Colossians 3:11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, foreigner, Scythian, slave or freeman, but Christ is all things in all. There is now no difference arising from different country or different condition and circumstance of life: it is as much the duty of the one as of the other to be holy, and as much the privilege of the one as of the other to receive from God the grace to be so.

Christ is all. Just 3 words but let's look just how rich they are. Actually this is the essence and substance of Christianity. How glad our hearts are if we agree, and see this and go along with this. But if we don't we can be sure we have a lot to still learn.

As we come to the end of our study on Holiness. We need to remember its Christ who we are aiming to be like. **Christ is all.**

We must grasp this for without an understanding of Christ. We will never realise holiness. A right knowledge of Christ is essential to have a right knowledge of sanctification as well as justification. He that follows after holiness will make no progress unless he gives to Christ His rightful place. The throne of Htheir heart FIRST place and makes Christ ALL

I. First of all, let us understand that *Christ is all, in all the counsels of God concerning man*

There was a time when this earth did not exist. Solid as the mountains look, vast as the sea appears, high as the stars in heaven look, —they once did not exist. And man, with all the high thoughts he now has of himself, was a creature unknown yet unformed.

And where was Christ then?

Even then Christ was "with God,"—and "was God,"—and was "equal with God." (John 1:1; Phil. 2:6.) Even then He was the beloved Son of the Father: "You have loved Me before *the* foundation of *the* world." — " (John 17:5, 24.) Even then He was the Savior "foreordained before the foundation of the world" (1 Peter 1:20), and believers were "chosen in Him." (Ephes. 1:4.)

There came a time when this earth was created in its present order. Sun, moon, and stars,—sea, land, and all their inhabitants, were called into being, and made

out of chaos and confusion. And, last of all, man was formed out of the dust of the ground.

And where was Christ then?

Hear what the Scripture says: "All things were made by Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made." (John 1:3.) "By Him were all things created, that are in heaven and that are in earth." (Colos. 1:16.) "And Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of Thine hands." (Heb. 1:10.)

"When He prepared the heavens, I was there: when He set a compass upon the face of the depth: when He established the clouds above: when He strengthened the foundations of the deep: when He gave to the sea His decree, that the waters should not pass His commandment: when He appointed the foundations of the earth: **then I was by Him,** as one brought up with Him." (Prov. 8:27–30.) This is who we worship the creator of all, Mighty in splendour.

There came a day when sin entered the world.—Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, and fell. They lost that holy nature in which they were first formed. They forfeited the friendship and favour of God, and became guilty, corrupt, helpless, hopeless sinners. Sin came as a barrier between them and their holy Father in heaven. If He Had He dealt with them according to their sin, there would have been no hope for them only death, hell, and everlasting ruin.

And where was Christ then? In that very day He was revealed to our trembling parents, as the only hope of salvation. The very day they fell, they were told that "the seed of the woman should yet bruise the serpent's head,"—that a Saviour born of a woman should overcome the devil and win for sinful man an entrance to eternal life. (Gen. 3:15.) Christ was held up as the true light of the world, in the very day of the fall; and never has any name been made known from that day by which souls could be saved, excepting His. There is no other name by which we can be saved.

Consider the state of the world. "The world, by wisdom, knew not God." (1 Cor. 1:21.) Except for a few despised Jews in a corner of the earth, the whole world was dead in ignorance and sin.

And what did Christ do then?

He left the glory He had had from all eternity with the Father, and came down into the earth to provide a salvation. He took our nature upon Him, and was born as a man. As a man He did the will of God perfectly, which we all had left undone: as a man He suffered on the cross the wrath of God which we ought to have suffered. He brought in everlasting righteousness for us. He redeemed us from the curse of a broken law. He opened a fountain for cleansing of all sin and uncleanness. He died for our sins. He rose again for our justification. He ascended to God's right hand, and there sat down, waiting till His enemies should be made His footstool. And there He sits now, offering salvation to all who will come to Him, interceding for all who believe in Him, and managing by God's appointment all that concerns the salvation of souls.

There is a time coming when sin shall be cast out from this world.—Wickedness shall not always flourish unpunished,—Satan shall not always reign,—creation shall not always groan, being burdened. There shall be a time of restitution of all things. There shall be a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness, and the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Rom. 8:22; Acts 3:21; 2 Pet. 3:13; Isa. 11:9.)

And where shall Christ be then? And what shall He do?

Christ Himself shall be King. He shall return to this earth, and make all things new. He shall come in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory, and the kingdoms of the world shall become His. The heathen shall be given to Him for His inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for His possession. To Him every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess that He is Lord. His dominion shall be an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. (Matt. 24:30; Rev. 11:15; Psalm 2:8; Phil. 2:10, 11; Dan. 7:14.)

There is a day coming when all men shall be judged. The sea shall give up the dead which are in it, and death and hell shall deliver up the dead which are in them. All

that sleep in the grave shall awake and come forth, and all shall be judged according to their works. (Rev. 20:13; Dan. 12:2.)

And where will Christ be then?

Christ Himself will be the Judge. "The Father hath committed all judgment unto the Son."—"When the Son of man shall come in His glory, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory:—and before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats."—"We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ: that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." (John 5:22; Matt. 25:32; 2 Cor. 5:10.)

We see How Mighty God is - How Holy He is - that He is so worthy of honour.

John 5:23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honours not the Son honours not the Father which hath sent him.

