

Awake My Soul and Sing

Service: 13/14 October 2018

In the sermon last weekend, we learned about what Christians are actually doing when they are singing during church services. The sermon is based on Colossians 3:15-17, showing us that singing helps us to praise God, to pray to God and also to proclaim the Gospel message of Christ. In this study, we will be looking closer at Colossians 3:12-17, and see what God has to say to us through Paul. Paul's command for Christians to sing is part of a larger argument that started in Colossians 3:1.

Introduction

Do you think there are different standards by society in general for those in royalty, particularly with regards to their behaviour? Should it be different? Why or why not?

Read Colossians 3:12-17

- 1) Paul starts this section by "therefore". What has Paul been saying before that? (v9-11)
 - a. How does Paul describe Christians in v12?
 - b. What are Christians supposed to clothe themselves with? (v12-13) Contrast that with the list found in Col 3:5, 8.
- 2) What are we called to put on over all these virtues? (v14)
 - a. How does that bind them all together in perfect unity? Can you have those virtues without that?
- 3) Why should we let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts? (v15) What kind of peace do you think Paul has in mind here? (feeling, status or relationships etc.?) (cf. v11)
- 4) How do we let the message of Christ dwell among us richly according to Paul? (v16)
 - a. How are we to teach and admonish one another? (v16)
 - b. Knowing that we are teaching and admonishing one another when we sing, how should that affect our song choices? What criteria should we have for song choices?
 - c. When should Christians be doing Q4a? All the time? Sometime? What hints does Paul give us in this passage? (v15)
- 5) In what way can we do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus in our school, workplace, social clubs or small group?
 - a. How would it look like in those environments, particularly secular places?
- 6) Paul mentions thankfulness/gratitude three times in these two verses. How can we be genuinely thankful without it becoming another checklist of "counting your blessings" that we have to "do"? (i.e. making it another legalistic practice)

Memory verse – Colossians 3:17 – "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."