

**“Christ’s Peace, Christ’s Word, and Christ’s Name”**  
**Colossians 3:15-17**

**I. We Must be Ruled by the Peace of Christ (Col. 3:15)**

- A. The Peace of Christ is the peace won by Christ’s cross.
- B. Here the reference is to the objective peace that Christ’s blood accomplished between believers:

*Ephesians 2:13–16* - <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, <sup>15</sup> by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.

- C. The Peace of Christ is to be the “umpire” in our hearts when we are in conflict with other Christians.

**II. We Must be Indwelt by the Word of Christ (Col. 3:16)**

- A. The Word of Christ is all of scripture.
- B. The Word of Christ changes us:

*Psalms 19:7* - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

*John 17:17* - Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

*Hebrews 4:12* - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

- C. The Word of Christ comes through the teaching ministry of the church and the musical ministry of each believer to another.
- D. To be richly indwelt by Christ’s word, we have to be fanatical in our commitment to Sunday morning church events.

**III. We Must Live in the Name of Christ (Col. 3:17)**

- A. To live in Christ’s name is to consciously represent Jesus in all things.
  - 1. To say what He would say (or what He’s commanded us to say).
  - 2. To do what He would do (or what He’s commanded us to do).
- B. This is not too much to ask of us. After all...

*Colossians 1:16–17* - <sup>16</sup> For by him [Jesus] all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were

*created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

1. *We* were created by Him.
2. *We* were created for Him.
3. *We* are held together through Him.
4. How can we *not* live our lives in His name?

#### **IV. We Must Give Thanks through Christ (Col. 3:15-17)**

- A. A call to thanksgiving follows all three exhortations above.
- B. Consistent thanksgiving does so much for us:
  1. It moves us to follow the exhortations of Col. 3:15-17.
  2. It enables us to keep following them.
  3. It makes our hearts loyal to God.