



COLOSSIANS

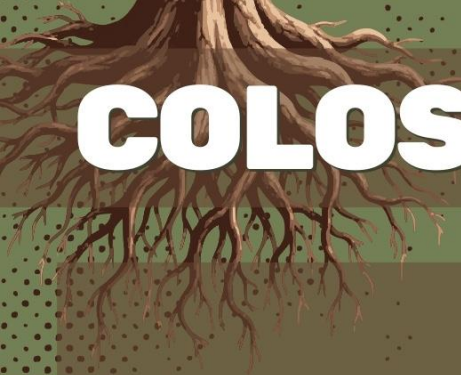
Rooted for Growth



COLOSSIANS

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The Supremacy of Christ & the Necessity of Maturity



COLOSSIANS *Rooted for Growth*

Chapter **3:22-4:1**

Context: 3:17

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Context: 3:18-19

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

18 Wives, submit to your
husbands, as is fitting in the
Lord.

Context: 3:18-19

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

18 Wives, submit to your
husbands, as is fitting in the
Lord.

19 Husbands, love your wives,
and do not be harsh with
them.

Context: 3:18-19

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

18 Wives, submit to your
husbands, as is fitting in the
Lord.

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and do not be harsh with
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Marriage

Context: 3:20-21

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

20 Children, obey your parents in
everything, for this pleases
the Lord.

Context: 3:20-21

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

20 Children, obey your parents in
everything, for this pleases
the Lord.

21 Fathers, do not provoke your
children, lest they become
discouraged.

Context: 3:20-21

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

20 Children, obey your parents in
everything, for this pleases
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children, lest they become
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Family

Context: 3:22-4:1

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
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22 Bondservants,

4:1 Masters,

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Work World

Context: 3:22-4:1

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22 Bondservants,

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Socio-economic World

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22 Bondservants,

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Socio-caste World

Context: 3:22-4:1

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed,
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Philemon

Socio-caste World

22 Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

25 For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

4:1 Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

5 **Bondservants**, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,

6 rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man,

7 knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or if free.

9 **Masters**, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that He who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with Him.

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22 **Bondservants**, obey in everything

4:1 **Masters**, treat your bondservants

Greek: doulos

Meaning: slave, bond-servant, bondslaves (both men and women)

1. Involuntarily servitude- a slave
(not uncommon in the 1st century Greco-Roman world, but not racially based)
2. Servitude of necessity- a bond-servant or an indentured servant (4-7 years)
3. Figuratively a voluntary, fully devoted servant

Whether involuntary or voluntary, a sense of subjection or subserviency, someone who belongs to another; a *bond-slave*, without *any ownership rights* of their own either permanently or temporarily.

Ironically, "doulos" is used with the *highest of dignity* in the New Testament – namely, of believers who *willingly* live under Christ's authority as His devoted followers.

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Was Paul passively endorsing 'slavery' as an acceptable institution of society?

Is it fair to apply this passage to our day in the employee / employer relationship?

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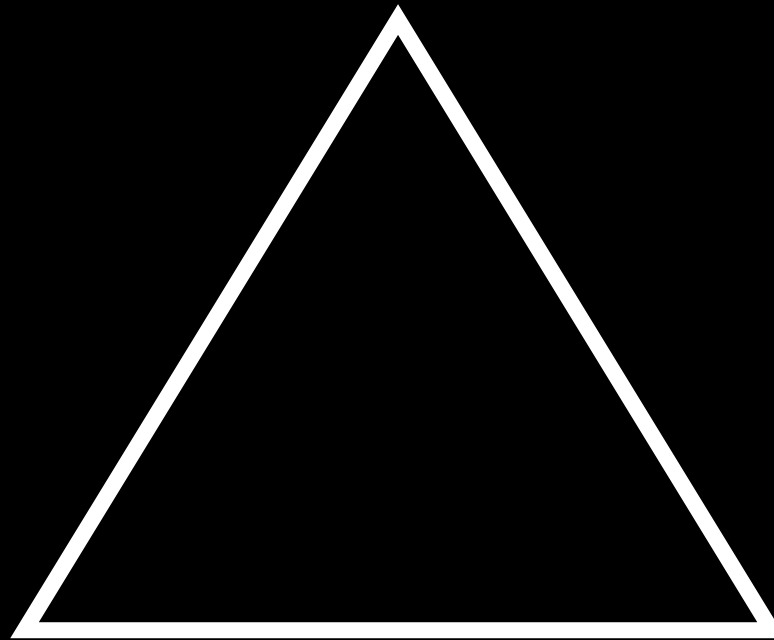
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Was Paul passive?

