

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Colossians Bible Study – Colossians 3:14-19 Lesson #15

**INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in Colossians before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word.
(Most Scriptures used are from the New King James Version)

14 But above all these things put on **LOVE, which is the bond of PERFECTION.**

• **I John 4:17-18** “_____ has been _____ among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no _____ in _____; but _____ love casts out fear, because fear involves torment (judgment, punishment). But he who fears has _____ been made _____ in _____.”

• **I Corinthians 13:1-8 & 13** “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not _____, I have become as sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not _____, I am _____. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned (as a martyr), but have not _____, it profits me nothing. _____ suffers long (is patient) and is kind; _____ does not envy; _____ does not parade itself, is not puffed up (with pride); does not behave rudely, does not seek its own (is not selfish), is not provoked (not easily irritated), thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.” (Verse 13) “And now abide faith, hope, _____, these three; but the greatest of these is _____.”

• **Ephesians 5:1-2** “Therefore be followers of God as dear children. And _____ in _____, as _____ also has _____ us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”

Definition: “LOVE, which is the bond of PERFECTION” – This could also be translated “the PERFECT bond of UNITY.” It is the LOVE of God, which is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, that is **the PERFECT bond of our UNITY in Christ.** I Corinthians 13 also says that LOVE is the true motivation for our serving God in the Body of Christ, the church. Rather than arguing about which commandments we must keep, or which spiritual gifts are the best, **God’s word tells us that the motivation of LOVE is what really matters.** Unfortunately, many people try to serve God out of “duty” only, and they will miss out on rewards in heaven, because they tried to keep the commandments in their own strength (“in the flesh”), and without LOVE.

• **Romans 5:5** “Now hope does not disappoint, because the _____ of _____ has been poured out in our _____ by the _____ who was _____ to us.”

• **Romans 13:8-10** “Owe no man anything except to _____ one _____, for he who _____ another has _____ the _____. For the commandments, ‘You shall not commit _____,’ ‘You shall not _____,’ ‘You shall not _____,’ ‘You shall not bear _____ witness,’ ‘You shall not _____,’ and if there is any other commandment, are all _____ in this saying, ‘You shall _____ your neighbor as yourself.’ _____ does no harm to a neighbor; therefore _____ is the fulfillment of the law.”

• **Matthew 22:36-40** “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ _____ said to him, ‘You shall _____ the Lord your God with all your _____, with all your

soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall _____ your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Definition: “PERFECT LOVE casts out FEAR” – This includes FEAR of DEATH and the **JUDGMENT**.

There is a good kind of fear to have toward God, and the Bible speaks of that as “the fear of the Lord.” The meaning of “fear the Lord” in this context is **a reverential awe and respect for God**. But there is also the idea of **fearing His judgment on our sin**. You hardly ever see the expression “fear the Lord” used in the New Testament (although the idea of reverence for God is still there), because as believers under the New Covenant, our judgment (and thus the “fear”) is taken away by Christ on the cross (see II Corinthians 5:21, I Peter 2:24). In I John 4:17 it says, **“that we may have boldness in the day of judgment” - NO FEAR!** because our sins were taken away at the cross. Also, it says “as He is, so are we in this world,” which means God sees us as righteous and perfect as Jesus

•II Timothy 1:7 “For God has _____ given us a _____ of _____, but of power, and of _____, and of a sound mind.”

15 And **LET the PEACE of GOD RULE in your hearts**, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

•John 14:27 “_____ I leave with you, My _____ I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. _____ not your _____ be _____, neither _____ it be _____.”

•Isaiah 26:3 “You will _____ him in perfect _____, whose mind is stayed (focused) on _____.”

•John 16:33 “These things I have spoken to you, that in _____ you may have _____. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Definition: “Let the PEACE of GOD RULE in your hearts” – God’s peace is the opposite of anxiety, worry, frustration, fear and anger, and **it is a FRUIT of the Holy Spirit**. **To allow God’s peace to RULE in our hearts** means we let God’s peace be our “umpire” and call the shots. In other words, if you are **not** feeling God’s peace over some decision you’ve made, and if you are anxious, worried, or angry about something, then **something is WRONG!** You may have made the wrong decision. **If you feel God’s peace in your heart** over whatever decision you’ve made, then it is most likely the **RIGHT** decision, and God is giving you His **PEACE** in your heart.

•Galatians 5:22-23 “But the _____ of the Spirit is _____, joy, _____, longsuffering (patience), _____, goodness (meekness, humility), faithfulness, _____, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

•James 3:17-18 “But the wisdom that is from above (from God) is first _____, then _____, _____, willing to yield (humble, submissive), _____ of _____ and good _____, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the _____ of righteousness is sown in _____ by those who make _____.”

Definition: “My PEACE I give to you” – Jesus promises to give you His peace, but **EXPERIENCING** His peace is not automatic. You have to **LET it rule in your heart**, and **NOT allow your heart to be troubled**. The only way you can do that is to **TAKE your thoughts captive** whenever negative thoughts come into your mind (II Cor. 10:3-5), **REPLACE those negative thoughts** with the **WORD of GOD**, and **be THANKFUL and PRAISE the Lord** for **EVERY** situation and circumstance in your life. Jesus said that **you CAN have PEACE** in the midst of tribulation (John 16:33) simply because you **TRUST** in Him,

and He promises that He will work ALL things together for your GOOD (Rom. 8:28). However, you will not **experience His PEACE until you BELIEVE it**, and start **thanking Him for EVERYTHING** and praising Him in all situations. You **can't afford** to lean and rely on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5-6). God is much smarter and far more powerful than you are, and **He is in control of your life, so start acting like it!**

• **Philippians 4:6-9** "Be _____ for nothing, but in _____ by _____ and supplication, with _____, let your requests be made known to God; and the _____ of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through _____. " (Verse 9) "The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these _____, and the _____ of _____ will be with you."

