

Christ Revealed through Colossians

Colossians chapter 2

Opening: In our last study we saw how the gospel was working in the life of the Colossians, the place of Christ in the work of Creation and in Redemption, and how we can have the “hope of Glory” with Christ living in us.

1. **Burden to share the precious friend who is found in Jesus (v.1-3)**
 - a. Evidence that Christ is living in the heart. *“No sooner is one converted than there is born within him a desire to make known to others what a precious friend he has found in Jesus. The saving and sanctifying truth cannot be shut up in his heart.”* --**The Desire of Ages, p. 141.**
 - b. “hearts comforted/encouraged” **“being knit together in love”** “riches of the FULL ASSURANCE” “acknowledge mystery of God” (plan of salvation)
 - c. (v.3) “are **hid** all the treasures...”
 - i. “seek and you will find” (**Matt. 7:7**) **“rewarder of them that diligently seek Him...”** (**Hebrews 11:6**) “if you lack wisdom, ask...” (James 1:5)
 - ii. God knows everything. He will teach us...throughout all eternity...always more.
2. **Christians exhorted to stay on the path to life (v.4-7)**
 - a. “this I say lest...” (don’t be turned away by deceitful words of worldly men) **Christ is the true source of all wisdom and knowledge.** (The Devil always works to attack faith—Garden of Eden “tree to make one wise”...Evolution today)—*He likes to insinuate doubts, “Ye shall not surely die...for God does know...”*
 - b. True Christians always have the upper hand to the world (**Daniel 1:17, 20; 2:11,17,18**) (we have prophetic guidance and a God who lives and speaks)
 - c. “absent in the flesh...” (not in person, but in heart) “good order” “steadfastness”
 - d. “as received, so walk ye in Him...” (v.6) —according to the truth given in the word; a life of prayer and seeking after Christ like at the first. (continual surrender/die daily from self to serve Christ and His will) Be sure of your salvation “work out your own salvation w/fear...”(Philippians 2:12)
 - e. “rooted” and “built up” **IN HIM** (foundation and growth) “established in faith” “abounding!!!!”
3. **Beware of worldly sentiments and vain deceit which leads you from the Hope in Christ (v.8-10)**
 - a. “Philosophy and vain deceit” (Evolution, worldly thinking, Greek philosophies, etc—Paul’s day and our day)
 - b. “rudiments of the world” (godlessness. Selfishness, pride, lust, worldly honor/pleasure, sacrifice of principle, competition—all sorts of wickedness)
 - c. **What are some of the biggest ways Satan is spreading his worldly philosophies today?** (worldly music, books, videos, satanic/violent worldly video games—worldly philosophies also taught through worldly educational systems—like in Daniel’s day.
 - d. **BEWARE!!!!—no joke or light matter!** Your Eternal life is at Stake!!! “not after Christ”
 - e. Jesus and these wicked things cannot go together—they are contrary! (**1 John 2:15-17**)
 - f. **What should we do about it? (Acts 19:19, 20)** (when you dump and burn the idols, Christ’s presence fills your life)
 - g. (v.9) Christ is HOLY—He is fully God (as in Col.1:19)
4. **Cutting off the sinful flesh in Christ—Baptism a symbol (v.11-13)**

- a. Separating the sinner from the sin. (washed and cleansed)
 - b. Died, buried w/Him, bringing you up to “abundant life” (**John 10:10**). (some people think that Christ is just out to take away all our fun. NO. NO. NO. He wants to give you a **new heart** so that you HATE THE OLD evil things you used to love, and **you will love the good things** He offers which give you a life of true fulfillment here and now—and in the world to come—eternal life!!
 - c. **Baptism is like circumcision, only for the new Covenant. (a sign of the faith we have in Christ).** It is by immersion. **Is it necessary? Is God specific as to how it’s done?** (What did God say about circumcision? Gen. 17:14) “God is the same yesterday, today, and...”
 - d. Christ “freely forgives...” (He died to forgive sinners—people who don’t deserve it)
- 5. A shadow of things to come? (v.14-17)**
- a. **Is God’s Law or the Sabbath “against us”?**
 - i. “the law of the Lord is perfect converting the soul” (Ps. 19:7)
 - ii. “he who keeps the Law, happy is he” (Prov. 29:18)
 - iii. “honor thy father and thy mother, **that thy days may be long...**” (Ex. 20:12)
 - iv. **“The Sabbath was made FOR man...”** (Mark 2:27)
 - v. “this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments, and...” (1 John 5:3)
 - vi. “length of days, and long life, and peace shall they add to thee...” (**Proverbs 3:1-3**)
 - b. The Old Covenant. Words written as a “witness against” the Children of Israel (**Deuteronomy 31:16, 19, 24-26**)
 - c. Food and drink offerings on Feast days, new moons, and annual Sabbaths (**1 Chronicles 23:29-31**) (This, as well as the sacrifices, were all part of the Sanctuary service which “foreshadowed Christ” and His ministry). The New Covenant Reality has taken the place of the old.
 - d. See **Hebrews 8:5 “shadow of...” 9:1,8-11 “ordinances” “meats and drinks” 10:1, 4 “shadow of good things to come” “not possible for blood of bulls and goats...”**
 - e. **Are the Ten Commandments still part of the NEW Covenant? (Hebrews 10:16)**
 - f. (v.15) Christ conquered Satan at the Cross because He actually fulfilled the types and shed **the only blood that could atone for sin** (Rev. 12:10, 11)
- 6. Be not turned aside to strange teachings and weird ideas that have no Biblical foundation (v.18, 19)**
(angel worship, aliens, etc.—Heaven’s gate cult, David Koresh, Jim Jones, etc.) Stick with Christ!
(attention must be kept on Him, not on some earthly leader)
- 7. Being in the world, but not of it (v.20-23)**
- a. Not to be partakers of the “rudiments,” ideologies, and evil pleasures of the world.
 - b. But to be good citizens, Ambassadors/diplomats for Christ.
 - c. Jesus prayed for us to be “in the world, but not of it” (John 17:14,15)

This chapter is very much about receiving Christ, and staying a Christian by PUTTING AWAY the things (“rudiments/philosophies”) of the world that would destroy godly desires from our hearts.

Words for My Heart:

Is it your desire to be a Christian, to put away the world— having peace now, and the assurance of eternal life to come? _____ (“being in the world, but not of it”?)