

Colossians: Positive Living in a Negative Culture

I Refuse To Be Intimidated

The Lakefront Church and First Baptist Church - Venice, Florida

One Church - Two Locations

October 27, 2024

Intimidate: to make timid or fearful; to deter, as by threats.

Colossians 2:16-23 (CSB) *Therefore, don't let anyone judge you in regard to food and drink or in the matter of a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day.* ¹⁷*These are a shadow of what was to come; the substance is Christ.* ¹⁸*Let no one condemn you by delighting in ascetic practices and the worship of angels, claiming access to a visionary realm. Such people are inflated by empty notions of their unspiritual mind.* ¹⁹*They don't hold on to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with growth from God.* ²⁰*If you died with Christ to the elements of this world, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world? Why do you submit to regulations:* ²¹*"Don't handle, don't taste, don't touch"?* ²²*All these regulations refer to what is destined to perish by being used up; they are human commands and doctrines.* ²³*Although these have a reputation for wisdom by promoting self-made religion, false humility, and severe treatment of the body, they are not of any value in curbing self-indulgence.*

- *Colossians is an open rebuttal to false teachers.*
- *Colossians teaches against the heresies that deny the Truth of the Gospel, which are:*
 - *Jesus is God.*
 - *Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah.*
 - *Jesus is the Savior.*
 - *Jesus is everything you need.*

A. Background for the Church at Colossae (AD 62)

1. Human Philosophies - A person does not need Jesus - Colossians 2:8

2. Legalism - A person needs Jesus BUT a person must keep Jewish laws.-
Colossians 2:16-17

3. Monasteries and Mysticism - Colossians 2:18

B. Instruction for the Church at Venice (AD 2024)

1. Spiritual Intimidation

2. Cultural Intimidation

- Taking a Biblical stand - Only the 'uneducated' believe in the Bible.

3. Governmental Intimidation

- Mark of the beast (Caesar is lord)

Revelation 13:15-17 (CSB) *It [the beast] was permitted to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast could both speak and cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.¹⁶ And it makes everyone—small and great, rich and poor, free and slave—to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead,¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark: the beast's name or the number of its name.*

Colossians - Christ is Sufficient

The essential truth of Christianity, Jesus Christ, is all a person needs!

Colossians 2:19-23 (CSB) *They don't hold on to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with growth from God.²⁰ If you died with Christ to the elements of this world, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world? Why do you submit to regulations:²¹ "Don't handle, don't taste, don't touch"?²² All these regulations refer to what is destined to perish by being used up; they are human commands and doctrines.²³ Although these have a reputation for wisdom by promoting self-made religion, false humility, and severe treatment of the body, they are not of any value in curbing self-indulgence.*

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DAY OF PRAYER October 30 and November 6, 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Worship Center at the Miami Ave Campus

<https://vimeo.com/1021455303>