Position of society?

Is it fair to apply

to your relationship?



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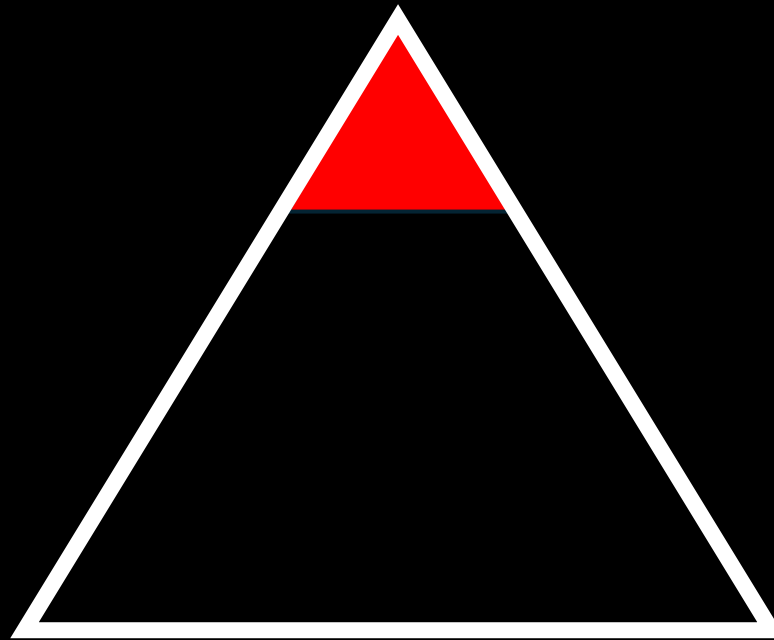
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God's Word in its original form.



