

# “Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

## Colossians Bible Study — Colossians 3:20-25 & 4:1

## Lesson #16

\*\*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)

20-21 **Children, OBEY your PARENTS** in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. **Fathers, do not PROVOKE your children**, lest they become **DISCOURAGED**.

• **Ephesians 6:1-4** “Children, \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord, for this is right. ‘\_\_\_\_\_ your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with \_\_\_\_\_; ‘That it may be \_\_\_\_\_ with you and you may \_\_\_\_\_ long on the earth.’ And you, fathers (parents), do \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, but bring them up in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord.”

• **Proverbs 3:1-2** “My \_\_\_\_\_, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for \_\_\_\_\_ of days and \_\_\_\_\_ they will add to you.”

• **Proverbs 23:22** “Listen to your \_\_\_\_\_ who begot you, and do not \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ when she is old.”

• **Proverbs 20:20** “Whoever \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ or his \_\_\_\_\_, his lamp will be put out in deep \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Proverbs 30:11-12** “There is a generation that \_\_\_\_\_ its \_\_\_\_\_, and does not \_\_\_\_\_ its \_\_\_\_\_. There is a generation that is \_\_\_\_\_ in its \_\_\_\_\_, yet is not washed from its \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: “COMMANDMENT with a PROMISE”** — Keeping God's commandments does not EARN us our salvation (salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ ONLY), but **obedience AFFECTS the QUALITY of our LIVES here on EARTH**, and the LENGTH of our lives.

• **Exodus 20:12** “\_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ and your \_\_\_\_\_, that your \_\_\_\_\_ may be \_\_\_\_\_ upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.”

**Definition: “OBEY in the LORD”** — This means to OBEY our human parents as long as they are NOT asking us to do something that is AGAINST a COMMAND of the Lord. The same thing is meant by Eph. 5:21-22 “SUBMITTING to one another in the fear of God. Wives, SUBMIT to your own husbands, **AS TO THE LORD**. We are **not to SUBMIT or OBEY** church leaders, or a wife is not to obey her husband, **IF they ask us to do something that is AGAINST A WRITTEN COMMAND of God in the Bible**.

• **Proverbs 3:11-12** “My son, do \_\_\_\_\_ despise the \_\_\_\_\_ (discipline) of the Lord, nor detest (hate) His \_\_\_\_\_; for whom the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ He \_\_\_\_\_, just as a \_\_\_\_\_ [corrects] the \_\_\_\_\_ in whom he delights.”

• **Proverbs 22:6** “\_\_\_\_\_ up a \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_ go, and when he is old, he will not \_\_\_\_\_ from it.”

• **Proverbs 29:17** “\_\_\_\_\_ your son, and he will give you \_\_\_\_\_; yes, he will give \_\_\_\_\_ to your \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: “PROVOKE your children TO WRATH”** — “Wrath” means ANGER. Children need **LOVING, CONSISTENT discipline, correction and TRAINING from their parents**. If they don't get it; if

they get NO DISCIPLINE, or INCONSISTENT discipline (the LAZY PARENT), or are “disciplined” in ANGER (the parents **taking out their FRUSTRATIONS** on the child in ANGER or even VIOLENCE), **the children will grow up ANGRY THEMSELVES, and DISCOURAGED**, many times thinking, “NOTHING I ever do is right,” “I can NEVER PLEASE my parents”, “I’m a LOSER”, etc. This is very DESTRUCTIVE, not only to the child, but to THEIR children, and on down for many generations (see Exodus 20:5).

•**Exodus 20:1-6** “Then God spoke all these words saying, ‘I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself an \_\_\_\_\_, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_, on the third and fourth \_\_\_\_\_ of those who \_\_\_\_\_ Me, but showing loving kindness (mercy) to thousands, to those who \_\_\_\_\_ Me and keep My commandments.’”

