

▼ "We Must Kill" or "Killing and Embracing" - Colossians

▼ Two Part Message.

- **Part One: Killing.**
- **Part Two: Embracing.**

• Part 1, Killing. A How-To.

• Colossians 3:5-11

5 Therefore, put to death what belongs to your worldly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, God's wrath comes on the disobedient, 7 and you once walked in these things when you were living in them. 8 But now you must also put away all the following: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self. You are being renewed in knowledge according to the image of your Creator. 11 In Christ there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all.

▼ First: A word on vs 11. There are IMPLICATIONS to this.

▼ **Bob Jones Sermon on Segregation.**

"No race is inferior in the will of God. Get that clear. If a race is in the will of God, it is not inferior. It is a superior race..I want you folks to listen-you white and you colored folks. Do not let these Satanic propagandists fool you. This agitation is not of God. It is of the devil. God meant for Christian people to treat each other right. If you are a Christian white person or a Christian colored person, you will treat each other right. We Christians are children of God by faith in Jesus Christ. We are one in Christ; but let us remember that the God Who made of one blood all nations also fixed the boundaries of their habitations.

Wherever we have the races mixed up in large numbers, we have trouble. They have trouble in New York. They have trouble in San Francisco. They have had trouble all over California...If you are against segregation and against racial separation, then you are against God Almighty because He made racial separation in order to preserve the race through whom He could send the Messiah and through whom He could send the Bible. God is the author of segregation. God is the author of Jewish separation and Gentile separation and Japanese separation. God made of one blood all nations, but He also drew the boundary lines between races."

- Jones is correct that wherever the races mix, we have trouble. Of course, wherever the sexes mix, we have trouble too. Wherever the rich and poor mix, we have trouble. Wherever the hillbillies and rednecks mix, we have trouble. Wherever the stock brokers and the lawyers mix, we have trouble. Wherever the golfer and tennis players mix, we have trouble. Wherever two people are together, there is going to be trouble.
- But Jones is incorrect in virtually everything else he says. Jesus prays, in the Lord's prayer (and teaches us to pray...) that things would be on earth as they are in Heaven. How are things in Heaven? Check out Revelation 7- a vast throng all around the throne of God of every tribe, nation, tongue and color. TOGETHER. Jesus prayed in John 17 that all of His followers would be ONE.

- Consider the church of Antioch, a strong, missionary sending church in the first century, was composed of believers from at least 5 different countries, and 3 continents. (Israel, Turkey, Rome, Cyprus, Cyrene, and Africa, Asia and Europe.)
- I believe the Lord would have us in unity - racial, economic and otherwise, because we are to be a Holy people - clothed with kindness, gentleness, patience, love, humility, etc. That is how Paul frames this issue. In Christ - there are no national, racial, or socio-economic dividing lines...THEREFORE, clothe yourselves with humility, love, kindness, gentleness, etc.
- ▼ We are meant to be a City on a Hill - the Light of the World. Our light is dimmed by racism, by favoritism towards rich or poor, and by nationalism.
 - Deuteronomy 28:9
The Lord will establish you as His holy people, as He swore to you, if you obey the commands of the Lord your God and walk in His ways. 10 Then all the peoples of the earth will see that you are called by Yahweh's name, and they will stand in awe of you.
 - Isaiah 49:6
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."
 - 1 Peter 2:9
But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
- ▼ The tragedy is that God's people are supposed to be the absolute shining model of racial (and otherwise) unity, and yet, the schools and businesses segregated in America before the churches did. God help us. Our racism over the past few hundred years has diminished our prophetic voice to the world AND has led, in small part, to a precipitous American decline in young people's following of Jesus.

- At least one-third of Muslims (42%), Hindus (36%), and Buddhists (35%) are under the age of 30. Roughly one-third (34%) of religiously unaffiliated Americans are also under 30.
- In contrast, white Christian groups are aging. white evangelical Protestants (11%), are under 30.
- The church MUST stand out in walking out the implications of Col 3:11

▼ Colossians 3:5-10

5 Therefore, put to death what belongs to your worldly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.6 Because of these, God's wrath comes on the disobedient, 7 and you once walked in these things when you were living in them. 8 But now you must also put away all the following: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self. You are being renewed in knowledge according to the image of your Creator

▼ WHY KILL THESE THINGS? WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO KILL? Hunters have to be sure of what they are aiming at... HOW DO WE KILL THEM?

