

YOU ARE COMPLETE IN CHRIST

COLOSSIANS 2:6-10

Colossians in Context

- Colossae was in Asia near Laodicea 4:16
 - Paul was never there 2:1; Acts 19:8-10
 - Evangelized by Epaphras 1:7; 4:12-13
1. Mystic Jews from Mesopotamia 2:16-17
 2. Angel worship (Michael saved the city was a tradition) 2:18
 3. Gnosticism (“deeper” spiritual knowledge) 2:18,23
 4. Asceticism (deprivation of needs) 2:18,20-23
- Colossian heresy was a combination of all four

Colossians 2:8-23

8 Beware lest **anyone cheat you** through **philosophy** and **empty deceit**, according to the **tradition of men**, according to the **basic principles of the world**, and not according to **Christ**. **9** For **in Him dwells all** the **fullness of the Godhead bodily**; (**Confronts Error #3**) **10** and **you are complete in Him**, who is the head of **all principality and power**.

11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision **made without hands**,

Colossians 2:8-23

by **putting off** the body of the **sins** of the flesh, by the circumcision of **Christ**, **12** **buried with Him in baptism, in which you** also **were raised with Him** through **faith** in **the working of God, who raised Him** from the dead. **13** And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14** having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. (**Confronting Error #1**)

Colossians 2:8-23

And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. (**Confronts Error #1**) **15** Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. (**Confronts Errors #2,3**)

16 **So let no one judge you** in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, (**Error #1**) **17** which are a shadow of things to come, but the **substance** is of **Christ**.

Colossians 2:8-23

18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility (**Errors #1,4**) and worship of angels (**Error #2**), intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind (**Errors #1,2,3,4**), **19** and **not holding fast to the Head**, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

Colossians 2:8-23

20 Therefore, if you **died with Christ from the basic principles of the world**, why, **as though living in the world**, do you subject yourselves to regulations — **21** “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” **22** which all concern things which perish with the using — according to the commandments and **doctrines of men?** (**Errors #1,4**)

Colossians 2:8-23

23 These things indeed have an **appearance** of wisdom (**Error #3**) in self-imposed religion, (**Errors #1,2,3,4**) false humility, (**Errors #1,4**) and neglect of the body, (**Error #3**) but are of **no value** against the indulgence of the flesh. (**Error #3**)

Intimidation

- **False teachers** claimed a **superior religion**
- Claimed **superior knowledge** of **spiritual beings**
- Claimed **they** reached **greater spiritual** levels
- Claimed **asceticism** an avenue to **greater spirituality**
- **Their** appeal to the **law of Moses** gave legitimacy to **their** claim to **asceticism**
- **Asceticism** was a **proud show** of “**humility**”
- “**Christians are inferior** without what we have”
- “**Christians are shallow, not deep**”

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- “**Christians are shallow, not deep**” **Rev. 2:24**

Paul's Response 2:8-10

- Don't be fooled by **false worldly philosophies v.8**
- **Consider** the **greatness of Christ v. 9**
- The **fullness of Deity dwells** in **Him bodily v.9**
- *You are **complete in Him v.10***
- *Head of **all principality and power v.10***
- **in Christ** are **hidden all treasures of wisdom and knowledge v.3**

Colossians 1:12-18

giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. **13** He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, **14** in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. **16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, ...

Colossians 1:12-18

whether **thrones** or **dominions** or **principalities** or **powers**. **All** things **were** **created through Him** and **for Him**. **17**And **He** is **before all** things, and **in Him all** things **consist**. **18**And **He** is **the head** of **the body, the church, who** is **the beginning, the firstborn from the dead**, that in **all** things **He** may have **the preeminence**.

You Are Complete in Christ

Consider the Supremacy of Christ 1:12-18

King of His kingdom v.13

Our Redeemer v.14

Firstborn over ALL creation v.15

Created ALL things in heaven and earth v.16

ALL created for Him v.16

Sustainer of ALL things v.17

Firstborn from the dead v.18

Head of the church v.18

Preeminent in ALL things v.18

You **Are** Complete in Christ

- If we **see** the greatness of Christ, then **see** the greatness of our relationship **with Christ!**
- **Not** a **localized Savior** or **belief** **1:6,23**
- **Redemption** & **forgiveness in Him** **1:14**
- **All things reconciled by Him to Him** **1:20**
- **Christ in you** is the **hope of glory** **1:27**
- **Goal** is **perfection in Christ** **1:28**
- **All treasures** of **wisdom** and **knowledge in Him**
2:1-3

Colossians 2:1-7

1 For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, **2** that their **hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love**, and attaining to **all riches** of the **full assurance of understanding**, to the **knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ**, **3** **in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

Colossians 2:1-5

4 Now this I say **lest anyone** should **deceive you** with persuasive words. **5** For though I am absent in the flesh, yet **I am with you in spirit, rejoicing** to see **your good order** and the **steadfastness** of **your faith in Christ**.

6 As **you have received Christ Jesus the Lord**, **so walk in Him**, **7** **rooted** and **built up in Him** and **established** in **the faith**, as **you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving**.

You Are Complete in Christ

- *You have received Christ Jesus the Lord* 2:6
- You were dead in your sins 2:13
- Buried with Him in baptism 2:12
- Raised with Him by faith in HIS working 2:12
- Died to the world with Him 2:20
- *So walk in Him* 2:6
- Set your mind where Christ is 3:1
- Your life is hidden with Christ in God 3:3
- You will appear with Christ in glory 3:4

You Are Complete in Christ

- Therefore **put to death** your earthly members **3:5-7**
- Also **put off** other old behaviors **3:8-9**
 - Because you have **put off** the old man **3:9**
 - And have **put on** the new man **3:10-11**
- **Put on new spiritual behaviors 3:12-4:6**
 - Peace 3:12-15**
 - Worship 3:16**
 - Service 3:17**

You Are Complete in Christ

- **Service 3:17**

At **home 3:18-21**

At **work 3:22-4:1**

- **Evangelism 4:2-6**

1. **Pray** for **evangelism 4:2-4**

2. **Live wisely** for **evangelism 4:5**

3. **Speak wisely** for **evangelism 4:6**

Closing 4:7-18

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