

April 21, 2024



In Colossians 2, Paul unveils that God's church will be negatively impacted by external and internal conflicts against the truth in Christ (v. 1). Some churches have even ceased to exist in time due to their failure in these conflicts. In v. 1-8 we learned of the _____ **conflicts** against the truth in Christ (*enticement/vain deceit, philosophies, earthly traditions, and rudiments of the world*) and today's continuation exposes the **internal conflicts** (*religious*) of OT rules/regulations, penances/angel worship, and man-made religious ordinances (_____) against the truth in Christ. We are reminded through all these conflicts of the great salvation we already have through receiving the Lord Jesus Christ plus nothing, minus nothing (v. 9-15).

THE GREAT CONFLICT (PART 2) – Colossians 2:16-23

1. Old Testament Ordinances versus Jesus Christ – v. 16-17

- There are roughly _____ OT ordinances (*establishing order in Israel and pointing to Christ*) that were finished/fulfilled for us through the nailing of Jesus Christ to the cross – v. 14; Eph. 2:15.
- The dietary and ceremonial elements of the OT law (*meat, drink, holy days, new moons, sabbath days*) have no connection to our new spiritual body of Christ and are to be _____ – v. 11-12, 16, 17b; Acts 15:5-29; Rom. 14:1-8, 17.
- Many of the dietary and symbolic ordinances were purposeful to _____ things to come – v. 17a; Ezek. 45:17; 46:3, 9; Is. 66:23; Zech. 14:16-19; Rev. 20-21.

2. Fleshly Penance and Angel Worship versus Jesus Christ – v. 18-19

- Outward religious acts and services done for _____ reasons are penances (*voluntary humility, vainly puffed up by your fleshly mind*) – v. 18; Ps. 39:5-6; 1 Kings 18:28; Matt. 6:6, 18; 23:14.
- Angels are not to be worshipped – v. 18; 1 Cor. 6:3; Gal. 1:8; 1 Tim. 4:1; 1 John 4:1; Rev. 22:8-9.

Beguiled of your reward (v. 4; 2 Cor. 11:3; 1 Cor. 3:14; Rev. 22:12) =

- Christ, our Head, holds us together and brings genuine spiritual increase to us..._____ on to Him alone – v. 19, 1:18; 1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 4:15; Heb. 12:2.

3. Religious Ordinances (man-made rules) versus Jesus Christ – v. 20-23

- Religious ordinances (*legalism*) are _____, insult the work of the cross, and rob you of the joy, life, and freedom you have in Jesus Christ – v. 20-22; Matt. 12:1-8, 15:9; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; Rom. 14:17.
- Man-made ordinances have a _____ of wisdom, humility, and will power...but there is no honor in them as they are done in the **flesh** and turn people away from God – v. 23; Gal. 5:1, 22-23; Tit. 1:14.