

2023 Theme: Let Us Arise and Build



Building Our New Self in Christ



Our main passage for July:
Colossians 3:8-14

Colossians 2:12

¹² having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

**All Scriptures from 1995 New American Standard Bible*

Colossians 3:9-10

⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices,

¹⁰ and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him—

Colossians 3:8

⁸ But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth.

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Colossians 3:12,14

¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

...

¹⁴ Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

Building Our New Self in Christ



Learning Forgiveness

Colossians 3:13

¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

Colossians 3:13 – The Challenge of Forgiveness



Colossians 3:13 – The Challenge of Forgiveness



➤ People really will hurt us.

Colossians 3:13 – The Challenge of Forgiveness



- Our first reaction is to hurt them back.

Romans 12:17

¹⁷ Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. ...

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Colossians 3:13 – The Example of God



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Colossians 3:13 – The Example of God



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Some other passages that challenge us
to follow God's example:

Ephesians 4:32

³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Luke 23:33-34

³³ When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left.

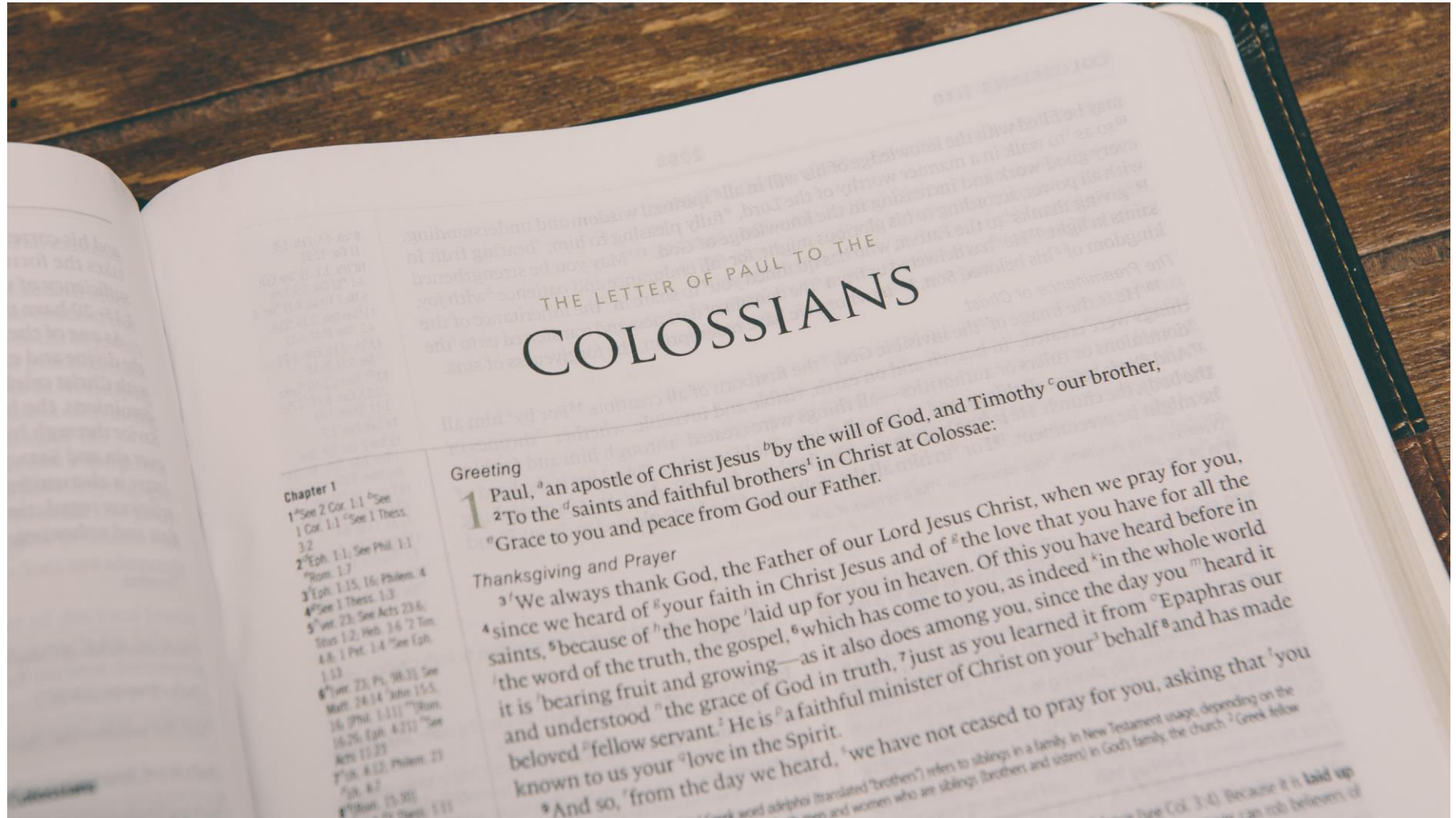
³⁴ But Jesus was saying, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

Acts 7:59-60

⁵⁹ They went on stoning Stephen as he called on *the Lord* and said, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!”

