

## KNOWLEDGE — THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE

- I. Seeking the things which are above:** If we are raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above—Col. 3:1:
- “If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.”**
- RAISED TOGETHER WITH CHRIST**
- SEEK THE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE**
- A. **Christ is sitting at the right hand of God:** In ascension Christ is the One who is sitting at the right hand of God—[Heb. 1:3; 12:2](#).
1. Preeminence : The right hand of God signifies preeminence, the first place of honor.
  2. The highest place in universe: The right hand of God is the first and highest place in the universe and God has given the preeminence and the highest honor in the entire universe to Christ—[Heb. 8:1](#).
- B. **We have the one position with Christ:** God not only saved us from the position of death, but He also seated us with Christ in the highest place in the universe—[Eph. 2:5-6](#).
1. Seat together in the heavenlies: It was in Christ that God seated us all together in the heavenlies.
  2. The moment we believed: This was accomplished when Christ ascended to the heavens, and it has been applied to us by the Spirit of Christ ever since we believed in Him.
  3. Confirmed in our spirit: Today we realize and experience this reality in our spirit through faith in the accomplished fact—[Eph. 2:8; Heb. 11:1](#).
- C. **The things in the heavens in contract to the things on the earth:** The things which are above are the things in the heavens, in contract to the thing which are on the earth—[Col 3: 1-2](#).
1. Lord’s things in the heavens: The things which are above include the ascended Christ and all things related to Him. ([heavenly things / spiritual things](#))
  2. Man’s things on the earth: The things on the earth include culture, religion, philosophy, and the improvement in behavior. ([earthly things / soulish things](#))
- D. **In Christ ascension, we can seek the things which are above:** Because we have one position with Christ in His ascension, we can seek the things which are above—[Eph. 2:6](#).
- E. **The things which are above include:** Christ’s ascension, His enthronement, and His being made the Head, the Lord, and the Christ.
1. Being made the Head, the Lord: God has made Jesus in His ascension both Lord and Christ; He was made the Lord of all to possess all; and He was made Christ, to carry out God’s commission—[Acts 2:36; Heb. 1:9](#).
  2. Being made the Head to the church (*Who He is*): He was made the Head over all things to the church—[Eph1:19-23](#).
    - To the church implies a kind of transmission.
  3. Lord’s heavenly ministry (*What He does*): The Lord Jesus has been crowned with glory and honor; He is the Pioneer, who has cut the way into glory within the veil; He is our High Priest and the Minister of the true tabernacle; and, as the enthroned One, He is the center of God’s administration according to God’s eternal economy—[Heb. 2:9, 6:19-20. 8:2; Rev 5:6](#).
  4. Set the mind on the things which are above: Such things are the things, which we should set our mind on them.
  5. Respond the things which are above: To seek the things which are above is to respond to and reflect Christ’s activities in His heavenly ministry.

### PREFACE — Limit God vs. Cooperate with God

God is “omnipotent”, but His “omnipotence” is limited because He needs to cooperate with the man with the will. How God’s will is done on the earth would be up to how we are willing to cooperate with Him. We must plead the Lord to give us the light that we can’t hinder God any more and know how to cooperate with Him.

## APPLICATION — THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE

II. **Seek the things which are above:** We need to turn to our spirit and experience the dividing of the soul from the spirit—Col. 3:2; Heb 4:12: **In order to seek the things which are above and to set our mind on them, we need to turn to our spirit and experience the dividing of the soul from the spirit.**

- EXERCISE: CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD / PRAY / PRAY-READ  
/ MUSING THE WORD OF GOD / SING TO OUR LORD
- A. **Need to turn to our spirit:** Only when we are in our spirit are we in heavens and mind the things which are above; when we are outside our spirit, we are earthly and mind the things which are on the earth— Col 3:2.
1. Seek the things which are above is to turn to our spirit and call on the name of the Lord; Prayer is the only way to have our mind set on the things which are above—Rom. 10:12.
  2. Receive the heavenly transmission: There is a transmission taking place from Christ in heaven to us on earth by means of the all-inclusive Spirit in our spirit—Eph. 1:19, 22.
    - Our spirit is the receiving end of the divine transmission, whereas the throne of God in heaven is the transmitting end
    - Because of the transmission from the throne of God in heaven into our spirit, when we experience and enjoy Christ here on earth, we are simultaneously in heaven—Rev. 4: 1-2.
- B. **Experience the dividing of the soul from the spirit which is the dividing of the heaven and earth:** We need to experience the dividing of the soul from the spirit—Heb. 4:12; Gen 1:6 note 2.
1. The difference of soul and spirit: the soul and the spirit are not the same but are two separate items—1 Thes. 5:23.
  2. Need to divide the soul from the spirit: The soul and the spirit can be divided because they are two entities and are of two kinds of substances.
  3. Divide by the word of God: The spirit is so hidden in the soul that it needs to be divided from the soul by the living and operative word of God, which is “sharper than any two-edged sword”.
  4. Two kinds of persons: the soulish man and the spiritual man.
    - The soulish man cannot understand or receive the spiritual things.
    - The spiritual man discerns the spiritual things and likes to receive the spiritual things and to know and experience the things which are above.
- C. **A reflection of Christ’s ministry in the heavens:** By experiencing the dividing of our soul from our spirit and by exercising our spirit, we can seek the things which are above and set our mind on them; then the riches of Christ’s heavenly ministry will be transmitted into us, and we will be transformed and constituted with Christ. The new man comes into existence in a practical way. The new man is produced by the heavenly traffic, transaction, and transfusion.
- Christ’s ministry in heavens is for the goal of building up the Body and forming His bride. However, Christ’s ministry requires our response. We need to become on the earth the reflection of the heavenly ministry. When we seek the things above, we respond to the Lord’s heavenly ministry and reflect it.**

