

Program: SS Panel 2026 1 Q

Quarterly title: Christ In Philippians & Colossians

Quarterly author: Clinton Wahlen

Lesson Title: #11 Living With Christ

Day Title: Monday - End Earthliness

For Lesson Dates: March 7-13, 2026

Record date: October 20, 2025

Note: This color and font = quarterly text

Note: This color and font = John Dinzey notes

John Dinzey.2026.Q1. L11. End Earthliness

]]> Emphasize this

Question:

>[=] Story:

REF:>>

READ

NIL: Not in Lesson

Lesson 11

**March 7–13*

Living With Christ

Read for This Week's Study: *Col. 3:1–17, Rom. 1:18, Rom. 6:1–7, Eph. 4:22–24, Deut. 7:6–8, 1 Sam. 16:23.*

Memory Text: “But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection” (*Colossians 3:14, NKJV*).

MONDAY

March 9

End Earthliness

We hear many slogans today: "End war!" "End deforestation!" "End nuclear weapons!" But one we have probably never heard is "End earthliness!" That just doesn't fit with the sensibilities of our world. Not that any of the other slogans are wrong or what they advocate is wrong. They're just very shortsighted, considering the nearness of eternity. Our focus needs to be higher, eternally higher.

Read Colossians 3:5, 6 (see also Rom. 6:1–7). How do we experience what it means to be dead to self and to earthliness and alive to "those things which are above" (Col. 3:1)?

Col 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

>>> This is a clear reference to baptism...

Colossians 3:5, 6 Col 3:5 KJV Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Col 3:6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

REF:>> Colossians 3:5, 6 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,

]]> this is not talking about putting to death the members of the church. It is referring here to the members of your body.

Example: The members of your body

1Co 12:17 If the whole body *were* an eye, where *were* the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *were* the smelling?

1Co 12:18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

1Co 12:19 And if they were all one member, where *were* the body?

]]> Mortify therefore - In a figurative sense.

Mortify: νεκρώω - nekroō = mortify, to put to death, be rendered impotent. to subdue, to deprive of power, destroy the strength of

G3499 (**Mounce**)
νεκρώω

3x: pr. to put to death, kill; in NT met. to deaden, mortify, [Col 3:5](#); pass. to be rendered impotent, [Rom 4:19](#); [Heb 11:12](#).

G3499 (**Strong**) νεκρώω. - nekroō nek-ro'-o
From [G3498](#); to deaden, that is, (figuratively) to subdue: - be dead, mortify.

G3499 (**Thayer**)
νεκρώω
nekroō

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to make dead, to put to death, slay
- 2) worn out
- 2a) of an impotent old man
- 3) to deprive of power, destroy the strength of

From: Robertson's Word Pictures

Colossians 3:5

Mortify (**nekrōsate**). First aorist active imperative of **nekroō**, late verb, to put to death, to treat as dead. Latin Vulgate *mortifico*, but “mortify” is coming with us to mean putrify. Paul boldly applies the metaphor of death ([Col 2:20](#); [Col 3:3](#)) pictured in baptism ([Col 2:12](#)) to the actual life of the Christian. He is not to go to the other Gnostic extreme of license on the plea that the soul is not affected by the deeds of the body. Paul's idea is that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit ([1Co 6:19](#)). He mentions some of these “members upon the earth” like fornication (**porneian**), uncleanness (**akatharsian**), passion (**pathos**), evil desire (**epithumian kakēn**), covetousness (**pleonexian**) “the which is idolatry” (**hētis estin**

eidōlōlatria). See the longer list of the works of the flesh in [Gal 5:19-21](#), though covetousness is not there named, but it is in [Eph 4:19](#); [Eph 5:5](#).

Question: Can we in our power mortify or put to death the deeds of the body?

Answer: No!

I am the vine

[Jhn 15:5](#) **I am the vine**, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Metaphor

Take up your cross daily

Luke 9:23 Then He said to *them* all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Colossians 3:5, 6 [Col 3:5](#) KJV Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

[Col 3:6](#) **For which things' sake the wrath of God** cometh on the children of disobedience:

*****READ***** — **this paragraph is from below**

Interestingly, the only other occurrence in Greek of the exact phrase that appears in Colossians 3:6, "the wrath of God," is in Romans 1:18. God "gives" people up to their own wicked ways, and so His wrath is also "coming" (see *Rev. 6:16, 17*) "on those who are disobedient" (*Col. 3:6, NRSV*). In Romans 1:18, Paul refers to "ungodliness and unrighteousness," equating "uncleanness" (*using the same Greek word found in Colossians 3:5*) very specifically with people who indulge "the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies" (*Rom. 1:24, NKJV*).

the works of the flesh are evident

Galatians 5:19-20 **19** Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, **fornication**, **uncleanness**, lewdness,

20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that **those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

I have been crucified with Christ

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

*****READ*****

Those who choose to become members of the royal family, children of the heavenly King, **must reveal their choice by bringing their words and actions** into harmony with the principles they advocate. My brother, my sister, is the kingdom of God enthroned in your heart by Christ's presence abiding there? Or is self still a controlling power within? Whose subject are you? If a selfish spirit continues to keep you out of Christ's service, pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. 18MR 105.1

Resist the devil

Jas 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Jas 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded.

Even though spiritually we have died with Christ, our "members"—that is, the temptations that our body and mind present us—need to be put to death.

But we should realize two things in connection with this command.

