

# Sermon Reflections

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*Displaying Your Deliverance* (Colossians 3:5–17)

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**Summary:** Put off the godless trappings of worldly thinking and put on the affections, actions, and attitudes of God's redeemed people.

**Displaying your deliverance means you must have:**

## 1. The Right Affections (vv. 5–7)

- How does Colossians 3:5–17 build upon what has been discussed in the book prior to this passage?
- This passage has been referred to by some as “The Christian’s Wardrobe.” Why is attire a particularly fitting analogy for the believer’s life being one of killing sin’s cravings and passions as well as embracing right affections? What limitations should we apply to this analogy?
- In verse 5 and also in verses 8–9, we see particularly heinous sins juxtaposed with “general” sins. What purpose does this serve, especially considering the argument of Colossians up to this point?
- List things that garner your attention and passions, with specific examples. Why does your heart go to them? How do you determine which of these passions are godly? And, what can make a “neutral” pursuit either holy or unholy? What guides your decisions and equips your spiritual fight?

## 2. The Right Actions (vv. 8–11)

- In the context of sinful passions, why does Paul mention the five sins of verse 8? What do these five sins have in common? How are these five actions related to the lying discussed in verse 9?
- Who are you angry with, either in an ongoing or regularly occurring way? Why do you get angry with them (be specific—how does the Bible describe why you get angry with them)? Even if you do not show external anger, how do you internally get angry with people or situations?
- Why is it so difficult to control your tongue? How would others characterize your speech, if you were to ask them? Why do you lack the ability to change yourself? How can you gain victory over your tongue?

## 3. The Right Attitudes (vv. 12–14)

- Biblical love responds not with what is “deserved,” but thinks of others first, even doing the opposite of what is expected. What is the relationship between love and forgiveness? When are you most tempted not to show love? Why do we forget about the connection between the Gospel and our responsibility to show love? Why is it so easy to accept God’s love for us and yet so hard for us to extend love and forgiveness to others? Why are you not known to others as being as kind and patient as you should be?

## 4. The Right Allegiance (vv. 15–17)

- Verse 15 says to let Christ’s peace rule in your heart, verse 16 says to let Christ’s word dwell in you richly, and verse 17 says to do everything in our Lord Jesus’s name. How can you show your allegiance to Christ and submission to Him by: 1. submitting to His rule of peace, 2. allowing His word to dwell in you richly, and 3. doing everything in His name? What does #1–3 each look like? The sermon asked what you are known for—whether your anger, tongue, or love (or not); how does seeking your own reputation without regard to displaying Christ’s character undermine your professed allegiance to Him and His authority?

“The life of a Christian should be a meditation how to unloose his affections from inferior things...But this will never be, unless the soul see[s] something better than all things in the world...” —Richard Sibbes, *The Soul’s Conflict with Itself*