

COLOSSIANS 3 vs 18

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So that we do not take this section out of context, let us remember the verse that went before: Paul just said, Whatever you do... in word or deed, do all... as if you were representing the Lord Jesus... and giving thanks to God the Father. And I know in our genius 21st century, we like to do things... our own way; so let's at least hear what the Holy Spirit... inspired Paul to write. Okay?!



18 Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands, as it is fitting in the Lord.

It's proper. Huh?! That's it. That's the only marriage advice Paul had for the Colossian women. That verse lasted 8 seconds. But let's go on; let's see if the men are any better.

19 Husbands, love your wives, and be **not bitter against them.**

That's it? -- turning pages -- that's it! Now, to the Colossian men, that was 2 things in 5 seconds of advice.

And to the Colossian children, listen up...

20 Children, **obey / that word means: **hear** your parents... and do it.**

in all things: for this is well pleasing to the Lord / and that advice took 10 seconds. Paul obviously understands, children learn a little slower.

And here's some parental advice...

21 Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, lest they be discouraged / and quit trying. And remember: this advice was for the Colossians. It's not for the world. I can imagine many guys saying, You mean I can't beat the crap out of my kid?

These words are not for the trouser-monkey society; those who swear we come from chimps and apes and orangutans. And I swear... those bone-heads probably do; they probably are the missing links. But Paul is not writing to missing links... or bone-heads, who have no moral compass, or objective truth to look to. Paul was not speaking to them. They can go and pay their \$150 - \$400 / hour therapy session.

He was writing to the church at Colossae. He was speaking to the people of God in Colossae... and like-minded people to them... a comparative, very small group.

Paul's last advice in this chapter is to the workers. To the non-workers, his advice can be found in his letter to the Thessalonians; and it's not complicated. He said, If you don't work... you don't eat! And you are worse than an unbeliever who has denied the faith. So you see, these words of Paul are not addressed to our genius 21st century society.

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But back to Colossians...

²² **Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh** / the word obey means: hear them and do it! Not complicated... is it?!

not with eye-service / not just when they are watching,

and not as men pleasers / you don't need to be kissing anyone's ass. You can find another job;

but in singleness of heart / keep it simple; keep focused,

fearing God.

Paul repeats himself; he says...

²³ **whatever you do, do it heartily** / do it from your heart,

as if you are doing it for the Lord, and not to men;

²⁴ **Knowing you will receive from the Lord, the inheritance which is your reward: for you all serve the Lord Christ** / now, the world might be serving some penny-pinching boss; but that's not the Lord Christ.

And Paul's last words to the workers...

²⁵ **But he who has done wrong will receive for the wrong which he has done:**

and that without partiality / on this... the Lord is impartial. He does not... have favorites.

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