

# Do EVERYTHING Better for God

Pastor Tom Gang

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## FAR FROM EARTH AND NEAR TO GOD – COLOSSIANS 3:1-2

As born again believers we are engaged daily in a fierce \_\_\_\_\_ with the flesh, the world, and the devilish forces of evil—powers that are in the business of destroying our ability to *do every thing better for God*. Therefore, today we direct our attention to Colossians, an epistle pointed directly at us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century Laodicean church period. This is a sad time of \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity, obsession with civil rights and personal gratification (Rev. 3:14-16). The words *Laodicea* and *Laodiceans* appear only 7 times in scripture with \_\_\_ occurrences in this small letter. The name Colossians means *punishments*. The self-serving lukewarm Laodicean Christian will be punished at the judgment seat of Christ by suffering the loss of every reward except his own soul (1 Cor. 3:15; 2 Peter 2:6-8). However, found in today's text we see a godly formula that can launch us to \_\_\_\_\_ if we will simply trust and obey.

### 1. A simple formula for success – Colossians 3:1

#### a. If ye then be risen with Christ...

- If you are genuinely born again (if you are saved) – John 3:3, 7; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 1:19-20; Col. 2:12-13; Ro. 6:1-13; 10:9-13; 1 Pe. 1:23

#### b. Seek those things which are above...

- Where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God
- Seek – Pursue, hunt, chase after, look for, searching in order to obtain

### 2. Four \_\_\_\_\_ which are above:

#### a. The person of God – 1 John 5:7

- \_\_\_\_\_ him – Ex. 20:6; Deut. 6:5; Ps. 31:23; 97:10; 145:20; Ro. 8:28; 1 Pe. 1:8

#### b. The word of God – Psalm 119:89

- \_\_\_\_\_ him – Ro. 10:13-17; Jo. 15:1-5; 17:3, 20-26; Eph. 1:17-19

c. The throne of God – Rev. 4:1-2

- \_\_\_\_\_ him – Gen. 22:5; Ps. 97:7; Mt. 2:2; Jo. 4:23-24; Rev. 4:10; 5:13-14; 14:7

d. The people of God – Eph. 3:15

- Tell \_\_\_\_\_ about him and have a burden for the lost world – Pr. 11:30; Dan. 12:3; 1 Thess. 2:19; Jam. 5:20

3. Contrasting instructions for success – Colossians 3:2

a. Set your \_\_\_\_\_ on things above – verse 2a

- What to love:

The person of God, the word of God, the throne of God, and the people of God

b. Not on things on the earth – verse 2b

- What \_\_\_\_\_ to love:

Automobiles, Trucks, Boats, Homes, Real estate, Farm implements, Clothes, Games, Jobs, Sports, Baseball cards, Leisure, Collectables, Shoes, Televisions, Electronic devices, Phones, Time on phones, The internet, Swimsuits, Pornography, Immorality, Wigs, hairpieces and hairdos, Exercise equipment, Radios, Gadgets, Movies, Popcorn, Chocolate, Lawns, Mowers, Bicycles, Motorcycles, Guns and knives, Fishing, Fishing and Hunting equipment, Booze, Prescription Narcotics, Marijuana, THC, CBD, Cigarettes, Ammo, Trailers, Campers, Travel, Tires and Wheels, Ice cream, Paintings, Pictures, Selfies, Sculptures, Artwork, Cabins, Tools, Carpet, Books, Furniture, Jewelry, Problems, Chaos, Reasons to be bitter, Gold and Silver, Precious metals, Money, etc., etc., etc.

c. Keep your eyes open, always seeking the things \_\_\_\_\_ – 2 Cor. 4:18