

The Work of Believers

Set your Mind!

Colossians 3:1-4

Introduction: Colossians 3:1-4:6 - This section helps us understand the nature and thinking of a Christian mind.

The Christian mind - 3:1-4 - Two imperatives occur in these short verses; "seek the things that are above" (1) and "Set your minds on things that are above" (2) and both point to decisions that we make in our will with our minds about the spiritual world.

Implications: First, there is a Godly, spiritual "seeking" that comes from being in Christ.

Second, there is a mind-set towards things above that manifests in a steady detachment from things of this world. (Romans 8:6-7; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 2:16; 14:15)

Third, how we think is revealed in what we say, and reveals the extent of our Christian mind.

Fourth, the Christian mind is dominated by an eternal point of view; the supernatural.

Transforming the Mind

First, Psalm 16:8 - Putting the Lord before me is the first step to having a renewed mind.

Second, the images of what happened to me and what I have done to others can dominate my mind. (1 Timothy 1:12-19)

Third, a transformed mind is confronted with truth from God, views God's reality, I repent of my blindness and turn towards the light of God's redeeming grace.

Conclusion: To truly be a Christian, is living out of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul calls this "life . . . hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

These four verses span the entire life of every believer. Colossians 3:15-4:6 describes the ordained consequences of being in Christ.

Paul is short and to the point in these verses, but he is not so abbreviated elsewhere. (Romans 6:11-19; Philippians 2:12-13) Nevertheless, the results of being in Christ are always transformative. It begins in the mind.