

Colossians Chapter 2

Col 2:1-3 For I would that ye knew **what great conflict I have for you**, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; **Vs.2** That their hearts might be comforted, **being knit together in love**, and unto all riches of the **full assurance of understanding**, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God (1 Cor. 4:1, Rev. 10:7), and of the Father (1 Tim. 3:16), and of Christ (Eph. 3:4-6); **Vs.3 In whom are hid** all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Paul had a great conflict for his converts. His desire was that they would be knit together in love and have full assurance in whom they have believed. That they might apprehend that for which they were apprehended – Phil. 3:12. **Vs. 3** – “hid” implies that we must search for it (Prov. 2:3-5, Prov. 25:2, Prov. 18:1). The world has no answers. The answer is in Jesus. All of life’s mysteries are solved in him but a fool has no delight in understanding Prov. 18:2 Furthermore, there are seven mysteries spoken of in 1Cor.4:1 that every Christian (*and certainly every church*) is supposed to be a steward of. **1.)** the incarnation of Christ, 1Tim.3:16. **2.)** the incarnation of Satan, 2Th.2:7. **3.)** the indwelling of Christ, Col.1:27. **4.)** the body of Christ, Eph.1:22-23, 3:6. **5.)** the blindness of Israel, Rom.11:25. **6.)** the rapture, 1Cor.15:51. **7.)** Babylon the Great, Rev.17:5. Imagine if all churches taught these seven mysteries!

Col 2:4 And this I say, lest **any man** should beguile you with **enticing words**.

We are constantly being beguiled by the conversation of this world. This is why we go to church. The church ought to preach the world out of us (Psalms 73:17). But today the church is preaching humanism, self-esteem, positive thinking, etc. We must revere God’s word over that of “any man” (Rom. 3:4 “let God be true...”) no matter who he or she is.

What Preaching Is Not: It is not man’s wisdom - **1 Cor. 2:4-5** And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing **words of man's wisdom**, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. It is not about man - **2 Cor. 4:5** For **we preach not ourselves**, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. It is not eloquent speaking - **1 Cor. 2:1** And I, brethren, when I came to you, came **not with excellency of speech** or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. Paul was rude in speech (2Cor.11:6) and was accused of being contemptible (2Cor.10:10). Never confuse good speaking for Godly preaching, **Rom. 16:17-18**

Col 2:5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

Paul complimented the Colossians on their order and steadfastness. Church should be orderly and consistent. There are authorities of pastors, deacons, teachers; regular times to assemble and responsibilities towards the brethren.

Col 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

It should stand to reason that if we desired Christ Jesus as our Lord, we would also desire to walk with him. To do this, we must walk in the same way we received him - submissive, repentant, and unashamed.

Col 2:7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Verse 8 warns us about being rooted in things other than “in him” and “in the faith”. We are to be stablished by faithful teaching. Although we don’t reverence men, we learn from faithful brethren (2 Tim. 2:2, Tit. 2:4).

Col 2:8-10 Beware lest any man spoil you (*take from you*) through **philosophy** and **vain deceit**, after the **tradition of men**, after the **rudiments of the world**, and not after Christ. **9** For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. **10** And **ye are complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power:

BEWARE of philosophy and vain deceit. **Webster: Philosophy** - *Literally, the love of wisdom. But in modern acceptation, philosophy is a general term denoting an explanation of the reasons of things.* The bible says it is “after men” and “of the world”. Philosophy is prevalent in public education, psychiatry, politics, and even in churches. The world prides themselves in being “opened minded” and mocks the narrow minded, bigoted Christian. Philosophies aren’t black and white but rather a matter of opinion or viewpoint. However, “...the testimony of the Lord is sure...” Ps. 19:7 Acts 17:18 reveals an encounter between Paul and some philosophers. **Vs.8** “...and not after Christ.” We ought to be fully “versed” in Christ. **Vs.10** “Ye are complete in him...” Your life is complete in Jesus. No need to search any further.