**Definition: “VISITING the INIQUITY of the FATHERS”** — At first reading, it may seem that God is DOING the punishing by inflicting the curse upon these families. However, it actually means that **He ALLOWS** the “iniquity of the fathers” to be visited upon the children, which means the children SUFFER the CONSEQUENCES of what their parents have done. The iniquity here is the sin of **“making idols” and “serving” them**, which can mean literal idols of worship, and can also mean idols of wealth, beauty, fame, power and other material, worldly pleasures. You may not know what your ancestors were involved in, or you may know **exactly what sin** first started the curse working in your family. It could have been witchcraft, occult activities, fortune-telling, and the like, or merely dead, false religion, even under the name of “Christian.” Whatever it was, it was rejection of Jesus Christ, and **it opened the door** for more Satanic activity, such as the sexual sins (incest), alcoholism, abuse and violence, and so on. **You have been SET FREE by Jesus Christ, and you NOW have a CHOICE** between God’s blessings and your family’s curse.

•**Deuteronomy 30:19-20a** “I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_. So \_\_\_\_\_ in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord your God, by \_\_\_\_\_ His voice and by holding fast (clinging) to Him; for this is your \_\_\_\_\_ and the length of your days.....”

**Definition: “ADMONITION”** — GENTLE reproof, counsel or WARNING of consequences of disobedience; ENCOURAGEMENT and advice, especially in indicating **duties and obligations**.

22-25 Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And **WHATEVER you DO, do it HEARTILY, as to the LORD** and not to men, knowing that **from the Lord you WILL RECEIVE the REWARD** of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. But **he who does WRONG will be repaid for the WRONG which he has DONE**, and there is no partiality.

•**Colossians 3:17** “And \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, do \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving \_\_\_\_\_ to God the Father through Him.”

•**Ephesians 6:5-6** “\_\_\_\_\_, be \_\_\_\_\_ to those who are your \_\_\_\_\_ according to the \_\_\_\_\_, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_; not with \_\_\_\_\_, as men-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_.”

•**Revelation 2:23** “.....And all the churches shall know that I am He who

\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. And I will \_\_\_\_\_ to each one of you \_\_\_\_\_ to your \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **I Peter 4:11** “If anyone \_\_\_\_\_, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone \_\_\_\_\_ (serves), let him do it as with the ability which God \_\_\_\_\_, that in all things \_\_\_\_\_ may be \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_, to whom belong the \_\_\_\_\_ and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

• **Galatians 6:7-9** “Do not be deceived, God is not \_\_\_\_\_; for whatever a man \_\_\_\_\_, that he will also \_\_\_\_\_. For he who sows to his flesh (the “old man”, our SIN NATURE) will of the \_\_\_\_\_ reap \_\_\_\_\_, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing \_\_\_\_\_, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

**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. This is the same as **“WHATEVER you DO, do it HEARTILY, as to the LORD,”** except that the word “heartily” means to do it with a good attitude, glad heart, and without grumbling and complaining. Obedience to God’s commands is what He considers “good works,” but God sees what motive is behind the works we do, and that inner motive and attitude of the heart is as important as the outward deed. Deuteronomy 28:47 says the Israelites were under the curse not only because of their disobedience, but **because they “did not serve God with JOY and a GLAD heart”** and their attitude was wrong. Works done with wrong motives are “wood, hay, and straw” - no rewards!

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

**Definition: “EYESERVICE, as men-pleasers”** — Doing what is right, or working hard ONLY when someone is WATCHING.

• **Matthew 6:5** “And when you pray, you shall not be like the \_\_\_\_\_. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward [*this is their ONLY reward*].”

**Definition: “MASTERS according to the FLESH”** — **“According to the FLESH”** in this context means HUMAN, so these would be our earthly “masters”, or EMPLOYERS. These scriptural principles APPLY TO US today in our EMPLOYEE/EMPLOYER relationships.

