

Focused on Jesus in 2026

Text: Colossians 3:1-3 (NASB)

¹ Therefore, if you have been raised with Christ, keep seeking the things *that are* above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things *that are* above, not on the things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

This phrase is a direct quote from Colossians 3:2 in the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible.

It serves as a central exhortation for believers to shift their internal focus and priorities from temporary, worldly concerns to eternal, spiritual realities.

Core Meaning and Context

Defining "Affection":

In the original Greek (*phroneō*), the word refers to more than just emotions; it means to direct the mind, to think, or to have a specific inner disposition. Modern translations often use the phrase "set your mind" to capture this active mental focus.

The Contrast:

The verse establishes a clear divide between "things above" (heavenly values like love, peace, and God's character) and "things on the earth" (materialism, status, or sinful behaviors).

The Foundation:

This command follows Colossians 3:1, which states that because believers are "risen with Christ," they should naturally seek the things where Christ is currently seated.

Practical Application in 2026

Living out this verse involves several intentional habits:

- 1) **Guarding Mental Input:** Actively filtering social media, entertainment, and conversations that prioritize temporary greed or anxiety over eternal peace.
- 2) **Renewing the Mind:** Engaging with Scripture and prayer to "recalibrate" your thoughts daily, similar to how a compass always returns to North.
- 3) **Seeking Eternal Impact:** Prioritizing actions that have lasting value, such as serving others and fostering a "patient heart," rather than chasing immediate gratification.
- 4) **Maintaining Balance:** Scholars note that being "heavenly minded" does not mean ignoring earthly responsibilities; rather, it means performing those duties (like work and family care) for the glory of God rather than for personal gain.
- 5) Would you like to explore specific Bible study methods or daily devotionals to help maintain this focus, or work on the memory verse every day?

Philippians 2:5 (KJV)

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

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Romans 15:3 (KJV)

For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

Matthew 11:29 (KJV)

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

I Peter 2:21 (KJV)

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

I Peter 4:1 (KJV)

Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

Ephesians 5:2 (KJV)

And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

Galatians 2:19-20 (NASB)

¹⁹ "For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live for God.

²⁰ "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION OF FAITH:

1. HEAR the GOSPEL ~ Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

2. BELIEVE ~ Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

3. REPENT ~ Luke 13:3

I tell you nay; but except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish.

4. CONFESS ~ Matthew 10:32-33

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

5. BE BAPTIZED ~ Acts 22:16

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.