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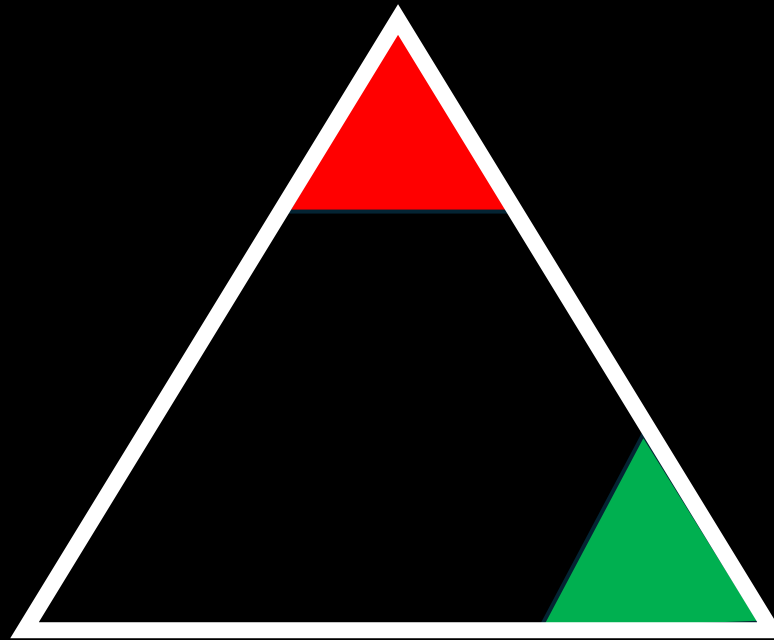
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**What
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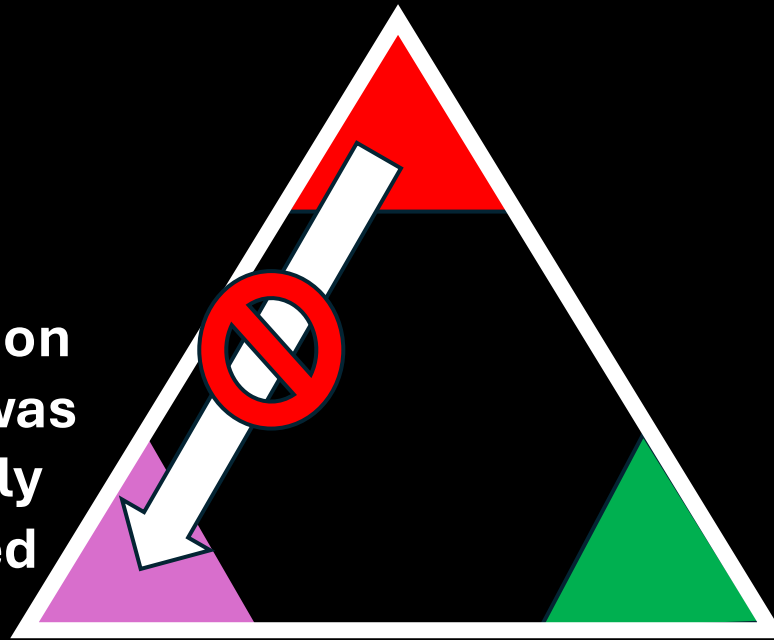
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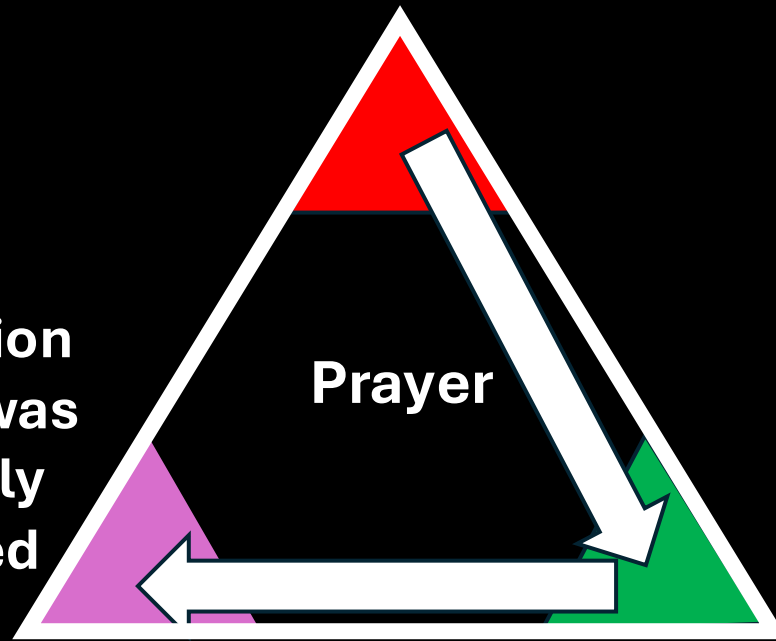
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How to relate to one another in a
one-up / one-down relationship
(not in personhood but in position)
which deals with authority and responsibility.

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The dynamics may be different
but the principles still apply.

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Romans 1:1

Paul, a **servant** of Christ Jesus,
called to be an apostle set apart for the gospel of God, ...

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23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

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You play for an “audience of one.”
Play your best,
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“The inheritance” that the Christian is called to live for is provided, is plentiful, and is eternal.

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Colossians 1:12-14

12 ...giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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I Peter 1:3-5

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again **to a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 **to an inheritance** that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

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No matter who you are, there are consequences for your actions. Feeling oppressed does not grant you the freedom to hypocritically oppress others.

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The person who is one-up has the responsibility to exercise justice and fairness towards those who are one-down in the injustice and unfairness of the world's broken system.

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Every person ultimately ought to be motivated by the fact that we all answer to God for what we do and what we say, whether he or she is in charge or under authority.

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So.....Therefore.....What Now



So.....Therefore.....What Now

1 Corinthians 7:17-24

¹⁷ Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him,
and to which God has called him.

This is my rule in all the churches.

¹⁸ Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised?

Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision.

Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised?

Let him not seek circumcision.

¹⁹ For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision,
but keeping the commandments of God.

²⁰ Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called.

So.....Therefore.....What Now

²¹ Were you a bondservant when called?

Do not be concerned about it.

(But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.)

²² For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord.

Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ.

²³ You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men.

²⁴ So, brothers, let him remain with God.

So.....Therefore.....What Now

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Closing Benediction

Joshua 24:14

**Now therefore fear the Lord
and serve Him
in sincerity
and
in faithfulness.**