• **Ephesians 6:7-8** “With good will doing \_\_\_\_\_, as to the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Knowing that whatever \_\_\_\_\_ anyone \_\_\_\_\_, he will \_\_\_\_\_ the same \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, whether he is \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: “From the Lord you WILL RECEIVE the REWARD”** – When Jesus returns to this earth (His “Second Coming”), we will ALL stand before His judgment seat, the Judgment Seat of Christ. This is after our resurrection, and we as Believers in Christ must appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ in order to be judged on our works. **This judgment for Believers ONLY, and is ONLY to see whether we will receive REWARDS or NOT - it is NOT for salvation. We are already SAVED by FAITH in Jesus Christ. Remember, the Believer’s judgment for SIN has already fallen on Jesus Christ,** Jesus has already taken our punishment on the cross, and we will not have to suffer the wrath of God (see II Cor. 5:18-21, I Thess. 5:9, I Thess. 1:10, and Isaiah 53:5-6 & 10-12).

• **II Corinthians 5:10** “For \_\_\_\_\_ must \_\_\_\_\_ appear before the \_\_\_\_\_ seat of \_\_\_\_\_, that each one may \_\_\_\_\_ the things \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, according to what he has \_\_\_\_\_, whether \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Romans 14:10-12** “But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ stand before the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. For it is written, ‘As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.’ So then each of us shall give \_\_\_\_\_ of himself to God.”

• **Matthew 6:19-21** “Do not lay up for yourselves \_\_\_\_\_ on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but \_\_\_\_\_ for yourselves treasures in \_\_\_\_\_, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your \_\_\_\_\_ (REWARD) is, there your \_\_\_\_\_ will be also.”

• **Revelation 22:12** “And behold, I am \_\_\_\_\_ quickly, and My \_\_\_\_\_ is with Me, to \_\_\_\_\_ to everyone according to his \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **I Corinthians 3:11-15** “For no other \_\_\_\_\_ can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is \_\_\_\_\_. Now if anyone \_\_\_\_\_ on this \_\_\_\_\_ with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s \_\_\_\_\_ will become manifest; for the Day (of judgment) will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ each one’s \_\_\_\_\_, of what sort it is. If anyone’s \_\_\_\_\_ which he has \_\_\_\_\_ on it (*on the foundation of Christ*) endures, he will \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_. If anyone’s \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, he will suffer \_\_\_\_\_; but he \_\_\_\_\_ will be \_\_\_\_\_, yet so as through \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: “He who does WRONG will be repaid for the WRONG which he has DONE”** – The previous statement about receiving “the reward of the inheritance from the Lord” is speaking of rewards in heaven, but this statement is speaking of **consequences of our actions in this life**. Remember, Paul is still talking about servants and masters, so **he is warning the servants that if they do wrong, they can expect punishment from their masters**, even possibly going to prison. In the Roman society, the punishment for a runaway slave, if he were caught, could even be death. Yes, God will punish the unsaved for the wrong they have done at the judgment, and **Christians will be disciplined by God if we disobey and do wrong**. However, in the context here, this is referring to servants doing wrong and receiving punishment for **the wrong they have done in this world**.

• **Revelation 3:19** “As many as I \_\_\_\_\_, I \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Therefore be zealous and \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Revelation 3:2-3** “Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have \_\_\_\_\_ found your \_\_\_\_\_ before \_\_\_\_\_. Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and \_\_\_\_\_. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.”

**Definition: “SAVED AS BY FIRE”** — This refers to people who have received Jesus as Savior, been **born again, and are SAVED**, but who have never really made Jesus LORD of ALL in their life. This person may make it to heaven, but will **receive NO REWARDS!!** All of their **so-called good works** were done in their own human strength (in the FLESH), and are WORTHLESS (Jesus said, “Without Me, you can do NOTHING.” John 15:5) — The **worthless, human “works” will be burned up**. The picture here is similar to a person escaping from a burning house, and they make it out alive, but ALL THEIR POSSESSIONS are burned up, and they have NOTHING! This also applies to “death bed” conversions, such as the thief on the cross (Luke 23:39-43), where the person has **no time** to do any GOOD WORKS.

Chapter 4

1 Masters, give your servants what is **just and fair**, knowing that **you also have a Master in heaven.**

•**Ephesians 6:9** “And you, \_\_\_\_\_, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own \_\_\_\_\_ also is in \_\_\_\_\_, and there is no \_\_\_\_\_ with Him.”

•**Romans 2:11** “For there is no \_\_\_\_\_ with God.”