Definition: "LET NOT your heart be troubled, neither LET IT be afraid" – This is a command! **You are not to ALLOW your heart to be troubled or afraid** - the responsibility is on you to not LET circumstances get you down or in fear! But you can't obey the commands to "LET NOT your heart be troubled, neither LET IT be afraid" and "**be anxious for nothing**" unless you really trust God. You must trust that He won't make a mistake, that He has your best interest at heart, that He knows the future outcome of all the events that are happening, and that He has the ability to work everything out for your good. **Fear is the opposite of faith**, so how do you increase your faith in God and His ability to protect and take care of you? God's word says that **our faith is increased as we read and take in His word**. Your responsibility is to renew your mind with the word of God, and to cast (throw) all your worries, anxieties and fears onto Jesus (1 Peter 5:6-7).

• **Romans 10:17** "So _____ comes from _____, and hearing by the _____ of _____."

• **Psalm 27:1** "The _____ is my light and my salvation; whom shall I _____? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be _____?"

16-17 **Let the WORD of CHRIST dwell in you RICHLY** in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And **WHATEVER you DO in word or deed, do ALL in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving THANKS to God** the Father through Him.

• **Ephesians 5:19-20** "Speaking to one another _____ and _____ and _____, singing and making melody in your _____ to the Lord. Giving _____ for _____ things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,"

• **1 Thessalonians 5:18** "In everything _____; for this is the _____ of God in Christ Jesus for _____."

• **Acts 16:24-25** "Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner _____ and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were _____ and _____ to God, and the [other] prisoners were _____ to them."

• **Psalm 34:1** "I will _____ the Lord at _____; His _____ shall _____ be in my mouth."

• **James 5:13** "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him _____. Is anyone cheerful? Let him _____."

Definition: "Giving THANKS ALWAYS for ALL THINGS" — This is a COMMAND of God, not just a suggestion. It is also a matter of TRUST, because if you do not TRUST God to be WORKING ALL THINGS together for your GOOD (Romans 8:28) in your life, then you WON'T BE ABLE to give Him

thanks for EVERYTHING that is happening or has happened in your life.

Definition: “WHATEVER you DO in word or deed, do ALL in the name of the Lord Jesus” – This simply means that we put the Lord first place in our lives, and get to know Him and His word so well, that we will always KNOW what to do, and how to do it in a manner that is glorifying to God.

• **I Corinthians 10:31** “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or _____ you _____, do _____ to the _____ of _____.”

18-19 **Wives, SUBMIT to your OWN HUSBANDS**, as is fitting in the Lord. **Husbands, LOVE your wives** and do not be bitter toward them.

• **Ephesians 5:21-23** “_____ to one _____ in the fear of God. _____, _____ to your own _____, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as also _____ is _____ of the _____; and He is the Savior of the body.”

• **I Peter 5:5** “Likewise you younger people, _____ yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be _____ to one another, and be clothed with _____, for ‘God resists the _____, but gives _____ to the _____.’”

Definition: “Wives, SUBMIT to your OWN HUSBANDS” – **“SUBMISSIVE or SUBMITTING”** means being HUMBLE or compliant; **YIELDING and being SUBJECT to the authority** or control of another – the opposite of REBELLIOUS. This command is NOT for women to submit to men in general, but for **each WIFE to submit to her own HUSBAND**, as the church is submissive to Jesus Christ, and **as Christ is submissive to God the Father**. This does not mean women are not equal to men, because we know that Jesus Christ is equal to the Father, but **He voluntarily submits Himself to the Father**, as our example. God is a God of order, and for wives to be submissive to their husbands makes for **order in the marriage and in the home**. There can’t be two bosses - somebody has to be the one to make a final decision. Husbands and wives should discuss matters and try to come to an agreement over everything, but in some cases, the wife must allow her husband to be the “boss” and just take her place in submission and trusting God. God will honor that wife who takes this commandment seriously. And if you think that commandment is difficult, see what God commands the husbands: **“Husbands, LOVE your wives and do not be BITTER toward them.”** Knowing human nature, we see that the commandment to husbands and the commandment to wives **BOTH REQUIRE SUPERNATURAL strength and POWER from God!**

• **Ephesians 5:24** “Therefore, just as the _____ is _____ to _____, so let the _____ be to their own _____ in everything.”

• **I Peter 3:1** “Likewise you _____, be _____ to your own _____, that even if some (husbands) do not _____ the _____, they, without a word (without arguing or preaching) may be won by the _____ of their _____.”

• **Titus 2:4-5** “That they admonish the young _____ to _____ their _____, to love their _____, to be _____, chaste (modest), _____, good, _____ to _____ own _____, that the _____ of God may not be blasphemed (spoken against with CONTEMPT).”

• **Ephesians 5:25-26** “Husbands, _____ your _____, just as Christ also _____ the _____ and _____ Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.”