

Complete in Christ

Colossians 2:8-15

Christ is all the believer needs

A. Our Complete Savior (2:8-10)

1. His complete doctrine (2:8) – Be aware of ...

a. Philosophy and vain deceit

1) Philosophy = love of wisdom

2 Timothy 3:7

2) Deceit = To lead away from the truth

1 Timothy 6:20

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A. Our Complete Savior (2:8-10) - continued

1. His complete doctrine (2:8) – Be aware of ...

b. Tradition of men

1). Wrong tradition - Substitute for God

Mark 7:5, 7:7

2). Good tradition - Aligned with God's will

2 Thessalonians 2:15, 3:6

c. Rudiments of the world – Worldly fundamentals

2 Peter 3:10-12

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A. Our Complete Savior (2:8-10) - continued

2. His complete deity (2:9)

a. In power

Matthew 9:6, Matthew 28:18

b. In judgment

Matthew 25:31-32

c. In righteousness

2 Timothy 4:8, Hebrews 13:21,

Revelation 5:12-14

3. His complete dominion (2:10)

Isaiah 45:23, Romans 14:11, Philippians 2:10

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B. Our Complete Salvation (2:11-15)

1. Complete acceptance (2:11)

**a. By God for Christ's sake through the
"circumcision made without hands"**

**b. An outward change based on an inward
conversion**

Deuteronomy 30:6

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B. Our Complete Salvation (2:11-15) - continued

2. Complete identification (2:12-13a)

a. Through His crucifixion

Galatians 2:20, Romans 6:6

b. Through His burial

Romans 6:4, Romans 6: 11

c. Through His resurrection

2 Corinthians 5:17

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B. Our Complete Salvation (2:11-15) - continued

3. Complete forgiveness (2:13b-14)

a. *Forgiven=Charisamenos*

Forgiven, pardoned, remitted through grace

b. How many of our trespasses are forgiven?

All past, present, and future

c. How are they forgiven?

“blotted out” - A picture of the cross

Galatians 3:22-24

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Colossians 2:16-17

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B. Our Complete Salvation (2:11-15) - continued

4. Complete victory (2:15)

a. Christ's *spoil* of "principalities and powers"

b. Christ the conqueror

1 Corinthians 15:57-58

What Really Matters, and What Doesn't

Colossians 2:16-23

Christ gives freedom and fullness of life

Colossians 2:16-23

16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:

17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Colossians 2:16-23 - continued

20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,

21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not;

22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men?

23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body: not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

I. The Emptiness of Religion (2:16-23)

A. Legalism (vv 16-17)

1. Let no man judge you in accordance with the Old Testament law with respect to:

a. meat (Clean/unclean - Leviticus 11)

b. drink

c. respect of an holy day

d. new moon

1) Represent beginning of months

Numbers 10:10, 28:11; 1 Samuel 20:18

e. Sabbath days

Exodus 20:8

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Ephesians 4:24
And that ye put on the
new man, which after
God is created in
righteousness and
true holiness.

I. The Emptiness of Religion (2:16-23)

A. Legalism (vv 16-17) - continued

2. Legalism leads to hypocrisy

Isaiah 1:10-14

10 Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

11 To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the Lord: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

I. The Emptiness of Religion (2:16-23)

A. Legalism (vv 16-17) - continued

2. Legalism leads to hypocrisy

Isaiah 1:10-14 - continued

12 When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?

13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

I. The Emptiness of Religion (2:16-23)

A. Legalism (vv 16-17) - continued

3. Legalism leads to the “way of Cain”

Jude 11-13

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

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13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

I. The Emptiness of Religion (2:16-23)

A. Legalism (vv 16-17) - continued

3. Legalism leads to the “way of Cain”

Error - Salvation by works instead of grace

4. The law is a “shadow” - Not the real thing (v 17)

Hebrews 10:1

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

I. The Emptiness of Religion (2:16-23)

B. Mysticism of the Gnostics (vv 18-19)

- a. Don't let the Gnostics cheat you out of your reward by following their way**
- b. Gnostics believed you could not approach God directly, but indirectly through the spirit medium
Leads to a false humility (v 18)**
- c. Gnostics missed the mark of Christ (v 19)**

I. The Emptiness of Religion (2:16-23)

C. Asceticism (vv 20-23)

- 1. Living a life of denial instead of being dead to the “old man” (vv 20-21)**
 - a. Touch not**
 - b. Taste not**
 - c. Handle not**
- 2. Wrong doctrine which will perish (v 22)**
- 3. Gives a false appearance of being devout and false sense of security due to a wrong motive (v 23)**

II. The Excellence of Christ (2:17, 19)

A. Christ fulfilled the law (v 17)

Galatians 2:16, 21

16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

Galatians 4:23

But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.

II. The Excellence of Christ (2:17, 19)

B. Christ fills the life (v 19)

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

**What Is The Basis
For Your Faith?**