

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Discuss both the positive and negative side of separation.
2. What are the results of putting too much emphasis on the negative side of separation? On the positive side of separation?
3. Discuss the things that must be put off and the things that must be put on to live a life separated unto God.
4. How can we live a separated life in this world?

### SUMMARY:

This word teaches us who have been raised with Christ to a new life, that we must separate from our old life and follow after our new God-given nature. We are to follow after new ambitions, with our minds and our affections set on things above.

It is necessary that we cut off old sinful practices and evil thoughts. The old man must be replaced with the new man who is like Christ his creator. Only then can the mind of Christ be in us and He can manifest Himself in us. By His grace our lives can become holy, sanctified and separated unto the Lord.

### NOTES:

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

July 18, 2004

Third Quarter

### SEPARATION

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**LESSON TEXT:** Colossians 3:1-17

**LESSON SETTING:** Written by Apostle Paul from Rome to the church at Colosse in Asia Minor.

**TIME:** Approximately 64 A.D.

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- I. SEPARATION WITH CHRIST.** Colossians 3:1-4
  - A. Christ-like Ambitions (vs. 1-2) Philippians 3:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:15
  - B. A Christ-like Life (vs. 3-4) 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 3:2
- II. SEPARATED FROM THE WORLD.** Colossians 3:5-11
  - A. Separated from Old Life (vs. 5, 8) Romans 6:6; 13:14; 1 Peter 2:11
  - B. Separated from Old Attitudes (vs. 9-11) Ephesians 4:23-24; Romans 8:13; 1 Peter 4:2
- III. SEPARATED UNTO GOD.** Colossians 3:12-17
  - A. Put on Traits of Christ (vs. 12-15) 1 Peter 1:14-16; 2:21; Philippians 2:5-8
  - B. Do All Things In and For Christ (vs. 17) Romans 14:7-9; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 5:15, 20

***GOLDEN TEXT: IF YE THEN BE RISEN WITH CHRIST, SEEK THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE, WHERE CHRIST SITTETH ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.***  
Colossians 3:1

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** Luke 14:7-14; 18:9-14

**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** 2 Chronicles 26:1-23;  
Matthew 18:1-10; John 3:22-30

**QUARTERLY THEME:** Marks of a Christian

**TOPIC:** HUMILITY

**INTRODUCTION:**

True humility is esteeming others better than ourselves (Philippians 2:3). If we put God first, others next and ourselves last, will we be in danger of exalting ourselves? But how very fleshly it is to always think of ourselves first. Perhaps we don't show this preference, but our inmost thoughts and motives are for self. This is just as wrong as if we would exalt ourselves publicly as the Pharisee who prayed in the temple.

Our motive in life should be to become Christ-like. His instruction to us is "take my yoke upon you; and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart" (Matthew 11:29) If Christ, who is our Lord and Master is meek and lowly, how much more so should we, His servants, be?

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** Self-exaltation brings eventual humbling; self-humbling brings true exaltation.

***GOLDEN TEXT: WHOSOEVER EXALTETH HIMSELF SHALL BE ABASED; AND HE THAT HUMBLETH HIMSELF SHALL BE EXALTED.***

Luke 14:11

Throughout history in God's dealing with man, we see the truth of these words of Jesus. At the very first, we see Satan appealing to the inherent pride of Eve, "and ye shall be as gods." (Genesis 3:5) After this self-exaltation came the humbling as our first parents lost paradise and their fellowship with God. King Saul, when he was chosen for anointing, humbled himself and was exalted. Later he exalted himself and was humbled.

The basic truth is that unless man is humbled, he cannot see the need of salvation, he cannot realize his lost estate. In his pride, he still feels himself as a god, the master of his fate, trusting in himself. This attitude must be changed. Man must be humbled so that God can lift him up. Why should we glory in the flesh, which is condemned to death through sin?

We should rather follow the example of Jesus, "being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore, God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name which is above every name."(Philippians 2:8-9)

#### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF July 19 - 25**

- M. Uzziah's Initial Humility. 2 Chronicles 26:1-5
- T. Uzziah's Humility Blessed. 2 Chronicles 26:6-15
- W. Uzziah's Loss of Humility. 2 Chronicles 26:16-23
- T. The Need for Humility. Matthew 18:1-10
- F. \*The Wisdom of Humility. Luke 14:7-14
- S. \*The Reward of Humility. Luke 18:9-14
- S. An Example of Humility. John 3:22-30