

## GOD'S WISDOM OR MAN'S WISDOM

(Colossians 2:6–15)

### WHAT IS TRUE, AND WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS DO?

Christ delivered you from sin and death and from evil powers seeking to deceive you, so do not fall prey to human ideas or traditions not according to Christ; Instead, strive to know Christ deeply and grow spiritually mature.

#### 1.) The Christian Life: walking in Christ, being firm in the faith (v. 6, 7)

- The introduction of Paul's letter to Colossians has now ended (1:3–2:5), and in verses 6-7, he sums up everything he will say in the entire letter about living *the Christian Life*.
- A three-fold portrayal of the ongoing Christian life is given, linking a believer's beginning to what should be ongoing every day.
  - From the *beginning*, about Christ Jesus our Lord:
    - You received Him
    - You were rooted in Him
    - You were taught about Him
  - And now, *each day* (ongoing), believers should be:
    - walking in Him
    - built up in Him
    - established in the Faith

#### 2.) The Christian Life: You've been warned (v. 8)

- Be on guard against the kidnapper of Christians: man's wisdom (the ideas and traditions of men); "See to it that no one takes you captive..." (this is the first of three warnings, vv. 8, 16, and 18).

#### 3.) Man's ideas (of the world) vs. God's Wisdom in Christ (v. 8, 9-15)

- Paul's teaching in verses 9–15 supports his warning in verse 8; the fullness of God dwells in Christ; nothing/no one is greater (v. 9-10)
- Now, you put off the old flesh (not w/ hands but the heart) and are born again to a new life, a new creation; v.11–13, Gen. 17, Dt. 30:6
- You no longer have a sin debt to pay, nor the need to face its penalty (v.14) because Christ has given you victory over the evil rulers, forces, and authorities (v.15). Why consider anything less?

#### APPLICATION:

If we say *Jesus is Lord*, the implication of such a confession implies that nothing more needs to be done as you stand before God. You have full freedom from guilt, so don't chase worthless idols and promises of men.

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