

**“Living the Risen Life,” cont.:**

**The Priorities of the New Man (vv. 15-17)**

**Colossians 3:1-17**

VI. The new man is concerned with peace of Christ, the word of Christ, and the name of Christ (vv. 15-17).

A. The peace of God (Christ) refers to both the call of God to salvation and consequent peace with Him and the attitude of rest or security believers have because of the eternal peace (Jn. 14:27; Rom. 5:1; Phil. 4:7; Eph. 2:14).

1. This “peace” includes a treaty and that of a disposition of security (Rom. 5:1; 9-10).

2. The word “rule” describes the activity of an umpire that guides the believer in making decisions (illus. – 1 Cor. 6:17-18).

3. This peace is also relational (Col. 3:15b).

4. To maintain a peaceful heart one has to be thankful (Col. 3:15c; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6; 1 Thess. 5:18; Heb. 13:15).

B. The Word of Christ refers to the revelation He brought into the world, which is Scripture (v. 16; Jn. 1:14, 18; Heb. 1-2).

1. We are to let the Word take up residence and be at home in our lives.

2. The extent of the indwelling Word in our life is to be abundant.

3. The Word dwells in us when we -

a. hear it (Matt. 13:9)

b. handle it (2 Tim. 2:15)

c. hide it (Psa. 119:11)

d. hold it fast (Phil. 2:16)

\*To let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly is synonymous to being filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18).

4. There are two specific results of the Word of Christ dwelling in the believer.

a. Teaching in the impartation of truth.

b. Admonishing refers to warning others of the consequences of their behavior.

5. Having the Word of Christ richly dwell in us produces not only information, but also emotion.

a. Psalms were taken from O.T. Psalter.

b. Hymns were expressions of praise to God (i.e. Col. 1:15-20; Phil. 2:6-11)

C. The most basic rule of thumb for living the Christian life is to do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (v. 17; cf. 1 Cor. 10:31).

\*To do everything in the name of Jesus is to act consistently with who He is and what He wants.