Some think it is enough to give Christ a *little* honour, —a *little* reverence, —a *little* respect. But as we see the eternal Lord, in creation, redemption, restitution, and judgment, —in all these, Christ is "all." Surely, we would be wise to take these to heart. They have not been revealed and written in vain. Christianity is about Living with Christ. Honouring Christ, worshiping Christ, fellowshipping with Christ. Knowing Christ is to know the Eternal Father who sent Him, Knowing Christ is Eternal Life. The Apostle Pauls Greatest Desire was that He may know Christ. the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us never forget, let us understand that "Christ is all" in the inspired books which make up the Bible

In every part of New and Old Testaments Christ is to be found, —All the old testament sacrifices were a type and a picture of the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the World. All the Judges, Joshua, and David, and Gideon, and Jephthah, and Samson, and all the rest whom God raised up to deliver Israel from captivity, —all were emblems of Christ. Yes, they were Weak and unstable and faulty. All were meant to remind the tribes of that far higher Deliverer who was yet to come. It was Christ of whom all the prophets from Isaiah to Malachi spoke.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his

shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. ISA 9:6. Then the Gospels are the Living Christ. Acts is Christ Preached.

Christ is the only key that will unlock the Word. Some people complain that they do not understand the Bible. And the reason is very simple. They do not use the key. To them the Bible is a mystery, just because they do not know and use the key. Christ is the thread through the whole bible from beginning to end. It was said of Spurgeon that he could take almost any bible verse and find Christ in it. It's with those eyes we live and move and have our being with those eyes we read Gods word. Ask yourself frequently what the Bible is to you? Is it a Bible in which you have found nothing more than good moral precepts and sound advice? Or is it a Bible in which you have found Christ? Is it a Bible in which "Christ is all"? If not, I tell you plainly, you have really used your Bible to very little purpose.

You are like a man who studies the solar system, and leaves out in his studies the sun, which is the centre of all. It is no wonder if you find your Bible a dull book!

By saying **Christ is All** we do not negate the working **of the trinity** of father and Holy Spirit. It is very clear that in the action of Election it is of the Father *Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.* 1Th 1:4 *But God who is rich in Mercy... Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ* Eph 2 4_5 and sanctification is by the Spirit. *2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:*

There is a perfect harmony and unison in the action of the three Persons of the Trinity. All three co-operate and work a joint work in his deliverance from sin and hell. The **Father** is merciful, the **Son** is merciful, the Holy Ghost is merciful. The same three who said at the beginning, "Let us create," said also, "Let us redeem and save." It is clear that everyone who reaches heaven will ascribe all the glory of their salvation to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three Persons in one God.

Yet it is very clear that in Scripture in the wisdom of the Trinity that Christ is specifically **The Lamb of God that taketh away the Sin of the World**, Christ is the living Word through whom the Love of God would be made known. He is the one

who died for the sin of man. Christ is the great cornerstone on which the whole plan of salvation rests. Christ is the Door through which sinners come to God. Christ is the root into which the elect sinners are engrafted into. Christ is the only way to the Father. It is CHRIST who always leads a soul to pardon and to peace. In short, we see in scripture. *Colossians 1:19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;*

I want my readers clearly to understand, that in saying "Christ is all," I do *not* mean to shut out the work of the Father and of the Spirit. Now let me show what I *do* mean.

Christ is *all - in a sinner's justification before God.* Through Him alone we have peace with a Holy God. By Him alone we can come into the presence of the Most High and stand there without fear. "We have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him." Ephes. 3:12

In Him we come pleading no other merit standing on no other ground than the fact that Christ died upon the cross for me. I trust Him and I believe Him. His name is the only name that can grant me entrance into heavens gate. If we come apart from Jesus Christ we are lost. We shall not be allowed to enter. The Mark of the Blood of Christ is the only mark that can save me. We can clearly see that Christ is all. We are saved by Grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Without Christ - separate from Him - you can do nothing. John 15:5.

No man can grow in Holiness unless he abides in Christ. Christ is the root from which every believer draws their strength. As a believer I must not only receive Christ Jesus as Lord but I must walk with Him and be rooted in Him Col 2:6-7

Do you desire to be Holy? Then Manna from heaven must be your daily food. Christ must be the rock from which you daily drink the living water. Do you want to be Holy then you must always be looking to Jesus. looking at His cross,—looking at His example, and taking Him for your pattern. Looking at Him, we become like Him. Looking at Him, your face would shine without your knowing it. Look less at yourself and more at Christ, and you will find troubling sins dropping off and leaving you, and your eyes enlightened more and more every day. 2 Cor 3:18

We never try to be Holy without Christ – we must come to christ first. He shall give us His santifieng Spirit. We must learn to say - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil. 4:13.)

Christ is all He is all our comfort in this present time. We all face many sorrows. We are all weak and frail we all face our share of bereavements, deaths, disappointments, crosses. We have the world to oppose,— unconverted relatives to bear with patiently,—persecutions to endure,—and a death to die.

And who is sufficient for these things? What shall give strength to a believer to bear all this? Nothing but "the consolation there is in Christ." (Phil. 2:1.)

Our Lord is the God of all comfort—there is no sympathy like the sympathy of Christ. Our Lord says to us fear not I am your salvation. He is the reason we are Patient—We expectantly look forward to His coming. To His treasure in heaven for good things yet to come. This world is not my eternal home—Christ is coming—and that is such a comfort. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Hebrews 10:37 Let us all learn and strive to do so more and more. Let us lean on Him, let us rest in Him, Let us call on Him, Let us abide in Him.

By doing so, our lives will prove that we fully realize that "Christ is all." By doing so, we shall feel great peace, and attain more of that "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14.)