



## A Christ-Shaped Vision!

July 2, 2023 – Col. 3:1-11

Pastor Jon Pickens

### Working Through the Passage:

*1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.*

*2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.*

*3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*

*4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

*5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.*

*6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming.*

*7 In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.*

*8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.*

*9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.*

*11 Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.*

### Developing a Christ-Shaped Vision of Your Life!

1. Know to **whom** you belong.
2. Know **where** God is taking you.
3. **Orient** your life around Christ's words, ways, and works.
4. Prepare to win the battle of your **mind**.

## Discussion Questions:

1. Paul's two exhortations in 3:1-4 are to seek and to set your mind on things that are from above. What does that look like in your life?
2. In what ways do humans seem to turn their affections away from God and to our own corrupted desires? What corrupted desire have you had or currently have that has pulled you affections away from Christ?
3. These two lists are not exhaustive but were likely issues in the church at the time. What would you add to those lists from your own experience?
4. What is the vision you have for your life? Is it a Christ-shaped vision? If not, why not?
5. What practical actions can you take to cooperate with Christ to win the battle for your mind?
6. What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?

## Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be in the room behind the Welcome Center after the service.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at [pj@fbclowell.org](mailto:pj@fbclowell.org).
3. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

# July 2023

(Two Year Reading Plan, Month 18)

<b>Week 1</b> <b>Starting July 3</b>	<b>Week 2</b> <b>Starting July 10</b>	<b>Week 3</b> <b>Starting July 17</b>	<b>Week 4</b> <b>Starting July 24</b>
Day 1: Ecclesiastes 10-12	Day 1: Matt 5-6	Day 1: Matt 13-14	Day 1: Matt 22-23
Day 2: Song of Songs 1-4	Day 2: Matt 7-8	Day 2: Matt 15-16	Day 2: Matt 24
Day 3: Song of Songs 5-8	Day 3: Matt 9	Day 3: Matt 17-18	Day 3: Matt 25
Day 4: Matt 1-2	Day 4: Matt 10-11	Day 4: Matt 19-20	Day 4: Matt 26
Day 5: Matt 3-4	Day 5: Matt 12	Day 5: Matt 21	Day 5: Matt 27-28

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,  
<sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,  
<sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,  
<sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.  
Titus 2:11-14 (ESV)

**What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?**