

CONTEXT

- 1] to a small, recent, unimportant church inland in Turkey
- 2] (1:15-18), Jesus is God, (1:19-23) He reconciles the Church to God, (1:24-2:5) His messengers – eg Paul. (2:6-23) The choice – deceptive philosophy & worldly principles or Christ.
- 3]] The crunch

??? *How did I 'die' (2), am I 'raised' (1) with Christ?* I must have an existence outside of time and been included with Him in His crucifixion /resurrection

WHERE are you? (1)

1] Since
Cf since you have died with Christ.... (2:20)

2] raised with Christ Rom 6:4)
Nb Raised with Him through faith (2:12)
Cf raised and seated (Eph 2:6; Rom 6:4)
reckon yourself raised with / in Christ
GRACE God raised us with Christ

3] seek the things that are above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God
Cf Seated at the right hand (Ps 110:1)
Hearts on things above (Matt 6:20)
Ie focus on the authority of Jesus / God {All authority is Jesus' (Matt 28:20)}
Nb and you to are seated with Him (Eph 2::6)
Christ rules over all things
Seek Jesus' will
Acknowledge / obey the rule of Jesus.

HOW should you live? (2)

1] Set your minds on (lit 'seek')

2] things above
nb compassion, kindness, humility (12)
Cf Heavenly things (Phil 4:8)

3] NOT on earthly things
Cf sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, greed' (5)
Prioritise heavenly over earthly things

WHO are you? (3)

1] You
Nb you (pl) ('you / your' mentioned 7 times in 4 vss)
Cf the holy and faithful brothers (1:2)

2] died

Cf You died (Gal 2:20)

Ye No person, no rights, no possessions?

Reckon your (old) self dead with Christ

3] Your life hidden with Christ

Ye all that can be seen is Jesus

Cf 'in Christ' (1:2, 28)

Robe of righteousness (Lk 15:22; Is 61:10)

'God made Him who knew no sin to be sin so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God (2Cor 5:21)

**Believe that in Jesus ALL your sin is 'hidden' / paid for **

4] In God

Ye Citizenship in Heaven (Phil 3:19ff)

WHAT are you waiting for? (4)

1] When Christ who is your life

Cf In Him was Life (John 1:4)

He who believes has eternal life (John 5:24)

Christ is everything we have / need

2] appears

Nb the second coming of Jesus (Matt 25)

Come again (Acts 1:11)

3] then you also will appear with Him in Glory

Cf 1 Thess 4:16-18;

appear with Him in glory (1:27)

Glory revealed (Rmns 8:18ff)

** Anticipate the return of Jesus in glory**

Believe we will be with Jesus when he returns

SUMMARY Because you were raised with Jesus, share the values and objectives of His heavenly rule. Personally, focus on things of heavenly not earthly significance (1,2) for you now exist in and for Him as will be evident when he returns (3,4)

MP *Because you share Christ's new life, make heaven, from where He rules, your priority.*

KV *Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God (1)*