

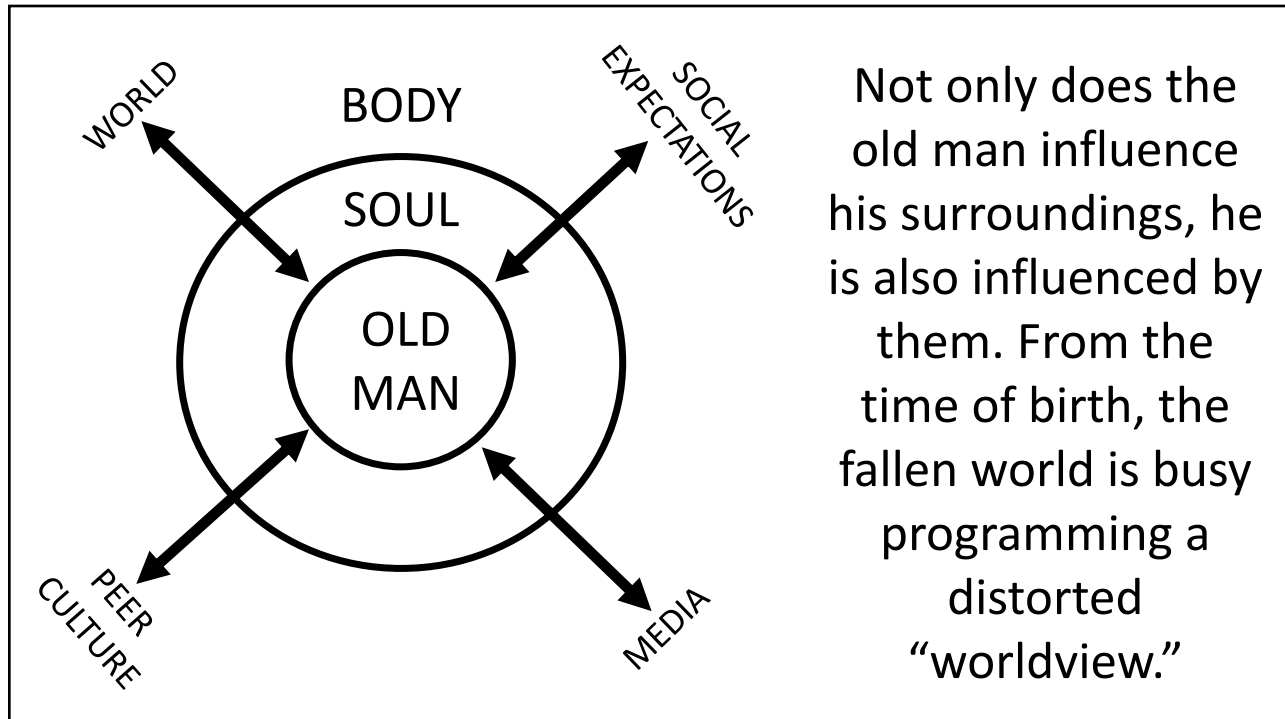
Colossians 3:18-4:1
Relationships of the New Man

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Introduction

The “Old Man” is cut off from God and others. His life centers on himself, often at the expense of others. This old man overflows into the relationships of the home and society which create division and discord.

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Introduction

The sin nature causes people to rebel against the roles and design of God in the family. The root of the problem rests in our selfish sinful attitude that seeks to exalt ourselves. Our old nature wants to be the center of the universe. God’s plan and purpose is violently attacked and intentionally undermined from every angle in society.

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Introduction

Dad is portrayed as a bumbling idiot in many TV shows where the disrespectful daughter saves the day after she has showed utter disrespect for her parents. Too many parents fail to see that media is actively undermining the family. Our young people are modeling the bad behavior they see in media, repeating the phrases and attitudes portrayed by the “heroes” of the program only to be confused when they find themselves in trouble for doing the same.

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Introduction

Right and Wrong are no longer being defined by a set moral standards decreed by God. Man has thrown off God’s rules and restraints and have exalted themselves as the ones who decided right and wrong. The roles and very definition of marriage and one’s sexual identity are being rewritten by society.

Listen to Isaiah’s warning:

Isaiah 5:20-21

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! ²¹Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes,
And prudent in their own sight!

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Introduction

Our society and government calls evil good and good evil. These ideas have crept into our schools and directly challenged God's truth with regard to sex and identity, and what is right and wrong.

The institution of marriage is under attack. God was the one who designed and initiated marriage back in the Garden of Eden. It was between a man and a woman for life. God designed sex, but it was to only to be exercised within the bonds of marriage.

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Introduction

Society has taken it upon themselves to redefine the institution of marriage. Today, I feel that those who are not eligible to be married are the ones who are fighting to get married, and those who should be getting married have no desire to do so.

Society has programed our society to believe that sex is not restricted to marriage. Sex has become the basis of dating and one would be hard pressed to find a movie or TV show that does not actively promote promiscuity and the LGBTQ agenda.

Marriage and God's design for the family is being labeled archaic. Single parent families are on the rise, many intentionally so. Government is stepping in as the savior to take care and meet the needs of the children.

