

Colossians Part 4 HANDOUT

3/13/22

The Gospel is not about the exterior changing the interior, rather it is about interior being made new and that is affecting what happens on the exterior.

COL 2:16 - Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.

- Some would say that if you want to live a righteous life, you have to go back to the old system / the old way of doing life where you had to observe all festivals and holidays

COL 2:17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

KEY: Don't let anyone speak into your life where you have to do something external in order to make the internal relationship right with God.

We are not stuck in religion anymore, we are in Christ - and that type of relationship is defined by the word, "DONE."

KEY: Living in "DONE" means that I don't get trapped in "DO."

COL 2:18 Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind.

KEY: Religion is a trap, especially for those who are alive in Christ. There will always be someone who says that you have to add to what has already been done.

COL 2:19-23 They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

20 Since you died with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, why, as though you still belonged to the world, do you submit to its rules: 21 "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22 These rules, which have to do with things that are all

destined to perish with use, are based on merely human commands and teachings. 23 Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

- The true test of whether or not one belongs to God's people is neither the observance of dietary laws and Jewish festivals, nor the cultivation of super-spiritual experiences, but whether one belongs to Christ, alive with his life.
- Verse 20 is an encouragement:
 - We are a new creation
 - God has changed us because of faith in Him
 - This new life in Christ changes what we do on the outside - we walk it out in our lives. We want it to change how we treat others, and how we spend our time, and how we live in obedience to Christ.
 - We don't do those things so that we can have peace with God, we do those things because we already have peace with God.

ROM 5:6-8 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

POINT: I want to live in "It is finished!"

What does that mean? Everything I do in this life, surrendering to God, living for Him, loving my neighbor - it's all a reflection of what Christ has done on the inside.