

Series: *Colossians: The Supremacy and Sufficiency of Christ*

Part 2: *Living out the Sufficiency of Christ (chapters 3-4)*

Lesson: *All Wrapped up in Jesus, Part 1 - Our Hearts*

Text: Colossians 3:1-4 (L9)

Date: Sunday, March 11, 2012

*Colonial Hills
Baptist Church*

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 3 of Colossians introduces us to the second half of Paul's epistle to the Colossian believers. We could organize this entire epistle into two main parts:

- Part 1 – "Laying out the Sufficiency of Christ" (Chapters 1-2)
- Part 2 – "Living out the Sufficiency of Christ" (Chapters 3-4)

Paul's regular pattern is to form a foundation of doctrinal belief, and then build upon it a structure of disciplined behavior. From his pattern, we learn (1) that godly belief is intended to issue in godly behavior, and (2) that godly behavior must be grounded on godly belief. So, we should never move beyond Colossians 1-2; we should simply build upon it.

In Colossians 3-4, Paul is going to apply the key doctrinal consideration of the first two chapters—that is, the sufficiency of Christ—to our every day life. Specifically, he will teach us how to live out the sufficiency of Christ in the following areas:

- In our personal lives—both in our heart and in our behavior (3:1-11)
- In our relationship with the local church (3:12-17)
- In our relationship with our family (3:18-21)
- In our relationship with our daily work (3:22-4:1)
- In our relationship with the unbelieving community (4:2-6)

This week, we're going to look at just part of that first application—living out the sufficiency of Christ in our personal lives, namely in our heart. As we will see in the first four verses of Colossians 3, Paul's admonition can be summarized with one exhortation: "Wrap your heart up in Jesus Christ!"

**TO WRAP YOUR HEART UP IN JESUS CHRIST,
YOU MUST REMEMBER YOUR _____ (vv. 1a, 3).**

Paul uses three phrases to depict our position or identity as believers.

Application:

**TO WRAP YOUR HEART UP IN JESUS CHRIST,
YOU MUST MAINTAIN YOUR _____ (vv. 1b-2).**

1. *You must be _____ oriented.*

2. *You must be _____ oriented.*

Application:

**TO WRAP YOUR HEART UP IN JESUS CHRIST,
YOU MUST ANTICIPATE YOUR _____ (v. 4).**

Application:

CONCLUSION

The sufficiency of Christ will have no impact until it takes root in our hearts first. Sanctification will be slow, service will be stagnant, and evangelism will be ineffective until our hearts are all wrapped up in Jesus Christ. Therefore, may the Lord establish us in our position, convict us about our priorities, and remind us that our prospect is to see Jesus and to be made like Him—then our lives will be framed in a way that He desires.