LEARNING THE GOSPEL BY PASTOR EPHAPRAS

"THEY ARE OF NO VALUE" COLOSSIANS 2:20-23

Colossians 2:20-23 (ESV)

- ²⁰ If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—
- ²¹ "Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch"
- ²² (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings?
- These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting selfmade religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.

1. The **Essence** of Religion:

Isa 29:13 and Mark 7:7 (vs.20,21)

Can We?

[Improving on what God said: Gen 2:17 "in the day you eat it" and Genesis 3:3 ...do not touch it"]

2. The Expression of Devotion: (vs.22) "Why"

False teaching on devotion:

- 1. Poverty as a means of spiritual advancement
- 2. Materialism is not always "God's blessings
- 3. Prosperity is prohibited for believers:
- 4. Guilt for sins never committed;

1 Corinth 6:13

3. The Exercise of Self-Control: (vs.23)

5 The Essentials

- 1. EVERYDAY in the Word: Hebrews 4:12
- 2. EVERYDAY in prayer: 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- 3. EVERYDAY give out the Gospel: (Life, literature, living) Rom 1:16
- 4. EVERYDAY opportunity Give: 2 Corinth 8:3
- 5. EVERYDAY Serve someone in Jesus' Name: Malachi 3:18