

COLOSSIANS AND PHILEMON

"Be Subject"

Col. 3:18 - 4:1

Lesson 9

- Intro.
1. In this section, Colossians regulates domestic relationships.
 2. Similar regulations had been given by various pagan and Jewish philosophers. If those who received instructions from those sources asked, "Why?", what answer could be given?
 3. If the same question is asked regarding regulations in Col. 3:18-4:1, what is the answer?

What expression recurring in these verses emphasizes this?
 4. What does this teach about the relationship between religion and family relations?

I. Wives and Husbands (3:18-19)

1. What is to be the wife's position in reference to her husband?
Why? Will this always be considered "fitting" to those who are out of the Lord? Do these words suggest any limitations on her submission (See Acts 5:29)?
2. What one word sums up the husbands positive duty to his wife?
How is this more fully treated in Ephesians 5:25, 28-29?
3. What must the husband avoid in his relation with his wife? How does Peter express this sentiment (I Pet. 3:7)?
4. What does the Lord desire in the home (3:15, I Cor. 7:15)? How will these regulations contribute to that?
4. Why might Ephesians 5:22-33 treat this subject much more in detail?

II. Children and Parents (3:20-21)

1. What is the responsibility of children in reference to parents?
2. What reason is given? Will this impress children who do not know the Lord? How should the reason given affect parents' interaction with their children?
3. What are fathers forbidden to do? Why?
List some kinds of treatment from parents may result in this.

If children get angry when a father corrects them does this prove he has violated this teaching?
What positive instruction is given in Ephesians 6:4?

III. Servants and Masters (3:22 - 4:1)

1. This teaching was primarily for slaves and masters. How does Eph. 6:8 expand the application?
2. What is the responsibility of servants? Why?
How would this affect their service even in the absence of their master?
3. What additional reasons are given for working heartily and honestly?
4. Does God recognize any difference between slaves and masters?
5. What does he require of masters? Why?
Compare this with Eph. 6:9, I Pet. 3:7, Matt. 18:35.

Conclusion: How will putting on the things listed in Col. 3:12-17 affect one's reaction to this teaching?