

PUTTING ON CHRISTIAN CHARACTERISTICS  
COLOSSIANS 3:12-14

Introduction:

- A. In Colossians 3, Paul is telling his readers what they should be doing now that they are Christians.
  - 1. Seek the things above.
  - 2. Do not seek the things on the earth.
  - 3. Put off the things you once walked in.
    - a. Put them to death.
    - b. It is because of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience.
  - 4. Put on the new man with righteous characteristics.
    - a. Everyone is equal in Christ.
    - b. Put these on as God's elect.
  - 5. What are these righteous characteristics?

I. Tender Mercy And Kindness

- A. Both of these are attributes of God and Christ. II Corinthians 1:3
- B. New American Standard uses the word compassion instead of mercy
- C. Think of all the people Jesus had compassion on.
- D. As the elect of \_\_\_\_\_ we also should have these same attributes.
- E. We should have compassion on:
  - 1. The \_\_\_\_\_
    - a. Matthew 25:31-46    b. Luke 10:36-37    c. Ephesians 4:32
  - 2. Those who have wronged us. Romans 12:19-21
  - 3. The \_\_\_\_\_.
    - a. We should not be too quick to judge. John 8:7
    - b. We are not the \_\_\_\_\_.    c. Hate the sin, \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_    d. Hosea 6:6

II. Humility

- A. God has always opposed the proud.
  - 1. Pride is of the \_\_\_\_\_ and cannot be part of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. I Peter 5:5-6    3. James 4:10
  - 4. Proverbs 6:16-17    5. Proverbs 16:18
- B. Jesus showed what true humility meant.
  - 1. Called Himself the Son of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Philippians 2:5-8

### III. Meekness

- A. Meekness is not \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Meekness is being mild and patient even while being mistreated.
- C. Meekness is also having the \_\_\_\_\_ to stand up for what is \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. The meek person believes the will of God is the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ . Matthew 5:5

### IV. Longsuffering

- A. Other versions translate this word \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. As Christians we need patience with
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- C. To be patient we must have steadfastness and endurance.
  - 1. I Corinthians 15:58
  - 2. Hebrews 12:1
  - 3. James 1:12

### V. Forgiveness

- A. Forgiveness is not \_\_\_\_\_, it's a \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 3:13
- B. Our forgiveness depends on us forgiving others. Matthew 6:14-15
- C. In Matthew 18:21-35, Jesus tells a \_\_\_\_\_ to show the importance of forgiveness.
- D. If Christ forgave surely we can forgive.

### VI. Love

- A. Love \_\_\_\_\_ in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:14.
- B. Without love the other characteristics will do us no good. I Corinthians 13:1-3
- C. What is love?
  - 1. I Corinthians 13:4-8
  - 2. Love is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible!
- D. God loves you. Romans 5:6-10

Conclusion: WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE?