



Keep on Growing

Colossians 3: 1-8



How to Become a Christian

- **Hear the Gospel – Mark 16:15 Rom 10:17**
 - **Believe in Jesus Christ – John 3:16**
 - **Repent – Acts 2:38 Acts 17:30**
 - **Baptized for Remission of Sins – Acts 2:38**
 - **Be Faithful – Rev 2:10**
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Two Paths, Two Natures

- **Matthew 7:13-14** “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.
- **Galatians 5:16-18** I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.



The Other Side of You

- **Eph 4:17-20** This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸ having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God..
- **20-24** But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.



The Inner Conflict

- **Romans 7:13-25** ¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.
- ¹⁸ For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but *how* to perform what is good I do not find. ¹⁹ For the good that I will *to do*, I do not do; but the evil I will not *to do*, that I practice.
- ²² For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. ²³ But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.



Addressing Our Weakness

- **Key Examples (King David, Judas, Saul of Tarsus)**
- **Col 3:8** But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.
- **1 Peter 2: 1-3** Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.



No Firm Roots

- **Luke 8: 13-14** But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of [a]temptation fall away. ¹⁴ Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.
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- **Luke 14:28** For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish *it*—



Staying Close to God

- **1 Peter 1:13** Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
- **Gen 39:9** *There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"*
- **Daniel 1:8** But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.



The Only Solution

- **John 8:31-32** Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”
- **John 15:4-5** ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ “I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.



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