Introduction

- 1. Colossians 3:17
- 2. All that we do there is a set of rules:
 - a. Ball games football and baseball
 - b. Driving
 - c. Cooking
 - d. Math
 - e. This is also true of religion
- 3. The theme of Colossians is the preeminent position of Christ
 - a. He is head of the church Colossians 1:18.
 - b. God gives us reason to respect the Lordship of His Son Philippians 2:5ff
- 4. The "Lord's Name" emphasizes His authority.
 - a. Remission of sins is "in His name" Luke 24:46-47; Acts 2:38, 10:48
 - b. Salvation is in His name Acts 4:12.
 - c. Miracles were done by His authority Acts 3:6; 16:18
 - d. He has all authority now. Matthew 28:18
- 5. We want to show that Christ should have preeminence and where we are to be concerned with His rule.

II Discussion

- 1. Where is Christ Preeminent?
 - a. In the Kingdom for He is King. Colossians 1:12-14
 - b. In the universe for He created and controls it. Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-3
 - c. In the Church Colossians 1:18
 - i. He is the Head. 1:18 Ephesians 1:22-23
 - ii. Elders have been given authority 1 Timothy 5:17; Hebrews 13:15
 - iii. This is only in matters of expediency Acts 14:23; 15:2; 20:17; Titus 1:5
 - iv. It is wrong to refuse to attend services designed for "feeding the flock" Acts 20:28
- 2. Since Christ has the highest position and He has all authority we must listen to Him in these areas:
 - a. Morals Colossians 3:5-17
 - i. The morality of today is based on a false premise, "love is the standard for right and wrong."
 - 1. What is the standard for love?
 - 2. What is a loving act?
 - ii. The word of Christ is the standard of right and wrong Colossians 3:17
 - iii. Morality is based on authority
 - 1. Right and wrong are not determined by man's desire but God's declaration Romans 13:9.
 - 2. God created us and He set up the rules!

- 3. Immorality is disobedience Colossians 3:5-9
- b. In Worship
 - i. Singing, a specific act, can be done correctly only following His way. Colossians 3:16-17
 - 1. The only instrument authorized is the heart of man Ephesians 5:19.
 - 2. To go beyond this is transgression and is sin. 1 John 3:4
 - ii. The Lord's Supper must be observed by the authority of Christ 1 Corinthians 11:23 (Note: received of the Lord what I delivered)
 - 1. This is to be done in the assembly 1 Corinthians 11:33
 - 2. The assembly is on the first day of the week Acts 20:7.
 - iii. Giving must be done by the Lord's authority 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 (given orders). 1 Corinthians 14:37
 - iv. Preaching must be by the authority of Christ 2 Timothy 4:1-2; 3:16-17
 - v. Praying must by His authority John 14:13-14.

III Conclusion

- 1. Mankind cannot be saved without calling on the name of the Lord Romans 10:13-17
 - a. Recognize His authority
 - b. By recognizing His authority one will obey the Gospel Romans 10:16
 - 3. The Christian life is one of obedience. Philippians 2:11-16
 - a. Work out your own salvation by obeying
 - b. Keep working by continuing obeying.
 - 4. Come now

Sources: Complete in Christ Sermon outlines from Colossians by Tom Holland; Matthew Henry