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## WALKING WITH THE KING – SEEKING THINGS ABOVE

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*Colossians 3:1-4 (ESV)*

WALKING WITH THE KING IS SEEKING THINGS ABOVE.

1. *Who? Those who walk with the King should be seeking things above. (v. 1, 3, 4)*

- Those who have been raised with Christ – v1, Those who have died with Christ – v3, Those who are hidden in Christ – v3, Those whose life is Christ – v3, Those in union with Christ –

WHO? CHRISTIANS, THAT'S WHO.

2. *What? Things above are what we should be seeking. (v. 1, 2)*

- Seek the things that are above – v1, Set your minds on things that are above – v2
- The things above:
  - Triune God; God's Word; The Gospel and Gospel Truths; Values of the Kingdom
- Seek – pursue not possess, orient ourselves to the things above, commit to the values of heaven and live according to those values
- Set your mind – not just mental or intellectual interaction with these things, orient our wills and our affections to these things, make these things a priority

WHAT IS SEEKING THINGS ABOVE?

IT IS PURSUING AND ORIENTING OUR LIVES AROUND OUR TRIUNE GOD, HIS WORD, AND THE GOSPEL AND SETTING OUR AFFECTIONS ON THESE THINGS.

3. *Where? The things we should be seeking are heavenly. (v. 1, 2)*

- Where Christ is – heaven, at God's right hand

WHERE? HEAVEN. THE ABODE OF THE SON WHO SITS AT THE FATHER'S RIGHT HAND.

4. *Why? Seeking things above is the "how to" of walking with the King. (v. 1, 2)*

- This is the means of walking with the King. This is the means of not living according to the flesh—the sinful nature. This is how we grow and live in the fullness of Christ.
- Expulsive power of a new affection – Chalmers

- **The best way of casting out an impure affection is to admit a pure one; and by the love of what is good, to expel the love of what is evil**
- Sam Storms: “holiness, in this case the ability to say no to “fleshly indulgence” and the passionate desire to walk in the way of Christ, comes not primarily from rigorous asceticism or self-restraint but from a mind captivated and controlled by the beauty and majesty of the risen Lord and all that we are in him in the heavenlies!”

WHY? SEEKING THINGS ABOVE AND SETTING OUR MINDS ON THINGS ABOVE IS GOD’S INSTRUCTION TO US THROUGH PAUL ON HOW TO WALK WITH THE KING AND NOT INDULGE THE FLESH.

5. *When? We should always be seeking the things above. (v. 4)*

- Now and always – verb tense = present imperative – a habitual, continual command

WHEN? NOW AND ALWAYS. TODAY, TOMORROW, AND EVERY DAY AFTER THAT UNTIL “CHRIST WHO IS YOUR LIFE APPEARS.”

6. *How? We should posture our lives for optimum seeking. (Romans 8:5)*

- Posture your life for optimum seeking - Romans 8:5 (ESV)
  - Jonathon Edwards – “Endeavour to promote spiritual appetites by laying yourself in the way of allurements.”
  - Storms – “Posture your life so that you may be easily enticed by the beauty of Christ.”
- Mandatory
  - Word, Prayer, Fellowship, Communion
- Optional
  - Chandler – “There is something about dark coffee and early mornings that raises my affections for Christ.”
- What does this look like for you?

HOW? WE CAN SEEK THINGS ABOVE AND SET OUR MINDS ON THINGS ABOVE BY ORDERING AND PLANNING OUR LIVES SO AS TO OPTIMIZE THE SEEKING.