


1  **In the World,
But not
Of the World**

Colossians 2:11-15

2 

In v. 2:8-15

We find the development of the truths of
v. 1:13-14

v. 9-10 – our identity in the Kingdom
v. 11-12 – how we are delivered and transferred

3 

God declares that the world, and therefore humanity is in darkness, that the world is the domain of darkness.

Humanity asserts that it is enlightened, and that its enlightenment is based on *faith* in human reason; *faith* in human reason we euphemistically refer to as rational objectivity.

4 

Two keys to unlocking this passage:

- ~ The Resurrection's role in the Christian faith
- ~ The concept of "In Him"

5 

1 Corinthians 15:17-19, 32b

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied...

If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

6 

Two keys to unlocking this passage:

- ~ The Resurrection's role in the Christian faith
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7 

v. 2:11

- ~ the circumcision of Christ
- ~ putting off (the removal of) the body of flesh

v. 2:12 – explains how 'we' were 'circumcised' by switching metaphors

8 

Deuteronomy 10:16

Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn.

Deuteronomy 30:6

And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart ... so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

9 

Mark 10:38

Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"

10 

v. 2:11

~ the circumcision of Christ

~ putting off (the removal of) the body of flesh

v. 2:12 -- explains how 'we' were 'circumcised' by switching metaphors

~ having been buried... raised... through faith

11 

v. 2:12

explains to us how the deliverance and transfer of v. 1:13 was accomplished

Buried and Raised – through faith – in the powerful working of God.

Romans 6:1-11

12 

One facet of the outworking of v. 2:11-12

v. 3:1-2

Contrast

~ secular age / immanent order

~ according to Christ / kingdom order