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Resolution – “a firm decision to do or not to do something.”

Goal – “the result toward which effort is directed.”

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son (Romans 8:29a).

God's Goals for You This Hour, This Day,
This Year. . .

Colossians 3:1-17

Goal #1: Be Mindful of Who You Are
in Christ

Colossians 3:1-4

I. God calls us to understand who we are in Christ. (v.1a)

“The term *in Christ* is the apostle Paul’s shorthand expression for being united to Christ. It is one of Paul’s favorite expressions, and (including similar expressions such as *in him* or *in the Lord*) Paul uses it more than 160 times in his letters.

Clearly this is an important concept in Paul's theology. And it should be an important concept for us because all the remaining answers to the question, 'Who am I?', are based upon the fact that we are in Christ, or we are united to Christ."

- Jerry Bridges

Paul describes our being united to Christ in 3 ways:

you have been raised with Christ (v.1)

Paul describes our being united to Christ in 3 ways:

you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God (v.3).

Also in 2:20: with Christ you died (2:20)

Paul describes our being united to Christ in 3 ways:

Christ who is your life (v.4)

II. God calls us to live like who we are in
Christ. (vv.1b-4)

We must stay focused on Christ. (v.1)

*If then you have been raised with Christ,
seek the things that are above, where Christ
is, seated at the right hand of God. (v.1)*

“The goal, the pursuit, what we are after is Christ – to know Him, to walk with Him, to have Him shape us, to have Him chisel away at us . . . to have Him create in us a joy of salvation given to us by Him.”

- Matt Chandler

We must set our minds on the right things
and not the wrong things. (v.2)

*Set your minds on things that are above, not
on things that are on earth. (v.2)*