

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for June 7-8, 2003

Gerry Andersen

"Pursuing God with Our Will: Putting On"

Colossians 3:12-17

1. Who we are in Christ (3:12a)

a. Chosen of God

The reason the doctrine of election is important for growing in righteousness is because of our need to appreciate God's grace.

b. Holy: We are chosen for the purpose of holiness.

c. Beloved: God chose us because He loved us.

2. How we should be through Christ (3:12b-16)

a. Let Christ's righteousness reside in your heart (3:12-15)

Compassion: The manifestation of sympathetic feelings toward another (Hebrews 4:15).

Kindness: A helpful spirit that seeks to meet the needs of others in a friendly manner (Acts 28:2).

Humility: Regarding others as more important than yourself (Philippians 2:3).

Gentleness: A submissiveness to God that brings caring to the lives of others (1 Thessalonians 2:7-8).

Patience: Longsuffering in unpleasant circumstances with a hope for God's will to be done (James 5:7-8).

Bearing with: Being willing to continue to endure people who are causing difficulties (Romans 15:1-2).

Forgiving: Continuing to desire good for someone who has caused harm (Luke 23:34).

Love: The central moral quality that brings a mature, heartfelt connection within a fellowship of believers (Romans 13:8; Colossians 2:2).

Each quality builds unity in the church.

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b. Let Christ's peace rule in your heart (3:15)

If Christ is the referee that guides our relationships, the body of Christ will be unified and at peace (Ps. 133:1).

c. Let Christ's Word richly dwell in your heart (3:16)

1) Letting Christ's Word richly dwell in you requires:

- a) Attraction to God's Word
- b) Acceptance of God's Word
- c) Attentiveness to God's Word
- d) Acquisition of God's Word
- e) Accuracy with God's Word
- f) Application of God's Word

2) Letting Christ's Word richly dwell in you results in:

- a) Teaching and admonishing one another (cf. 1:29)

Music is a means of instruction.

- b) Continually expressing thankfulness to God

3. What we should do for Christ (3:17)

- a. Doing God's will in word
- b. Doing God's will in deed
- c. Doing God's will in prayer

What we should do for Christ is preceded by what we should be through Christ, which is preceded by who we are in Christ. The right order is essential.