

“Rules of Engagement”
4 Part Series 2
August 26, 2018

Scripture Text: Colossians 3:5-10

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. **6** Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. **7** You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. **8** But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. **9** Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices **10** and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

VERSE 5 *Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.* Since we know what event awaits us, God has given us grace and time to prepare our vessels for the Glory of His presence in Heaven. So, we live to redeem the time for only God knows the number of our days. Ephesians 5:15-16 “Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, **16** making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.” It’s time to down size and rid our ourselves of the clutter that hinders us from utilizing our precious time.

VERSE 6 *Because of these,* (living by the dictates of Human Nature) *the wrath of God is coming.* Jesus Has provided salvation for all through His death, burial and resurrection. For those who persist in living without boundaries and ignoring God’s plan for their redemption shall greatly suffer in the end.

Here is God’s Plan for you and me: John 3:16-18 NIV *For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. **17** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. **18** Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.*

Please, please stop resisting God’s will for your life. You know that He has been patiently waiting for you to just say, “Come into my heart and I will do your will! Please forgive me!” Anything less will not change your destiny!

VERSE 7 *You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.* As born-again believers, we desire to please the Lord in all that we do in His name. We know that what we do for Christ will last and everything else will go up in smoke. If we are going to walk with the Lord, it requires us to be Holy as He is Holy. The Bible says without holiness no man shall eye the Lord. Hebrews 12:14 NIV *Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:* Jesus said in John 14:27 “*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*”

Above all we have been called from a Holy God to be Holy! Holiness effects our character because it comes from the Holy Spirit of God. Holiness effects our life style as well. True Holiness will override the *I can’t help its!*

VERSE 8 *But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.* Christ has sent the Holy Spirit,

who gives us God's peace and as long as we allow Him; He will lead us into all truth. His peace will be realized!

If you and I can be comfortable as a Christian doing our own thing and grieve the Holy Spirit, [something within is sinfully wrong!](#) God can't and will not be glorified in our lives, as sinners look on and mock us.

VERSE 9 *Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices;* As parents, we try to persuade our children to tell the truth because we want them to be free of guilt and shame. Whether we lie or tell the truth there will be consequences to the course we choose. We have been called by TRUTH (Jesus) to be Truth Tellers no matter the cost. We know that to not tell the truth, God has a place all reserved for Liars and **you are not going to like the accommodations.** Read Revelations 21:8 to see if you are pre-approved.

VERSE 10 *and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.* When you and I invited Jesus to be our Lord and savior something happened within! I shall never forget the day. He touched me, Oh He touched me and Oh the joy that floods my soul. Something happened and I now know He touched and made me whole! My burden of sin was lifted, removed and I was sealed with the Holy Spirit to be led by the Holy Spirit!

APPLICATIONS:

Your direction will be determined by your focus.

You have the power to be an overcomer.