



RENEWING THE MIND - PART 9

For the last resource on the Renewing of the Mind by the Holy Spirit, we are going to testify to "Setting our minds on the things above." Before we get into this last resource I want to remind us of the eight truths we have covered so far.

1. The natural or carnal mind
2. The mind of Christ
3. The renewing of the mind by the Spirit
4. Oneness of mind
5. The mind that knows 'of', not 'about'
6. The mind set on the flesh
7. Taking thoughts captive
8. Being double minded

So let's have a look at Colossians 3:1-3.

Colossians 3:1-3 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

As always with Scripture we see the Hebraic pattern being out worked, as one precept builds upon another precept, which builds upon another, and these 3 verses are no different.

Let's unpack each verse, as they unfold into one reality, and then we get to see if in fact we are living in and out, this divine wisdom.

Verse 1 says ***'therefore if you have been raised up with Christ.'*** Once again this is not an automatic reality because we verbally confessed Jesus as Lord and mentally agreed with this truth. Being raised up with Christ, is being taken out of the innate state we are born in called iniquity and sin and being transferred into Him. We are raised from spiritual death to spiritual life!

So "IF" this has happened through the revelation of Jesus Christ in us, then keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, being seated at the right hand of God. This being raised up with Christ is just that, WITH Christ. It's literal not metaphoric and because it is WITH Christ, not apart from Christ, we now have an innate spiritual thirst and hunger that comes from being raised with Him, to seek and keep seeking the things ABOVE which are found where He is.

Being raised with Him, means we are now of a 'new kind of Spirit, which desires the spiritual life which is concealed in Him. He is above and not on earth. Our entire focus shifts from earth to the eternal. The ABOVE position is a 2-fold position. It is where He is, so where is He? Yes, He is sitting at the right hand of the Father, while He is also being formed in me. This is not something I only receive when I get to heaven,



because that is where Jesus is, but this is something I receive now, because He is to be formed and made complete in me.

When this process of transformation is occurring it means I can have the complete mind of Christ now and be living from this mind, while living out my days on this earth. Wow, now that is a promise worth losing one's life for. Only ignorance and unbelief can stop this becoming my reality in Him.

Where are our eyes fixed? The Scriptures teach us to fix our eyes on Him and Him alone. Our eyes and our minds are to be fixed on the eternal, the unseen seen realm, the unseen seen One.

How can one see the unseen One and the realm He is from? Because one has a kind of faith that comes from setting their mind on the things above.

Hebrews 11:27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen.

Is this the kind of faith we have because we have set and are setting our eyes and our mind on the things above and not on the earth?

When we set our mind and our eyes on the things above we are able to overcome all things, because we are seeing the eternal purpose of God for us as His people. The revelation of God's eternal purpose empowers and enables us to overcome and walk through all of the trials, the tribulations, the persecutions, the sufferings, the fears and the turmoil that comes from being in a fallen body and living in a fallen world.

The final verse, verse 3 says ***"For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God."***

This verse is explicitly interconnected to verse 1. If we have been raised up with Christ, and that is "if" we have through His power, then we have died to our old life of earth, so our minds are no longer set on earth, but on the things above. We are a follower who seeks life in Christ and in Christ alone. We have had the world's operating system put to death in us and we only know this new mode of being now which is eternal.

This is what it is to have your life hidden in His. It is no longer your own life and your old life no longer exists, as your new life is hidden in Him. It is no longer God and Greg, but Greg is now hidden in Christ, and the outcome of this is the mind is now set on the things above.

QUESTIONS:

1. Describe how being raised up with Christ is intrinsically connected to having your mind set on the things above?



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2. How does a mind that is set on the things above think differently to a mind set on earth?
3. What role does faith play in seeing the things above?
4. Where would you say your mind is set and why?
5. How do you think your life would look if your mind was set on the things above?