- Let's talk for a moment about what exactly we are to KILL. And make no mistake - this is a call to Kill things in us. Let me make that even more pointed with Romans 8.
- Romans 8:12
So then, brothers, we are not obligated to the flesh to live according to the flesh, 13 for if you live according to the flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

- ▼ **HEAR ME - this is HIGH STAKES. WE MUST KILL THESE THINGS IN US. WHY?**
 - #1 BECAUSE THEY INVITE GOD's WRATH.
 - #2 THEY WILL KILL US. I don't merely mean physical death. I mean the continuance of the things listed above will kill us spiritually.
- ▼ **WHAT? We must kill these things. The other metaphor, in vs 8, is "take them off" - like clothes.**
 - 1. Sexual Immorality (fornication - things of an intimate nature forbidden by the Bible) πορνείαν - from "harlotry"
 - 2. Evil Affections and Lusts - Pathos+Epithumian+Kakeyne
 - 3. Greed - eager for gain, greedy desire for more (tricky line)
 - 4. Anger/wrath - straightforward.
 - 5. Wrath - hot temper/violent anger
 - 6. Malice/wickedness (general word)
 - 7. Slander - blasphemēia - "insulting or injurious talk about another", words meant to cut down or harm somebody
 - 8. Filthy Language - aischrologia - "dirty words from your mouth"
 - 9. Lying - pseudomai - "speak falsely"
- ▼ **I reiterate - the above things, some of which I find in my life, will kill us, separate us from God and invite His wrath. You CANNOT be a spiritual person and give yourself to ANYTHING above. (Not my rule, by the way)**
 - Romans 1 gives a similar list as in Colossians 3, and then Paul says this, "32 Although they know full well God's just sentence—that those who practice such things deserve to die they not only do them, but even applaud others who practice them."
 - PIPER SERMON ON ROMANS 8:12-13
 "Until you believe that life is war — that the stakes are your soul — you will probably just play at Christianity with

no bloodearnestness and no vigilance and no passion and no wartime mindset. If that is where you are this morning, your position is very precarious. The enemy has lulled you into sleep or into a peacetime mentality, as if nothing serious is at stake. And God, in his mercy, has you here this morning, and had this sermon appointed to wake you up, and put you on a wartime footing.

Jesus said in [Matthew 11:12](#), 'From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.' Do you want to enter the kingdom of heaven? Take it violently! But violence against whom — or against what? Listen to Jesus' answer: "If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; it is better for you to enter life crippled or lame, than to have two hands or two feet and be cast into the eternal fire" ([Matthew 18:8](#)). Do you want to enter life? Take it violently...Lay that on top of [Romans 8:13](#), 'If by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.' Do you want to enter into life? Do you want to live? Get violent. Get a wartime mindset. Stop making peace with ears and eyes and tongues and hands and feet that betray you like Judas, and go over to the side of the enemy and become instruments of sin and make war on your soul. Put to death the deeds of your body."

- **HOW? By the Spirit, says Paul, in Romans 8:13 - "But if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."**
- ▼ **BUT WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN? HOW DO WE PUT SOMETHING TO DEATH BY THE SPIRIT???**
 - Ephesians 6:16-17
16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
 - Hebrews 4:12
For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow;

- Revelation 1:16
In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.
- THE WORD IS AN OFFENSIVE and SUPERNATURAL WEAPON MADE FOR KILLING SIN.
- ▼ Revelation 19:
He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.
 - JESUS is the WORD. WHEN THE WORD IS IN YOU, JESUS IS IN YOU.
- ▼ 1 John 2:14
I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one.
 - STRENGTH AND OVERCOMING comes through the WORD LIVING IN US.
- ▼ **Call to Repentance through the ministry of the Word and Spirit.**
 - 2nd Thess. 2:13-14
13 God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. 14 He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.