

Colossians

Week 5

- I. Indicatives
 - A. Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Overture (1:3-20)
 - C. Main Exposition and Resolution
- II. **Imperatives**
 - A. The Christian Life (3:1-4:6)
 - 1. Death and Life (3:1-4)
 - 2. Put Off (3:5-11)
 - 3. Put On (3:12-17)
 - 4. **Table of Duties (3:18-4:6)**
 - B. **Concluding Matters (4:7-18)**

1. Context in Colossians

- The first two chapters proclaim **Christ** (as God in the flesh, through whom we are reconciled to God by His death)
 - We share in that death and life through baptism
 - *Therefore*, we put off certain vices and put on certain virtues.
 - And whatever we do, whether in word or deed, we do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. (3:17)

2. Table of Duties (3:18-4:6)—The above virtues, as fruits of the Gospel, are lived out in our various vocations.

- Home Life—the fundamental structure of society
 - Wives—continue submitting to your husbands
 - See also Luke 2:51; 1 Corinthians **11:3**, 15:28, Ephesians 5
 - Husbands—continue loving your wives and do not be harsh
 - Children—continue obeying your parents
 - Fathers—do not be embittering your children

- Business Life—the relationship described in the NT between slaves and masters is closer to employee/employer than it is to American slavery.
 - Slaves—continue sincerely obeying your earthly masters
 - 3:24 grounds all the imperatives in the Gospel (1:12)
 - See also Romans 8:15-17; Galatians 3:18, 29, 4:1, 7; Ephesians 1:14-18, 5:5; Titus 3:7
 - Masters—Go on providing your slaves with what is right
 - See also 1 Timothy 6:1-2
- Watch and Pray—The mission of the Church consists in the speaking of the Gospel, which requires preparedness and prayer
 - Practical Application**—Pray. For your pastors, your Church, yourselves, etc.
 - *What does Paul ask them to pray **for**?*
 - How are we to relate towards outsiders?
 - See also 1 Peter 3:15-16

3. Concluding Matters (4:7-18)

- Colossians and Romans have extended greetings because Paul had never been there.