

March 17, 2024



Colossians thus far has been very positive about our completeness in Jesus Christ including our ability to know and do God's will, our status and standing in Christ, the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ in all things, His reconciling work on the cross, and the gospel ministry which has been _____ to us (2 Cor. 4:3). In Colossians 2, Paul bears his heart about the conflicts on the horizon for any well-established church. All true churches of God are negatively impacted by these things and some churches have ceased to exist in time due to their failure in these areas. Along with each conflict presented, we are given keys to succeed.

THE GREAT CONFLICT (PART 1) – Colossians 2:1-8

1. Paul is Conflicted about the Conflicts that are coming to the Church – v. 1-3

- He was conflicted for the churches at Colosse, Laodicea, and _____ (*all who never saw him*) – v. 1; Rom. 1:11; 1 Thess. 2:17.
- The coming conflicts are combatted by _____ in the body of Christ as well as the clear and good _____ of God – v. 2-3; John 17:11, 17, 22; Eph. 4:13-15; 2 Tim. 4:3; Rom. 3:4.

The mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ (1:27-29; Rev. 10:7; 1 Cor. 4:1-2) =

The hid treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Ps. 119:162; Pr. 2:4) =

2. Conflict #1: **Enticing Words** versus the Truth in Christ – v. 4-7

- There are many polished public _____ speaking and seeking to make merchandise of us and defraud God – v. 4; Rom. 16:18; 1 Cor. 2:1, 4; 1 Tim. 6:3-5; 2 Tim. 4:3-4; 2 Pet. 2:3; Jude 1:15-16.

To beguile us (2 Cor. 11:3; Gen. 3; Rom. 3:4) =

- Enticing words against the truth of Christ are combatted by being _____ personally in the faith, the same faith by which you genuinely received Christ – v. 5-7; 1 Cor. 14:40, 15:58; Eph. 4:20-21.

Beholding your order and steadfastness in the faith =

3. Conflict #2: **Philosophies** and **Vain Deceit** versus the Truth in Christ – v. 8

- Philosophy is only mentioned this one time in the Bible and we are told to _____ of it – v. 8a; John 18:38.

Philosophy means “the love of _____.” The problem with philosophy is that man’s wisdom without God’s wisdom is foolishness (1 Cor. 1:22, 30; 2 Tim. 3:7; James 3:15, 17; Ps. 14:1, 53:1).

Philosophy asks, “What Can I Know?” while _____ “Thus saith the Lord!”

A philosopher's final authority is never the Bible. They have _____ FINAL AUTHORITY except themselves and their own ideas. There are no true Bible-believing philosophers out there!

The true motive of the philosopher and philosophies... "How can I justify what I want to do without God?"

Philosophy would never lead you to believe in a literal, visible return of Jesus Christ to reign, the torment of a _____ hell, or the value of winning a soul to Jesus Christ.

Man-made philosophy has no place for the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

A philosopher learns more and more about less and less until they know everything about _____.

Those who trust in philosophies would never say with any certainty...

"I know whom I have believed"

"We have passed from death to life"

"When He shall appear, we shall be like Him"

"All of our righteousnesses are as filthy rags"

"Every man at his best state is altogether vanity"

*Philosophy has bred the spiritual belief systems of **atheism** (no God), **humanism** (human nature), **secular humanism** (ethics/reason), **agnosticism** (can't know God), **pragmatism** (what works for you), and **pantheism** (God is in everything)..*

The Pharisees and Sadducees both formed a philosophy of _____ without God (Acts 9:5, 26:14).

Philosophy ruined the likes of Darwin, Marx, Stalin, Freud, Spock, Plato, Socrates, Judas...

- Vain _____ includes traditions and rudiments of the world (*base level incomplete elements*) – v. 8b, 1 Sam. 12:21; Eph. 4:14; 2 Tim. 3:13.

Empty traditions (Matt. 15:1-3; Mk. 7:1-13) =

Rudiments of the world (v. 20; Eph. 2:1-3) =