

YOU ARE  
COMPLETE  
in  
HIM.  
COLOSSIANS 2:10 NKJV

A new creation focus through Colossians ...

## The Proper Focus

The outcast angel, Satan, is going down, down eventually to the hell fire prepared for him and his fellow rebellious angels. At the vortex of the downward spiral, the prince of darkness is sucking every possible member of the human race down with him, working in the minds of men wherever possible — twisting perception in their minds, getting their focus in the wrong direction. Christ, then, has come as light into the world, to enlighten and educate those who are willing in the ways of God and in the ways that are straight and true. To do that, the wisdom of God brought

Christ into the world, and used Him as the Word, the vehicle of communication for this education and enlightenment of the willing. God wove His story in the matrix of human history so that its truthfulness might be established for the honest but probing inquirer. At the right time He sent His Son into the world, born as a baby, reared to manhood, anointed by the Holy Spirit in the waters of the Jordan, crucified on Calvary, raised from the dead, and ascended to the throne of heaven. This picture, portrayed through the records of the word of God, when obeyed by the trusting hearer of this message, delivers him from that dark downward pull and lifts him to the courts of glory.

- **Set your mind** — It is the mind which truly directs the individual. The body is not some uncontrolled separate entity; the decisions are always made in the mind. Hence, where the mind goes, the individual goes. Thus the Holy Spirit through the apostle Paul issues this directive, “Set your mind on things above, not on the things that are on earth” (Colossians 3:2). The thrust of the passage is that the saint’s mind is to be totally focused on the things above, to be fixated on the spiritual realm rather than mesmerized by the material realm. This focus is to be a very determined focus, an unwavering gaze by the mind’s eye, totally riveted and pegged on the view of Christ in glory.
- **Things above** — Things of earth have to be dealt with. The crops need harvested, the weeds need uprooted, the clothes need mended. But the mundane must not impact the focus of the disciple of Christ. Nor can the massive upheavals that from time to time plague the residents of earth and the Christians caught in them. “Why are the nations in an uproar,” asked the psalmist, “and the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His Christ” (Psalm 2:1,2). The affairs of this earthly world are one continual uproar after another as the heathen peoples of the world are successively pulled into Satan’s domain and rebel against the Mighty and Compassionate Creator. The encouragement for the children of God is to recognize that this is how earth is, and to raise their sights to the heavenly realms where all is peace and glory.
- **Christ in glory** — What is there really to compare with Christ in all His glory? The purpose of the gospel is to draw mankind’s attention to the Lord, beginning with the need for forgiveness of sins. The story of Christ does clearly establish God’s love for the lost race, but as it crescendos to its final outcome of the King’s accession to the throne above, the disciple’s attention and affection is directed to and eventually fixed on Jesus reigning in His majesty. The brilliance of Him and His court is such that it pales into insignificance any of earth’s turmoil.

The saint, then, is doubly exhorted to “keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.” If he can maintain this focus, his interests will be properly spiritual, his attitude will be great, and his habit will be one of prayer. This, therefore, is the “mind set on things above, not on the things that are on earth.”

The saint's  
interests -  
spiritual; his  
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his habit - prayer

JAY WILSON