## APPLICATION:

Prayer is the only way to have our mind set on the things in heaven. When we set our mind on things above by praying, we will not pray for trivial matters. Instead our prayer will be occupied with Christ’s heavenly intercession, ministry, and administration. Because Christ is interceding for the churches around the world, we also pray for the churches. When we set our mind on the things which are above during our times of prayer, we become a reflection of Christ’s ministry in the heavens.

## BURDEN:

Seeing a vision of the things which are above will revolutionize our daily living. It will cause us to turn our attention from the things on earth to the things in heaven. We should seek these things and set our mind on them. Then the riches of Christ’s heavenly ministry will be transmitted into us, and we will be transformed and constituted of Christ. The new man comes into existence in a practical way.

**KNOWLEDGE — THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE**

- I. Seeking the things which are above:** If we are raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above
- [Col 3:1] ... If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.”
- A. Christ is sitting at the right hand of God:**
- “The right hand of God” signifies preeminence, the first place of honor. God has given the preeminence and the highest honor in the entire universe to Christ.  
[Heb 8:1] ..who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
- B. We have the one position with Christ:**
- God not only saved us from the position of death, but He also seated us with Christ in the highest place in the universe.  
[Eph 2:5-6] Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ.... and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies
  - Today we realize and experience this reality in our spirit through faith in the accomplished fact.  
[Heb 11:1] Now faith is the substantiation of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
- C. The things in the heavens in contract to the things on the earth:**
- The things which are above include the ascended Christ and all things related to Him.
  - The things on the earth include culture, religion, philosophy, and the improvement in behavior.  
[Col 2:8] Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ.
- D. In Christ ascension, we can seek the things which are above:**
- E. The things which are above include: Christ’s ascension, His enthronement, and His being made the Head, the Lord, and the Christ.**  
[Acts 2:36] Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you have crucified.
- He was made the Lord of all to possess all; and He was made Christ, to carry out God’s commission.
  - Being made the Head to the church: He was made the Head over all things to the church.
  - He is our High Priest and the Minister of the true tabernacle; the center of God’s administration according to God’s eternal economy.

RAISED TOGETHER WITH CHRIST

SEEK THE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE

**APPLICATION — THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE**

- II. Seek the things which are above:** We need to turn to our spirit and experience the dividing of the soul from the spirit
- [Col 3:2] Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- A. Need to turn to our spirit:**
- The only way to seek the things which are above is to turn to our spirit, call on the name of the Lord, and pray-read the word.
  - Receive the heavenly transmission: There is a transmission taking place by means of the all-inclusive Spirit in our spirit.
  - Our spirit is the receiving end of the divine transmission, whereas the throne of God in heaven is the transmitting end.  
[Rom 10:12] Lord is ...rich to all who call upon Him;  
[Eph 1:19] And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength,
- B. Experience the dividing of the soul from the spirit which is the dividing of the heaven and earth:**
- The soul and the spirit are two separate items. The spirit is so hidden in the soul.
  - Divide by the word of God which is “sharper than any two-edged sword”.  
[Heb 4:12] For the word of God is living and operative and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit and of joints and marrow, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
  - Two kinds of persons: the soulish man and the spiritual man.  
[1Cor 2:14-15] But a soulish man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness.. But the spiritual man discerns all things
- C. A reflection of Christ’s ministry in the heavens:**
- By experiencing the dividing of our soul from our spirit and by exercising our spirit, we can seek the things which are above and set our mind on them; then the riches of Christ’s heavenly ministry will be transmitted into us, and we will be transformed and constituted into the new man.  
[2 Cor 3:18] But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.
- ★ Subject of this message:** Cooperating with the heavenly ministry of the ascended Christ.
- Christ’s ministry in heavens is for the goal of building up the Body, forming His bride, and issuing the kingdom. When we seek the things above, we respond to the Lord’s heavenly ministry and reflect it.  
[Col 3:10 -11] the new man,.... but Christ is all and in all.

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