

Our Hope in God's Paradise #3

Paul's Eternal Perspective on Our Work

Colossians 3:1-4, 23-24

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts [desires] on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (Col 3:1-4 NIV)

Primary point: God wants us to have a heavenly and eternal perspective on our life and work.

A) Living for Christ (Rom 6:13)

B) All work can have eternal value (Col 3:23-24)

C) What must we do to have our work eternally rewarded?

- 1) Dedicate your day to God.
- 2) Do your work eagerly as if working for Christ
- 3) Work to represent Christ (Col 3:17)
- 4) Work with love and joy (1 Cor 13:3-5)

A primary purpose of a Pastor: increase your eternal reward. (2 Cor 4:14; 1 Thess 2:19)

Discussion ?'s

- 1) What was especially meaningful to you about the Sunday message?
- 2) What does it mean that your life is now hidden with Christ in God?
- 3) In what ways do we "set our minds on earthly things"? What would be examples of living with our hearts on "heavenly things"?
- 4) What kinds of work feel meaningless to you? How can this topic help you find more meaning in your work?
- 5) Which of the four things suggested do you want to put into practice to better ensure your life and work is rewarded?