off.
2. PUTTING ON THE NEW MAN.
3. A New Creation.

2 Cor 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

NKJV

1. The new man in Christ.

Col 3:9-16

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.

1. Character of the New Man

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.

NKJV

1. What a great contrast between the “Old Man” and “New Man.”
2. The New man is clothed with Christ like characteristics.
3. Tender mercies.

Luke 6:36

Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

KJV

1. Kindness to be added to our faith.

2 Peter 1:7

And to godliness brotherly kindness; (God’s people have a kind way of talking, and perform kind deeds.)

KJV

1. Humility.

1 Peter 5:5

“………and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.”

KJV

1. Meekness---gentleness (Should be known as God’s gentle people)
2. Longsuffering---Patient, NIV

LONGSUFFERING

"Longsuffering is that quality of self-restraint in the face of provocation which does not hastily retaliate or promptly punish; it is the opposite of anger, and is associated with mercy, and is used of God, Ex 34:6 (Sept.)

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright © 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers.)

1. Love--- The bond of perfection

Col 3:14

But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

NKJV

1 John 4:8-9

He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

NKJV

1. Peace---

Col 3:15

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts……….. (God’s people seek after peace)

KJV

Our Lord is known as “The Prince of Peace.” (Isa. 9:6)

1 Peter 3:10-11

10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:

11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

KJV

1. Be Thankful

Sing to, and praise God with thankfulness in our hearts. (Col. 3:15-16)

Col 3:17

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.

NKJV

1. Be ye thankful! (this is a command’) (COL. 3:16)

We must continue to Give God thanks! We should live our lives in a thankful manner, Remembering that Jesus died for us, and that we should now live for Him. Let us never forget that he bore our sins at Calvary.

CONCLUSION: What an exalted privilege to be “RAISED WITH CHRIST” “TO SIT WITH HIM IN HEAVENLY PLACES.” Have you been raised with Christ? If not, you can be, but you must first die to self. You can do this by putting your faith in Him; Repenting of your past life in sin; Confessing His wonderful name before men; and by being baptized into His death.

Rom 6:4-7

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up 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 planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

KJV

Remember that without the death and burial there can be no resurrection. Will you be raised with Christ? Be baptized for the remission of your sins today.

Perhaps you are an erring child of God. If you have allowed the old man of sin to be resurrected in your life, put the old man of sin to death. As a child of God you have the privilege of repentance, confession, and prayer at your disposal.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.