Christ, Who Is Our Life (Colossians 3:4)

Tony Mauck · Colossians 1:18–23

INTRODUCTION

- How do we function effectively as a church? How do we successfully live as a disciple of Jesus in increasingly wicked times?
- It's only effective if it matches God's will for us and reflects his approval.
- The answer to both of those questions can be summarized in these three words. Jesus is Lord.

1 He Is Head of the Body, the Church

Colossians 1:18; Colossians 1:21–23

- He is also head of the body, the church.
- We're going to function effectively as his church when he is allowed to be the head, the ruler, the authority.
- So that he himself might come to have first place in everything.
- We need to make him first place in what we do corporately as his people, the way we work, the way we worship, and he must be first in our lives.
- Yet he has now reconciled you in his fleshly body through death in order to present you before him, holy and blameless.
- But there's a condition. Indeed, you continue in the faith, firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel.

2 Walk in a Manner Worthy of Him

Colossians 1:10; Colossians 1:12; Colossians 3:1

- We've got the best inheritance that there is or ever will be.
- Because Jesus is Lord, because we make him Lord of our lives, then we ought to walk in a manner worthy of him. And to please him in all respects.
- It is our marching orders as God's people. Walk in a manner worthy of him.
- Keep seeking the things above. Keep doing it. Keep at it. No matter how hard.
- Because he is worthy. Because he is Lord. And every blessing comes from making him Lord of your life.

3 What Attendance Reveals About Who Is Lord

Luke 8:14

- What might your attendance at assemblies reveal regarding who or what is really Lord in your life?
- Even if I attended 365 assemblies every year, I could not merit or earn what the Lord has done for me.

- I am and you are, no matter your percentage, completely dependent upon the Lord for salvation.
- If it is negligent, it is because of your lack of devotion to God.
- Negligence, by the Lord's accounting, not the spiritual police, negligence reveals the world is your life's priority. Not the Lord.
- These are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way, they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life.

4 Christ, Who Is Our Life

Colossians 3:4

- When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, we also will be revealed with him in glory.
- Whether you acknowledge it or not, whether we acknowledge it by the way we behave as a church or what we do as individuals, Jesus is the Lord.
- We are completely indebted to him for spiritual life. We live only because of him.
- He is the rock upon which our lives are built.
- It trumps every relationship, every activity, everything that tries to abide for our affections. This is first place.
- There's not a relationship, there's not an activity, there's not a thing that is more valuable and important and significant than Christ, who is our life.

THE CHALLENGE

Is there someone in our audience this morning who needs to allow Christ to have first place in your heart and life?

MY NOTES