

Lesson 3

COLOSSIANS 2:1-10

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

Paul reminds me of a doting grandfather or big brother. He seems to be struggling in prayer for the newfound churches. Remember, Paul has not met the members of the church in Colossae. He knows them through the reports of Epaphras who had possibly come to faith through Paul. He was his protégé. Epaphras in turn proclaimed the gospel to the pagans of Colossae. Paul seems to have a love for this church as one of his offspring churches. The Greek word used for “struggling” in verse 1 is one of continual pressing forward, constant straining, much like an Olympic athlete’s training.

1. Read Colossians 2:1-2. What two things does Paul specifically pray for? What is the result for the church of having these two conditions met?

2. Paul knows that to commit to Jesus Christ as Lord of your life is akin to signing up for warfare. His own missionary trips were full of torture, imprisonment, and conflict. To be equipped for life as a Christian means to not be discouraged but have the eternal hope offered in Jesus Christ. It also means to have a community of believers who are tied together in love. Relate this to 1 Corinthians 13:4-13 and Ephesians 4:11-16. How can we as a church achieve this kind of unified love? Hint: Colossians 2:3.

3. Think about a time in your life when conflict or division occurred. How could knowing the treasures of wisdom and knowledge that come through Christ be an asset to you? (Example: a supernatural awareness of underlying circumstances)

4. There are a lot of perks in being a Christian. There will also be struggles. What are some of the struggles of the mind spoken about in Colossians 2:4,8? What are some of the deceptive arguments used today to dilute faith in Jesus? What do human traditions and basic principles of the world look like today that contradict the power of Jesus Christ?

5. According to Colossians 2:9, how do we overcome these hollow arguments and deceptive philosophies?

6. What is the theme of Colossians as stated in Colossians 2:6,7?

APPLICATION: Christian maturity is vital to combating forces that try to waylay a believer in Jesus Christ. How is your faith walk? Are you still in the same place you were in when you first came to faith? I applaud you for being in Bible Study. It has changed my life and I pray it changes yours.

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, it is by Your grace that we are not only saved from our sinfulness but saved from an empty way of life. Lead us not into the temptation of being halfhearted Christians. Guide our steps in all areas of our lives with the knowledge and wisdom that comes through knowing Jesus. Give us hearts to go deeper in our faith and commitment to You. We pray this in the mighty name of Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Amen