MESSAGE OUTLINE



Colossians 3:5-11 NKJV

5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. 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, 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.

INTRODUCTION

And each day that God created the living, He declared they were good, and Man was very good.
But something changed, and the Lord our God has decided to start all things over again…

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. **2 Peter 3:10**

Isaiah 43:19 NLT - *For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?*

The Day of the Lord is on its way—all things will be made right, and it's sure to come! Amen.

In **Revelation 21:4b-5a**, John writes, *There shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make ALL THINGS new."*

Colossians 1:28~. "*Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."*

Yet how can anyone be perfect? Because when I look around, and especially at myself, I think, "That's just not possible! No one can be perfect."

But I hope to answer that according to the word of God, what the perfect person is and does.

A FEW THINGS TO SQUARE AWAY

A basic outline of Colossians:

1. Greetings and Encouragement (ch.1)
2. Christology (Theology or doxology about Jesus) (ch.2, first part)
3. Biblical Defense (Apology) (ch.2, last part)
4. Worship (ch.3, first four verses)

And that last point, the most important for us to note today: worship.

When worship is done right, then all theology is fulfilled, when when the believer is looking up. **Do you? Is membership important to you?**

THE TEMPLE THAT WORSHIPS IN TRUTH
See Paul instructs them to put to death: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness. From the text, it is clear that covetousness is idolatry—the worship of something other than God.

But what is the deal with the others, "fornication, uncleanness, passion, and evil desire?"

The first word in the list is the word porneia in Greek. They are all rooted in it, sex or sexual desire outside of God's definition of marriage: the covenant of sexual relations between one man and one woman, before God, for the rest of their lives.

The Barna Group, reported that over half of practicing Christians view porn. But why is it so bad…?

Can you imagine if we showed such imagery inside of our church?

Jesus said the eyes are the lamp to your body and Paul says out body is the temple of God.

Now, by intentionally looking at pornography, what you're actually doing is polluting the house of God. You are letting the evil light mix into yours and into you as a holy temple of God, Christian.

You must get pornography and sexual sin out of your life!

> Now, believer, if you find yourself getting involved with such things: **flee**.
> If you've lost the battle: **repent**.
> If you keep losing the battle: **get some help** from the members at church or a pastor.

Church: we need to lovingly help them: **Galatians 6:1 -** *Brethren, if a man is overtaken in **any** trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.*

How? Like Paul, remind them of the reason for God's wrath and for those who, don't believe.

We also must direct people **to be perfect. Matthew 5:47b-48, ISV,** *Even the unbelievers do the same, don't they? …be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."*

THE TEMPLE THAT WORSHIPS IN SPIRIT
ἀποτίθημι (apotithémi) - Paul is using it in a sense that you must take something off, like clothing.

It was the norm, **before they went to the temple to worship**.

You see, you cannot worship God with just having knowledge of the truth.

John 4:24, *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."* Key word: must.

This is how you come to the Lord not just with the truth, but also in Spirit.

You are a breeding ground! You either grow in spiritual health or in spiritual famine.
Which one produces better fruit? Which one is you?

Romans 12:1, *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.*
By the way, did you notice that in the verses, lying gets its own little section in the text? Do you wonder why that is? I did too, so here is my take…

While Satan and the demons know Him, they refuse to worship Him.
And yet **all** the other angels do:

Deuteronomy 32:43 NLT *"Rejoice with him, you heavens, and let all of God's angels worship him. Rejoice with his people, you Gentiles, and let all the angels be strengthened in him. For he will avenge the blood of his children; he will take revenge against his enemies. He will repay those who hate him and cleanse his people's land."*

Now, what about you? Where do you stand?

Jesus says, *"Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."* **Matthew 9:13 ESV**

Jesus is not looking for the righteous, Jesus is looking for the sinners to worship Him.

About the unrighteous sinful disciples, it says in Matthew 28, *And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.* **v.9 ESV**

The blind man in John 9, who was not sinless, was healed, then said, *"Lord, I believe," and he worshiped Him.* Jesus said, *"For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."*

CONCLUSION
Well, you might be wondering, which is it? Do I need to be perfect or not to worship the Lord?

A *causality dilemma* is where something obviously exists, but we can't tell which comes first.

You will find infinity with an endless reason for the next reason for the next reason.

What you will find in the end, is the **Reason for the Season**.

There you will find yourself at the altar of the Most High, and the only thing you will be able to do is bow down and worship Him because you are made righteous by the blood of the Lamb of God.

Therefore: this happens because that happens.You need to set your mind on things above and worship Him in order for you to be made holy in order that you can worship Him, in both spirit and in truth.

Worshipping Him needs to be first, the highest of all. Even when you are not feeling so perfect.

Paul says in **Philippians 3:12-15**: *Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already* ***been made perfect****, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.*

The main application: stop and just put everything aside. Come and worship Him. *He* will make everything perfect, including you. *Then* you *can* worship Him in both spirit and in truth.

All peoples of all the earth need to hear the Good News, they need to know the reason for this season.

INVITATION
Do you want to be made perfect?

"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. **Isaiah 1:18**

If you want to be saved by the one we worship, believe in the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **(John 3:16)**

Jesse Mark Cesario
Tokyo Baptist Church
December 14&15, 2024

Welcome FIRST TIME guests!

Thank you for visiting. Please send an email to gift@tokyobaptist.org for a free gift.

First time guest Connection:

COMMITMENT CARD

If you would like to believe in Jesus or have questions about baptism, let us know!

Email: cc@tokyobaptist.org or visit https://t-b-c.us/cc to let us know!

TBC Life SIGN-UP

weekly email news

http://t-b-c.us/tbclife

CHURCHWIDE PRAYER

Gathering in Lange Hall

12/31 – 8:30p–11:30p

UPCOMING TBC CLASSES

class 301 Ministry

Jan 19th (Sun)

1:00 - 5:00pm

https://t-b-c.us/classes

Small Groups Information

SG Lesson
t-b-c.us/sg5124p

SG Sign-up
t-b-c.us/sgsu

For Online Giving please visit:

https://tokyobaptist.org/give

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.