

[2: COLOSSIANS & PHILEMON]

UNBOUNDED

Paul's Faith from Prison



WARRIOR'S HEART
BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM ONE MAN AT A TIME

BAND OF
BROTHERS
MEN'S MINISTRY



Unbounded: Paul's Faith from Prison

Colossians 2:11-15

Raul Caban

- I. We are Secure: Inseparable from Christ
 - a. Because we have been brought to Christ and are "in Christ," we have his fullness. (Col. 2:9-10).
 - b. Paul's point is not simply that we are in God's presence; we are bound and united with him in two ways,
 - i. Circumcised with Christ.
 - ii. We are buried and raised with Christ.
- II. Circumcised with Christ
 - a. Genesis 17:1-14 – The mark of the covenant.
 - b. "No performed by human hands" – Christ did for us what we couldn't do for ourselves.
 - c. God's primary concern was not physical circumcision. (Deut. 10:16; Jeremiah 9:25-26).
- III. Buried and raised with Christ
 - a. Baptism – an outward expression of an inward transformation.
 - b. Trying to supplement our union with Jesus with anything, regardless of its origins, it's like saying to God: I have a better idea!
 - c. To trust in Christ is not arrogance but wisdom.
- IV. We are secure: Innocent in Christ
 - a. Just as Pilate's charge sheet was nailed above Jesus' head on the cross (Matthew 27:37), Paul tells us that our own charge sheets have also been nailed to the cross.
 - b. *Pax Romana vs. Pax Christiana*
 - c. Why is this important? Because *nothing* can possibly defeat Jesus now. He endured the worst the world could throw at him—and still won.
- V. Discussion Questions
 - a. "It is arrogant to believe that we are fully accepted and forgiven". How would you answer from this passage someone who said this to you?
 - b. What kind of things are we tempted to "add" to faith in Christ in order to give us more assurance? What is the antidote to these claims?
 - c. We have to make ourselves available for Christ's work. In order for us to be "raised with Christ," we have to hand over our lives to God for Him to control; we have to believe. What areas of your life do you need to hand over to God? If you just ask Him, He will work in you—He will change you.



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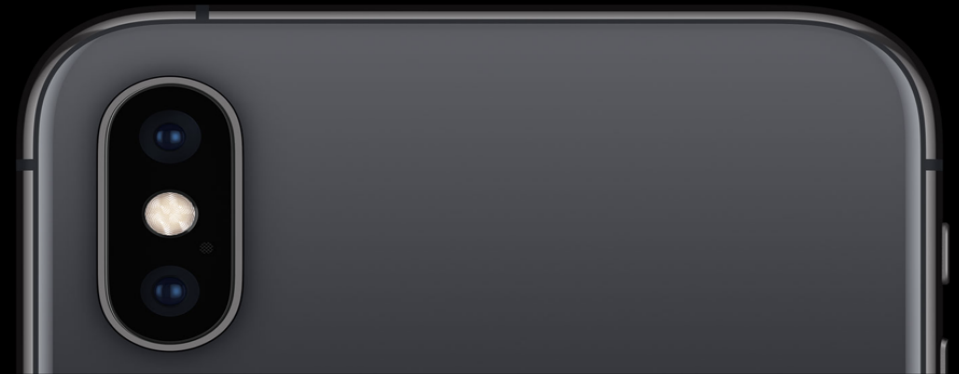
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Colossians 2:8-10

“Be careful that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit based on human tradition, based on the elements of the world, rather than Christ. For the entire fullness of God’s nature dwells bodily in Christ, and you have been filled by him, who is the head over every ruler and authority.”

We Are Secure: Inseparable from Christ

- a. Because we have been brought to Christ and are “In Christ” we have his fullness.
- b. Paul’s Point: We are not simply in God’s presence; we are bound and united with Him in two ways,
 1. Circumcised by Christ.
 2. We are buried and raised with Christ.



Complete in Christ

Colossians 2:11-15

Colossians 2:11-12

“You were also circumcised in him with a circumcision not done with hands, by putting off the body of flesh, in the circumcision of Christ, when you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

Circumcised with Christ

- a. Genesis 17:9-14 – Mark of the Covenant
- b. "Not performed by hands" Christ did for us what we couldn't do for ourselves.
- c. Two possible relations,
 1. O.T. Circumcision Imagery of disobedient people.
 2. An indirect accusation of idol worship.
- d. God's primary concern was not physical circumcision (Deut. 10:16; Jer. 9:25-26).

Jeremiah 9:25-26

“Look, the days are coming — this is the LORD’s declaration — when I will punish all the circumcised yet uncircumcised: Egypt, Judah, Edom, the Ammonites, Moab, and all the inhabitants of the desert who clip the hair on their temples. All these nations are uncircumcised, and the whole house of Israel is uncircumcised in heart.”

Circumcised with Christ

a. Two Circumcisions (2:11b)

a. Traditional – cutting off of a piece of flesh.

b. Christ's (i.e. His death) – Sacrifice of His entire body.

Which one is complete? Which one is sufficient?

Buried and Raised with Christ

- Baptism – an outward expression of an inward transformation.
- The significance of the death and resurrection of Christ,
 - Christians die with Christ
 - We were raised through our “faith in the working of God”.
- Trying to supplement our union with Christ is like saying to God: I have a better Idea!
- To trust in Christ is not arrogance but wisdom.

Colossians 2:13-15

“And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, he made you alive with him and forgave us all our trespasses. He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; he triumphed over them in him.”

We Are Secure: Innocent in Christ

- A certificate of debt – refers to an IOU, a note that acknowledges the obligation to pay a debt and is signed by the debtor.
- Just as Pilate's charge sheet was nailed above Jesus' head above the cross own charge sheets have also been nailed to the cross.
- Pax Romana vs. Pax Christiana
- Why is this important? Because nothing can possibly defeat Jesus.

Questions for Discussion

- “It is arrogant to believe that we are fully accepted and forgiven”. How would you answer from this passage someone who said this to you?
- What kind of things are we tempted to “add” to faith in Christ in order to give us more assurance? What is the antidote to these claims?
- We have to make ourselves available for Christ’s work. In order for us to be “raised with Christ,” we have to hand over our lives to God for Him to control; we have to believe. What areas of your life do you need to hand over to God?

Upcoming Calendar

Sep 29..... Raul Caban

Oct 6.....Daniel Williams

Oct 13.....Dr. Stephen Trammell

Oct 20.....Chad Chambers

Oct 27..... Brad Talbert

