

SERMON STARTERS

THE BELIEVER'S BIRTHMARKS Colossians 3:1-4

"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."

Do you have a physical birthmark? Do you have any spiritual birthmarks? All who are born again *must* have spiritual birthmarks – visible evidence that they have passed from death to life, from darkness to light. There are many such marks in the Bible. Three of them are found in Col. 3:1-4. Note:

BIRTHMARK #1 - We are a <u>New Person</u> - We have been raised - That is a past action. "If then you were raised with Christ...."

What we have: a new life. Rom. 6:4; Gal. 2:20

What we are: a new creation. II Cor. 5:18

BIRTHMARK #2 – We have a <u>New Pursuit</u> - We are seekers - That is a present activity. "seek those things which are above...."

What we shun - Col. 3:5-10

What we seek - Col 3:12-17

BIRTHMARK #3 – We have a **New Passion** - We are focused - That is a Permanent Attitude.

"Set your mind on things above...."

We are focused on the Person of Christ. V.1

We are focused on the Prospect in Christ. V. 4

Our physical birthmarks may not be showing, however, our spiritual birthmarks should be obvious! Spiritual birthmarks are evidences that you have been born again!