



BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

You, or, The Rocks?

Sunday 21st September 2025

Colossians 2:13-15

There are so many things that can lead us to a place of worship and there are many things that can keep us away. But God is looking for someone as Jesus said in John 4:23,

1

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

God is looking for people to worship Him. Yes He wants to heal, to forgive, to redeem, to set free, to radically alter the direction of your life, and resolve your issues. **Everything He does is so you can bring everything you are to worship everything HE is.**

2

But we are so hard of heart and slow to give up everything in worship of Him that when He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey this is what He said in Luke 19:38-40,

3

“Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” **39** And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” **40** He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

God is going to be worshiped, either by you or the rocks. You might think one of the most silent parts of God’s creation are rocks. They just sit there and say/do nothing. And that’s precisely what Jesus was pointing at – **either my followers will worship me or the rocks will.** Clearly implying there’s no chance of a hard human heart of a Pharisee praising and worshiping me.

4

Someone once said to me ‘ministry is moving’. A statement that has long stuck with me as simple as it is true. It is moving people from a place of hardness to a place of all out worship. From, as Rick Warren says, *come and see* to *come and die*. Nothing in all of Scripture suggests you can make another person worship God but you can reveal the truth of God’s such that they cannot help but worship Him. Let’s see how, starting from **Colossians 2:13**,

5

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,

Paul reminds us we are either dead, or, we have been made alive. The deadness occurs as Paul says because of trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh. To put it another way, **a long record of wrongs and an inability to do right.**

The second half of the verse reminds us of the only way to be right; to be made alive, of which there are two inseparable parts:

1. Being made alive together with HIM as the Bible says in **Romans 8:11**,

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

2. He has forgiven us all our trespasses

Alive and forgiven is the state of the Christian. Before this new life, death is our only hope, as Paul says in **Romans 5:12**,

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned

So what has Jesus done with your sin? **Colossians 2:14**,

by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Christian, you have been set FREE! To the unbelievers you can be set free too!

Outside of Christ you will be crushed under a growing debt you cannot afford to pay. You say, but look at all the good and kind things I have done, is that not enough? No, it is not because God has always required a living perfect sacrifice to be made. From Genesis to Revelation no other sacrifice has been acceptable. Jesus was the living perfect Lamb of God who came to nail your sin to a cross in HIS body!

And now look at the result in **Colossians 2:15**,

He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

This victory did not happen through you but it happened IN Jesus Christ. God has done it all – it is FINISHED!!

So now, if you have called on His Name and believed in the power of His resurrection, you can as it says in **Romans 12:1**,

12

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

So, you either present your whole being in worship, or the rocks will cry out in worship.

13

Now you are free as it says in **Galatians 5:13**,

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

14

Your freedom is so you can serve others and worship God, not so you can fulfil your desires. **It's either going to be a desire to worship God or desires to feed my feelings.** Everything you have for everything He has done. You or the rocks. Which will it be?

If it will be all of you then let's see what that looks like. Remember Jesus said to count the cost BEFORE following Him. Worshipping Him with everything looks like this:

15

1. Rest (Exodus 20:8-10, Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God)
2. Work (Colossians 3:23, Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men)
3. Eat (Ecclesiastes 3:12, also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man)
4. Money (1 Corinthians 16:2, On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper)
5. Serving (Galatians 5:13b, Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.)