

# Colossians Series

## Lesson #53

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Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbible.org](http://www.deanbible.org)

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A landscape photograph showing a field of bare trees in the foreground, a dark hill in the middle ground, and a range of mountains in the background under a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

# **COLOSSIANS: Jesus Christ is All-Sufficient**

**Designer Spiritual Clothes  
or Knock-Offs?**

**Colossians 3:5–9**

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**Legalism is making non-Scriptural mandates necessary.**

**Legalism in the spiritual life, removes the "by the Spirit" aspect of spiritual growth and reduces spirituality to simple morality.**

## **The Problem:**

**Seeking help for life's problems apart from Christ results in Spiritual Decapitation which cuts us off from the:**

- **authority of Christ**
- **nourishment from Christ**
- **spiritual growth from Christ**
- **the strength of Christ (cf., Philippians 4:13)**
- **future rewards, privileges, and blessings in the kingdom.**

## **The Solution:**

- **understanding our position “In Christ” (Col. 2:10–11)**
- **living in light of its reality**
- **developing a mind-set based on reality (3:2)**
- **Actively “putting to death” sin in our life, (Col. 3:5) and “putting off” these sins (Col. 3:8)**

# The Doctrine of Death

- 1. Physical death is the separation of the immortal, immaterial soul from the mortal, material body (2 Cor. 5:8), which is a consequence of Adam's original sin (Gen. 3:19). Believers spend eternity in Heaven (John 3:36). Unbelievers spend eternity in the lake of fire (Rev. 20:15).**
- 2. Spiritual death describes the state of separation from God of all mankind at physical birth which is the penalty of Adam's original sin (Gen. 2:17; Rom. 6:23a, Eph. 2:1). Man is born physically alive but spiritually dead, possessing a sin nature and the imputed sin of Adam (1 Cor. 5:22a; Rom. 5:12).**

## The Doctrine of Death

- 3. Positional death is the believer's identification at the instant of justification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ separating the believer positionally forever from the old manner of life (Rom. 6:1–14; Col. 2:12).**
- 4. Carnal or temporal death describes the believer's temporary loss of fellowship with God which is the result of personal sin (Eph. 5:14) and the influence and control of his soul by the sin nature (Rom. 6:20–21).**

## The Doctrine of Death

5. Operational or sanctification death describes any form of Christian service apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit, not only are moral works produced that are “dead” spiritually, but the believer develops a “death-like” life, the opposite of the “abundant” or “eternal (quality, not quantity) life” promised for believers (John 10:10; Rom. 6:23; 1 Tim. 5:6; Heb. 6:1; James 2:26).

## **The Doctrine of Death**

**John 10:10, “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”**

**Rom. 6:23, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”**

**2 Cor. 7:10, “For godly sorrow (sorrow according to the standard of God) produces repentance leading to salvation (spiritual life, “phase 2”), not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.”**

## The Doctrine of Death

6. **Sexual death** describes the loss of sexual and procreational ability (Rom. 4:17, 21; Heb. 11:11, 12).
7. **Second death** is the perpetuation of spiritual death into eternity and eternal separation from God of the unbeliever in the lake of fire at the last judgment (Rev. 2:11).

Col. 2:11–12, “In Him you were also [spiritually] circumcised . . . , by putting off [*ekduo*] the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, [by being] buried with Him in baptism, . . . .”

Col. 2:20, “Therefore, if you died [and you did] with Christ ...”

Col. 3:1, “If then you were raised with Christ [and you were] ...”

Col. 3:3, “For you died [apothnesko], and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Col. 3:5, “**Therefore** put to death [nekroo] your members which are on the earth:”

Col. 3:8, “But now you yourselves are to put off [*apotithemi*] all these ...”

Col. 3:10–11, “[because you] have put on [*enduo*] the new man ... where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.”

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**Gal. 3:27, “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

**Gal. 3:28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”**

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**ἐνδύω (*endyō*),  
aor mid ind  
dress, clothe;**

**“Putting on Christ” happens simultaneously with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (cf., Col. 3:10, in contrast to “put off” in Col. 3:8, 3:9)**