Always Substance, Never Shadow...

Colossians 2:16-19

Background: Colossians 2:8-23 is in the section of the book dealing with "The Heresy of Christ + Something Else: Rejecting Spiritual Add-ons."

Flagstaff, Arizona! A couple's first date and she came to the date with her... **Tension**: What if we are doing the same thing in regard to Jesus?

Six simple ways to shipwreck your spiritual life:

- 1. Submit to the final authority of someone other than Jesus. (v 16a)
- 2. Decide that you are spiritually sanctified by what you do or don't eat and drink. (v 16b)
- 3. Decide that the timing of spiritual activity sanctifies or defiles you. (v 16c)
- 4. Decide that self-abasement pleases God. (v 18a)
- 5. Decide that worshiping anyone/anything besides God or in addition to God is good. (v 18b)
- 6. Decide that visions or revelation outside the Bible are true and necessary. (v 18c)

Two simple ways to catalyze your spiritual life:

- 1. Be clear that Jesus Christ is the substance and all else is only shadow. (v 17)
- 2. Hold fast to Jesus Who is the Head of the church, therefore the Head of each one of us. (v 19)

Core Idea of Colossians 2:16-19: Jesus alone is the Substance...and real life is found in Him. Period.

This reminds me of something I heard somewhere: "We exist to glorify God by pointing the affections of all peoples to the all-satisfying Person of Jesus Christ."

And: "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." Jn 14:6

A spiritual exercise: A basic primer on how to hold fast to Jesus.

Faith Community Bible Church 7/24/22 Pastor Dave Gibson

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A SIMPLE PRIMER ON HOW TO HOLD FAST TO JESUS—simple, but not easy:

- 1. Trust Him alone for salvation—forgiveness of sins and eternal life in heaven. Eph 2:8, 9
- 2. Read all the Gospels four times each year—minimum. John 5:29
- 3. Talk to Him all day, every day. 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- 4. Hang out with people who are pursuing Him. Hebrews 10:24, 25
- 5. Trust Him for everything. Hebrews 11:1, 6
- 6. Obey Him in everything. 1 John 5:3
- 7. Imitate Him all the time. 1 Corinthians 11:1
- 8. Share Him with anyone you can. Matthew 4:19
- 9. With everyone, graciously and naturally "raise the flag" as a Christ-follower. Acts 4:14, 14
- 10. Keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Col 3:1
- 11. Faithfully connect and contribute to a Body of believers with this domain name: www.satisfiedinjesus.org

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