

Announcements

Want to keep up on what's going on around here? Drop your info card in the offering plate and we'll add you to the e-letter list.

Communities:

This is where we gather to pray, study and encourage one another as part of the missional work of the Gospel. We would love to get to know you more, and this is one of the best ways to get planted as a part of Seaside.

Please consider joining a Community to strengthen the not only your family, but the larger community.

Contact
eric@seasidechurch.com
for info on where groups meet or to lead/host one.

Contact Us:
P.O. Box 5533
Bremerton, WA 98312
360.373.1483

info@seasidechurch.com

"Therefore", Paul is making a contrast to the point he finishes with in Ch. 2 v. 23, that self-made religion, abasement, and severe treatment of the body are of no use against fleshly indulgence. He then contrasts in v. 1 of chapter 3 self-made religion with once again the reality of a reconciled relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Therefore if you are "in Him" you have been raised with Christ (v. 1), you have died with Christ (v. 3) and you will be revealed with Christ in glory (v. 4). These are the realities of who you now are "in Him".

v. 1-4, we are in Him. This is the key to the rest of what Paul is instructing us here in Ch. 3. He is saying that before we begin to understand and deal with sin or fleshly indulgence in your life you must be "in Him". If we are not "in Him" the teaching that he is giving us doesn't apply because like he said in Ch. 2 v. 23 "it is of no use against fleshly indulgence".

v.5-8, Based on the reality of v. 1-4, we have the ability to "put to death" sin. Paul is not calling men to the act of mortification but to believing in the power of Him who can and who has mortified sin. He starts off saying "therefore" or since you are in Him, consider (believe because of Him but also make it an on-going action) that the members of your earthly body (your flesh, sin) as dead. He is saying that as believers we are to be in the continuous action of putting to death or mortifying sin. How do we do that? How do we put to death the temptation of sin in our lives? He points out here that we mortify sin by putting sin and the flesh where Jesus put our sin. On the cross! (Romans 6:3-14, Colossians 2:14)

"Even while we claim the meritorious mortification of our sin through the work of the cross of Christ, and though the implantation of our new life in Christ is in opposition to and destructive of the expression of sin, sin remains, acts, and works in the best of believers while we are yet in this world. It must be our constant daily duty to mortify it." -John Owen

Paul then goes on to explain to us how the flesh, how sin works. (James 1:14-15)

v.9-17, living out who I am "in Him" in community. (Ephesians 4:17-32, Galatians 5:13-16, Hebrews 10:19-25) Paul is explaining to us the other key component of living a life that puts to death sin. First, that we are in fact "in Him" but second that we live a life trusting others to remind us of that. (1 John 1:5-10)

"But God has put this Word into the mouth of men in order that it may be communicated to other men. When one person is struck by the Word, he speaks it to others. God has willed that we should seek and find His living Word in the witness of a brother, in the mouth of man. Therefore, the Christian needs another Christian who speaks God's Word to him. He needs him again and again when he becomes uncertain and discouraged, for by himself he cannot help himself without belying the truth. He needs his brother man as a bearer and proclaimer of the divine word of salvation. He needs his brother solely because of Jesus Christ. The Christ in his own heart is weaker than the Christ in the word of his brother; his own heart is uncertain, his brother's is sure." -Dietrich Bonhoeffer