



“Set Your Mind”

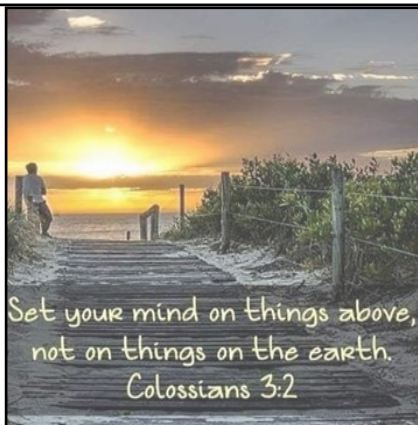
“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:1-2).

Paul encouraged the brethren at Colossae in this passage to be sure their mind was focused

in the right place. The word “set” is defined as, “to direct one’s mind to a thing, to seek, to strive for” (Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon, p. 658). I am so afraid that far too many Christians are more mindful of the things on the earth rather than the spiritual blessings which come from heaven. The things on earth would be “terrestrial goods, pleasures, honors” (ibid, p. 114).

We should find ourselves meditating on our Heavenly Father, our Creator and Sustainer. As we contemplate Him, it should lead us to praise and honor His great name through the lives we live each day. He did make us in His Own image, has blessed us materially and spiritually, delivered us from evil countless times, and loved us as unlovable as we are. Our minds should think upon our Savior and Redeemer, the pain and suffering He endured to save us from our sins. It is only through Him and His sacrifice we can have access to His Father and enjoy fellowship with Him. Our thoughts should reflect upon the Spirit, His work as Revelator and Helper and the blessings we receive as the results of His efforts.

The Psalmist declared the man who is blessed is the one who finds “... his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law, he



meditates day and night” (Psalm 1:2). If our minds are set on things above, we will often be found with open Bibles, reading, studying, and contemplating God’s wonderful message given to us by His grace. Notice the description of the word of God given by the Psalmist, “More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold, Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover, by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward” (Psalm 19:10-11). In this same book, the writer tells us one of the great benefits of placing that word in our hearts and minds, “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!” (Psalm 119:11). What a great treasure we have in our possession, which is often taken for granted.

Do you ever think about heaven? I am not just talking about when you hear the subject mentioned in a Bible class or sermon. Do you ever open your Bibles and read passages which speak about our eternal abode? Do you find your mind trying to comprehend how beautiful heaven must be? Do you try to grasp how wonderful it will be when you get there? There will be no more pain, suffering, or dying; God wiping away every tear. There will be no more disease to ravish one’s body as either seen or experienced here. Nothing defiling can enter that city; no more sin to contend with. Eternal bliss for all who will occupy this Heavenly Jerusalem. Our thoughts should go there often!

Can we identify those whose thoughts are on earthly things? I certainly believe we can! They are the ones who are always busy with secular things. When visiting in their homes or if they visit in yours, their thoughts are directed toward the things of the world. Very seldom if ever do they have discussions about spiritual matters. Even when at church services, before or after worship or Bible study, it is apparent they are more interested in their job, money, sports, shopping, vacation, etc. Look at their Bible, is it worn from use or maybe they never have it with them? This



problem may be easy to spot in others, yet what we each need to do is take a good look at self (2 Corinthians 13:5). Am I guilty? How often do I think on things above?

If our thoughts were directed more toward heaven, I believe the church would be much stronger. There would be more people converted, saints would be strengthened, less lost back to the world, and certainly God would be honored and glorified. Why not begin today by setting your mind on things above and not on the things of the world. You and those you love will be the ones blessed for your efforts.

Jim Mickells, by permission

On An Old Grave Stone



“Pause stranger, when you pass me by, As you are now, so once was I. As I am now, so you will be; So prepare for death and follow me.”

A tourist put this at the bottom of the inscription: “To follow you I am not content Until I know which way you went.”

Which way will you be going? (2 Cor. 5:10) *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”*

Thoughts on the “Last Invitation”

Revelation 22:10-17

10 “And he saith unto me, Seal not up the words of the prophecy of this book; for the time is at hand.

11 He that is unrighteous, let him do unrighteousness still: and he that is filthy, let him be made filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him do righteousness still; and he that is holy, let him be made holy still.

continued on back>>>



GLAD TIDINGS

12 Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to render to each man according as his work is.

13 I am the Al'-pha and the O-me"-ga, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

14 Blessed are they that wash their robes, that they may have the right to come to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.

15 Without are the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the fornicators, and the murderers, and the idolaters, and every one that loveth and maketh a lie.

16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright, the morning star.

17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And he that heareth, let him say, Come. And he that is athirst, let him come: he that will, let him take the water of life freely.

What a wonderful thing it is when the invitation of Christ is heeded! An invitation from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth and all that is in them, the Creator of our bodies, the Preserver of our lives, the Father of our spirits, and the Judge before whom we will stand in the last great day. An invitation to live for Him while here, to wait for Him in the grave, and live with Him in heaven. Are you ready?

Steve Frazier

Order of Worship April 18, 2021

Song Leader—AM	Michael Young
Song Leader—PM	Derek Steen
Lord's Table	Steve Frazier
Sermon—AM	Devin Barber
Sermon—PM	Devin Barber

Continue prayers for those on our list and for the free course of the gospel.

1 John 5:14

Editor: Steve Frazier

Marietta church of Christ

8150 Driggers St.

Jacksonville, FL 32220

Meeting times of the church

Sunday 09:00 am Bible Classes 10:00 am Worship 05:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday 7:00 pm Bible classes

Evangelist: Devin Barber

Phone: 904-210-5036

www.mariettacoc.com

Hebrews 10:24-25