⁶⁰ Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them!” Having said this, he fell asleep.

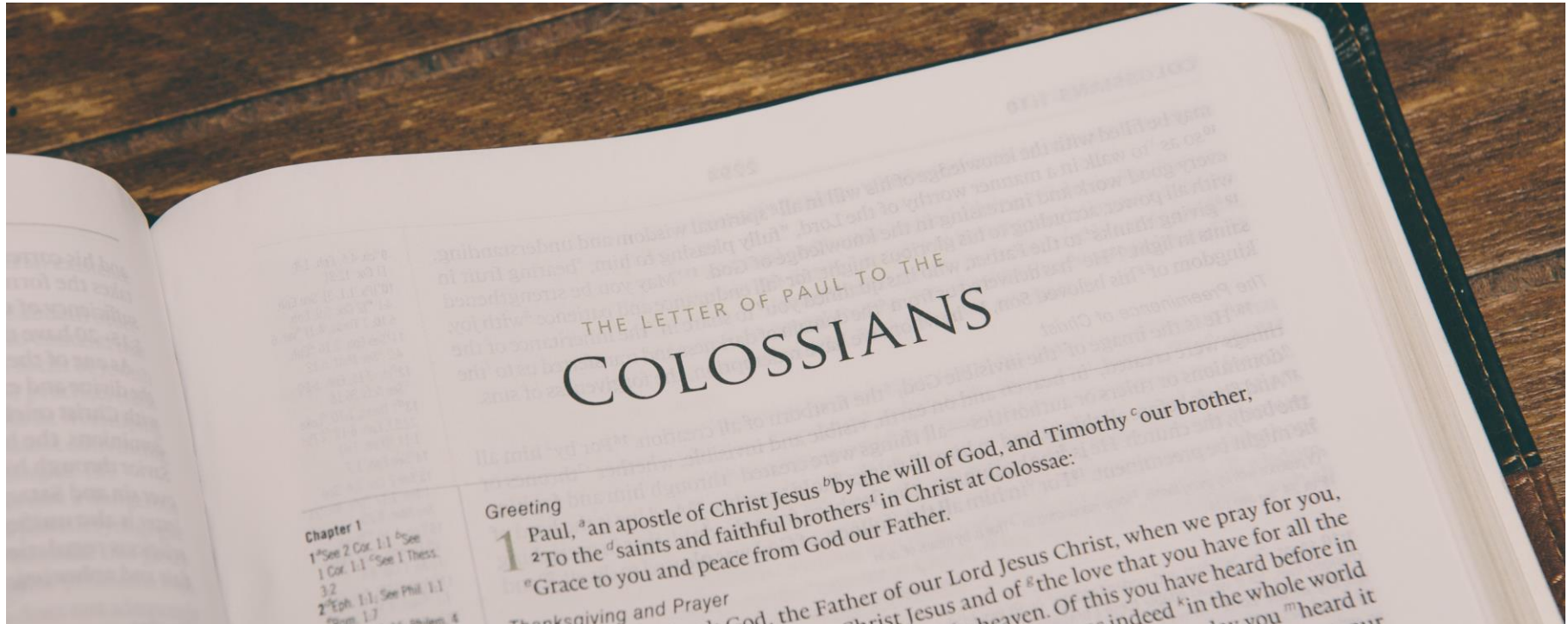
Colossians 3:13 – How Serious is This Command?



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Colossians 3:13 – How Serious is This Command?



➤ Our forgiveness of others is tied to our own salvation.

Matthew 6:12-15

...

¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

...

Matthew 6:12-15

¹⁴ For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

Matthew 18:21-25

²¹ Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Matthew 18:21-25

³² Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

³³ Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?'

Matthew 18:21-25

³⁴ And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.

³⁵ My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.”

How to Start Doing Better



➤ Remember we all need
forgiveness.

2 Corinthians 5:10

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

How to Start Doing Better



➤ Pray for them, and for you.

Luke 17:4-5

⁴ And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ forgive him.”

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord,
“Increase our faith!”

Matthew 5:43-45

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said,
‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate
your enemy.’

⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies
and pray for those who persecute you,

Matthew 5:43-45

⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous.

How to Start Doing Better



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➤ Do good toward them.

Romans 12:20-21

²⁰ “BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD.”

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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Learning Forgiveness

Genesis 33:10

¹⁰ Jacob said, “No, please, if now I have found favor in your sight, then take my present from my hand, for I see your face as one sees the face of God, and you have received me favorably.



May our forgiving spirits show
people the “face of God.”

Acts 2:37-38

³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

James 5:16

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.