

I. (Pg.67-68) COL.3:1-4: SETTING OUR MINDS

A. The issue is whether or not our faith has real substance.

1. Heb.11:1 -

B. Our faith is in God who has himself accomplished the miracle of the new birth and the life that results.

1. Col.2:12 - *“Buried & raised “through faith in the working of God””*.

2. The very same grace that saved us through faith (Eph.2:8) now works in us to *“seek those things which are above”* through faith.

C. We set our alarm clock and we can also choose to our minds. We have been raised with Christ.

THINGS ABOVE

- Christ is sitting at the right hand of God.
- My life is hidden with Christ:
(Write out Gal.2:20 and Eph.2:6,7)

THINGS ON EARTH

- Earthly ordinances
- Commandments and doctrines of men.
- Religion and superstition

1. The false teachers deceived believers by persuading them to focus on such things rather than on Christ Himself and the finished work which He accomplished. This echoes the warning in Col.2:8-10.

II. (Pg.69) THE BELIEVER’S PRESENT REALITY

A. **“Knowing this”** - Rom.6:1-11

1. Read Hebrews chapter 11. Real life, real people, real faith. True faith is active and not merely a mind over matter delusion.

2. Rom.6:14 & 16 - The evidence of being “under grace” (saved) is that we are no longer slaves to the dictates of the flesh.

a. Rom.6:17,18

B. A new creation - 2 Cor.5:17

1. Death & sin are synonymous (Eph.2:1). How can we conduct our lives in death if we’ve been born again to new life which is “from above” (Jn.3:3)?

2. (pg.70) The life we have received by faith is a supernatural life which is diametrically opposed to death. (Shaded area p.70)

3. For the believers the question is not, “is this sinful” because sin has been dealt with (Rom.6:6). The question for the believer is, “does this please God, or does it grieve His heart”?

a. Rom.13:14: Do we make it convenient to sin?

4. 2 Cor.13:5,6 - Test yourself. Are we trying to be a good person or are we a new creation?

a. Gal.5:24,25 and 6:15