

Colossians 3:1-4

**“If ye then be risen with Christ** (resurrection presupposes ascension with Christ – this is our union with Christ’s resurrection as in Rom. 6:8, which takes us into the very throne room of God – “the heavenlies” – the place of our POSITION and SOURCE of all our spiritual blessings – Eph. 1:3), **seek those things which are above** (this is explained by the next phrase – “where Christ sitteth” – and suggests that we are to actively seek after, stay mentally focused, meditate, and desire those things related to Christ – His character, His victory and authority over all evil forces, His will, ways, purposes, insights, and ambitions for our life, and in general we should inquire and learn of the spiritual POSITION, POWER, POSSESSIONS, PRIVILEGES, and PROVISIONS that we share with Christ in the heavenlies and actively apply them to our personal lives), **where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God** (God the Father – 1 Pet. 3:22). **Set your affection** (your mind, focus, interests) **on things above** (the “above things” would again relate to focusing our attention on our positional, provisional and privileged spiritual blessings that we have through Christ, tapping in to all of Christ’s accomplishments for us, and reflecting on His heavenly character presence, authority, victories, and ways for our life instead of giving attention to earthly things which distract us from our spiritual riches and living). **For** (the reason is now stated for focusing on the heavenly things related to Christ) **ye are dead** (our union with Christ’s death to our old way of living under sin’s power – Rom. 6:6-8, 11; Gal. 5:24; 2 Tim. 2:11 - in view of our heavenly union with Christ, we have died with Christ, and have been given a positional victory over self, sin, and the sinful disposition – Rom. 6:6-7, 8 - there has been a drastic and decisive end to our old life), **and your life** (our union in Christ’s resurrection and ascension to a new way of life – Rom. 6:4, 8, 11; Col. 2:12; 2 Tim. 2:11) **is hid** (indicating *safety* from self, sin, and Satan in Christ’s complete provision of victory for our life, but it also points to *secrecy* or concealment which is a life that is unseen, not known, or understood by the unsaved world) **with Christ in God** (our union “with Christ” also means that we have been raised and united to the living

Christ, who Himself is in union with God the Father, sharing the Trinitarian Oneness of God, and it is in Christ that we are sharing His life and nature, so we can live victoriously by His transferred authority and power). **When Christ, who is our life** (our new life comes after our death - the believer shares Christ's life because of his living union with Christ's resurrection life and we have received His implanted divine nature - Gal. 2:20; 2 Pet. 1:4 - and as a result Christ has now become our SALVATION, SOURCE, SUSTENANCE, SANCTIFICATION, and SUFFICIENCY for our Christian life – the focus of our aspirations and reason for our existence, the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, the Fairest of Ten Thousand to our souls!), **shall appear** (the Rapture of the Church), **then shall ye also appear with him in glory** (our new life in God is for the time being, hidden, just as Christ is hidden for now from our eyes, but some day we will experience the outward display of God's moral and visible glory in our newly redeemed bodies - Phil. 3:20-21 - when we are made in the image of God and possess a body like the Lord Jesus Christ – 1 John 3:2).