

## The New Life in Christ

January 8, 2017



Scripture Lesson found in Colossians 3:1-15 **This is an excerpt from the message.**

Verse 12-13: Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Those who are holy are the elect of God; and those who are the elect of God, and holy are beloved. Those who are the elect of God, holy and beloved, ought to conduct themselves in everything as becomes them. It becomes those who are holy toward God to be lowly and loving towards all men. Put on compassion towards the miserable. Bowels of mercy, the most tender mercies. **Be you merciful, as your Father is merciful. Luke. 6:36** Kindness towards our friends and those who love us. Promote friendship among men as well as reconciliation with God. Humbleness of mind, in submission to those above us and condescension to those below us. **Learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart. Matt. 11:29** Meekness towards those who have provoked us, or been any way injurious to us. We must prudently bridle our own anger, and patiently bear the anger of others. Long suffering towards those who continue to provoke us. **Charity suffereth long as well as is kind. I Cor. 13:4** Remembering the infirmities and deficiencies under which we all labor: Forbearing one another. Have a readiness to forgive injuries; **Forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any. Just as Christ forgave you, so also do you.**

Ver. 14: **And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.** In order to accomplish all of this we are to clothe ourselves with love. Let this be outer robe, the mark of our dignity and distinction. **2 Pet. 1:5-8 Add to faith, virtue, and to brotherly – kindness charity. For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our LORD Jesus Christ.** He lays the foundation in faith, and the top stone in charity, which is the bond of perfectness. The cement and center of all happy societies. Christian unity consist of mutual love. Submit ourselves to the government of the peace of God.

Ver. 15: **And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.** That is, God's being at peace with you, and the comfortable sense of his acceptance and favor, to keep the peace and make peace. This is called the **peace of God. The kingdom of God is righteousness and peace in the Holy Ghost. Rom 14:17.** Let this peace rule in your heart – prevail and govern there – **To which also ye are called in one body.** We are called to this peace, to peace with God as our privilege and peace with our brethren as our duty. To preserve in us this disposition, we must be thankful. The work of thanksgiving to God is such a sweet and pleasant work that it will help to make us sweet and pleasant towards all men. Rather than envying one another, be thankful for his mercies, which are common to all of you.

Be as much in earnest for heavenly and eternal things as you formerly were for those that are earthly and perishing.