

A New Direction-Part 1
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Colossians 3: 5-11-NIV

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.

8 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices

10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

The new life within demands a new life without.

Verse 7-says, *you used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.*

Passion - *That's how you once behaved, characterized by your evil deeds.*

2Peter 1:3-11-NIV

3 His divine power has given us **everything we need for a godly life** through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may **participate in the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Passion - Everything we could ever need for life and complete devotion to God has already been deposited in us by his divine power.

- a. faith (saving faith) – goodness: integrity, virtues of courage, nobleness, and moral valor.
- b. goodness, (virtue) knowledge: understanding or moral discernment.
- c. temperance: strength of self-control.
- d. Self-control leads to patience, or endurance.
- e. patience - godliness; this word means "reverence" by having "right worship" or a dependence on God that reveals itself in a devoted life.
- f. "Brotherly kindness" or "mercy" is the next virtue, meaning a love for the people of God.
- g. The final virtue Peter names is **charity, or unending love**, which "wraps" all the virtues **together into one**.

Passion – verse 8 - ...since these virtues are already *planted* deep within, and you possess them in abundant supply, they will keep you from being inactive or fruitless in your pursuit of knowing Jesus Christ more intimately.

verse 9 of 2 Peter 1: *...But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.*

Passion - *...he is blind, constantly closing his eyes to the mysteries of our faith, and forgetting his innocence—for his past sins have been washed away.*

Hebrews 12:1-AMP

...let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us,

Passion - So, we must let go of **every wound that has pierced us and the sin we so easily fall into**. Then we will be able to run life's marathon race with passion and determination, for the path has been already marked out before us.

Colossians 3:9-10- ...since **you have taken off your old self with its practices...**

10 and have **put on the new self**, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Passion - For you have acquired new creation life which is continually being renewed into the likeness of the One who created you; giving you the full revelation of God.

Colossians 3:8 in the Passion says,

But now it's time to eliminate them from your lives once and for all—anger, fits of rage, all forms of hatred, cursing, filthy speech, and lying. Lay aside your old Adam-self with its masquerade and disguise.