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Introduction

While society fights for woman's rights, society also actively fights to degrade and exploit them.

God designed women to be loved, valued, cherished and protected. The depraved culture in which we live teaches that woman are to be used as physical objects of temporal gratification to be used and discarded. Pornography contaminates the minds of our young men and women and reinforces the teachings of society. In dating, couples move from relationship to relationship practicing serial polygamy without the intent to settle down. This is true even in the Christian community.

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Introduction

Believers need to carefully examine who they are allowing to define their identity.

God knew us from before the foundation of the world. He has a plan and purpose that He wants us to accomplish, and He designed us and gave us the abilities to accomplish His purpose.

We are made just the way He wanted. There are no mistakes.

When we accepted Jesus as our Savior, He restored our souls and placed His Spirit in us. We have been bought with a price, adopted into God's family, and given an indescribable future that we do not deserve.

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Introduction

Paul has pleaded with us to remove the clothing and practices of the old man. We must evaluate our thinking, values, principles, and goals in every area of our lives. We need to build a Biblical Worldview to see the world, ourselves, and every situation from God's point of view.

We are in the world, but we are not to be of the world. We are to be different for God as called us from the things that had controlled us and our thinking before we were saved. Now we are to be controlled by God's Word and Spirit.

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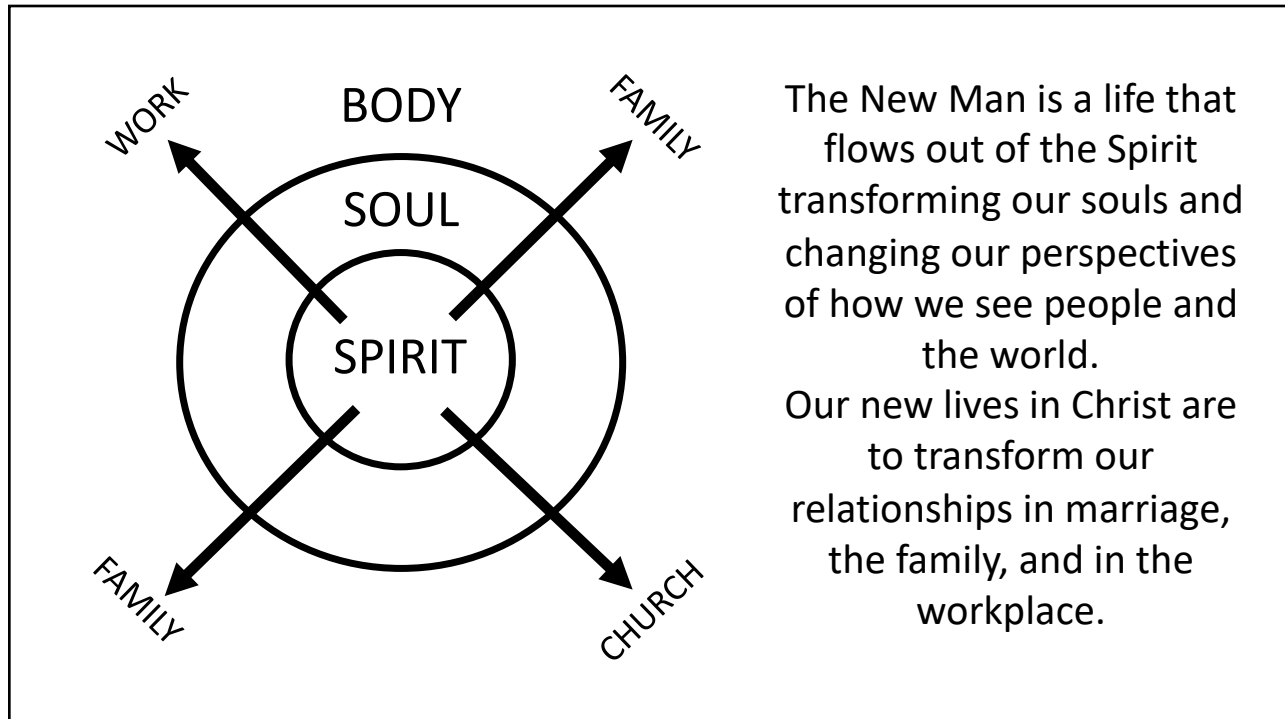
Introduction

You may be wondering, why such a prolonged introduction...

We are moving into a section in which God states His role in marriage, parenting, and the workplace. Many react and reject what God is saying without comprehending that they are tripping over their worldly programming.

Let's take a look at what Paul is trying to tell us.

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Colossians 3:18-4:1

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

²⁰ Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the

Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. ²² Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according

to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. ²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord

and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. ²⁵ But he who

does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality. ⁴ Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair,

knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

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Homework...

This coming week:

- Pray that God will give you a receptive heart to hear his truth.
- Don't sit in front of the TV with your mind turned off. Carefully evaluate what you are watching. What is it teaching? What is the agenda of the writers?
- Spend some quiet time alone with God and let the Spirit help you evaluate your worldview. Is it based in the Bible or in teachings of Society?
- Come back next week as carefully take these verses apart to see what God through Paul is really teaching!