First, in Colossians 3:1, the Greek form that Paul uses assumes that we have, in fact, been raised with Christ. Second, the command in Colossians 3:5 is a consequence of that fact ("Therefore"). We can put to death earthly things (fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, covetousness, etc.) only because we have been raised with Christ and have His spiritual life and power to put these things out of our minds and lives.

*****READ*** — moved this paragraph up**

Interestingly, the only other occurrence in Greek of the exact phrase that appears in Colossians 3:6, "the wrath of God," is in Romans 1:18. God "gives" people

up to their own wicked ways, and so His wrath is also “coming” (see Rev. 6:16, 17) “on those who are disobedient” (Col. 3:6, *NRSV*). In Romans 1:18, Paul refers to “ungodliness and unrighteousness,” equating “uncleanness” (*using the same Greek word found in Colossians 3:5*) very specifically with people who indulge “the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies” (Rom. 1:24, *NKJV*).

How do they dishonor their bodies? First, because they refuse to recognize the Creator but also by “vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 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” (Rom. 1:26, 27, NKJV).

How do we follow the words "mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth" (Col. 3:5)?

[illegible]

Additional Notes

Jesus now explained to His disciples that His own life of self-abnegation was an example of what theirs should be: "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." The cross, associated with the power of Rome, was the most cruel and humiliating form of death. Criminals were required to bear the cross to the place of execution. Often as it was laid on their shoulders, they resisted with desperate violence, until they were overpowered. To the disciples Jesus' words, though dimly comprehended, pointed to their submission to death for the sake of Christ.

No more complete self-surrender could the Saviour's words have pictured. But all this He had accepted for them. He left the heavenly courts for a life of reproach and insult, and a death of shame. He who was rich in heaven's priceless treasure, became poor, that through His poverty we might be rich. We are to follow in the path He trod.. HLv 282.1-HLv 282.2

From: SDA BC

5. Mortify. Literally, “put to death” (see on Rom. 8:13; Gal. 5:24).

Therefore. That is, in view of what the apostle has just said (vs. 2–4).

Your members. That is, the organs and faculties of the body, here probably to be understood as those pertaining to the old man, as indicated by the phrase “which are upon the earth.” The old man, with his members employed as instruments of unrighteousness, must die.

Fornication. Gr. porneia, a general term for illicit sexual relationships of all kinds (cf. Eph. 5:3).

Uncleanness. Or, “impurity,” “moral defilement.”

Inordinate affection. Gr. pathos, “passion,” “passionate desire,” used in an evil sense in the NT. In Rom. 1:26 pathos is used with atimia, “dishonor,” in the expression “vile affections.”

Concupiscence. Gr. epithumia, “desire” (see on Rom. 7:7).

Covetousness. Gr. pleonexia, “the desire to have more.” Compare the use of the word in Rom. 1:29; 2 Cor. 9:5; Eph. 4:19; 5:3; etc. Covetousness is an antisocial vice, a self-assertive longing for or grasping of what is the right or possession of another.

Which is idolatry. The substitution of anything in the heart in the place of God is idolatry (cf. on Gal. 5:20).

Colossians 3:5

Mortify therefore your members - Since you are dead to sin and the world, and are to appear with Christ in the glories of his kingdom, subdue every carnal and evil propensity of your nature. The word mortify means to put to death ([Rom 8:13](#), note; [Gal 5:24](#), note), and the meaning here is that they were entirely to subdue their evil propensities, so that they would have no remains of life; that is, they were not at all to indulge them. The word “members” here, refers to the different members of the body - as the seat of evil desires and passions; compare the notes at [Rom 6:13](#). They were wholly to extirpate those evil passions which he specifies as having their seat in the various members of the earthly body.

Fornication - Notes, [Rom 1:2](#).

Uncleanness - Notes, [Rom 1:24](#).

Inordinate affection - [πάθος pathos](#). Rendered in [Rom 1:26](#), “vile affections;” see the notes at that verse. In [1Th 4:5](#), the word is rendered “lust” - which is its meaning here.

Evil concupiscence - Evil desires; licentious passions; [Rom 1:24](#). Greek.

And covetousness, which is idolatry - It is remarkable that the apostle always ranks covetousness with these base and detestable passions. The meaning here is: (1) That it is a low and debasing passion, like those which he had specified; and, (2) That it secures the affections which properly belong to God, and is, therefore, idolatry. Of all base passions, this is the one that most dethrones God from the soul. See this whole passage more fully explained in the notes at [Eph 5:3-5](#).

Will the converted man and woman have no temptation to speak and act wrong? He will have a tempting devil on his track continually, and he must arm himself with faith and prayer to resist him. There will be a strong undercurrent to work against which is running swiftly to bear him back to his former state of sin, to indulge the natural passions of the unrenewed heart. **No heart can be kept pure without being constantly salted with divine grace. No man can remain converted unless he watches unto prayer, keeps his soul firmly united to Christ, trusting in Him every moment, forcing his passage heavenward against the current of sinful indulgences, rowing against wind and tide, using both oars—faith and works.** Conversion is putting all our powers to work for the Saviour who has left His majesty, His honor, His riches, and come into the world to save man. He loved him with a love that was infinite. He gave His life for poor, rebellious man. What more could God do for humanity than He has done? What now will man do on his part in his own behalf, and for the salvation of his fellow man, to evidence that he appreciates the sacrifice made and the mercy bestowed upon him? Will he not, in view of this great love and infinite mercy, cling to the Saviour with constant, persevering fidelity?. 2LtMs, Ms 2, 1875, par.

11