

Jesus Your Freedom (Colossians 2:6-23)

Jesus Your Everything – Part 3
Life Church St. Louis – August 18, 2013
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Colossians 2:6 (NIV) So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him,

Colossians 2:8 (NIV) See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

1. You are _____ with Christ

Colossians 2:9-10 (NIV) For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

A. Your _____ nature has been put off

Colossians 2:11-12 (NIV) In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

B. Your sins have been _____

Colossians 2:13-14 (NIV) When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

C. Satan has been _____

Colossians 2:15 (NIV) And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

2. Don't follow human _____

Colossians 2:16-17 (NIV) Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

A. Don't follow other _____

Colossians 2:18 (NIV) Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions.

B. Keep _____ to Jesus

Colossians 2:19 (NIV) He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

3. Be _____ to worldly rules

Colossians 2:20-21 (NIV) Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"?

A. Human teachings have no _____

Colossians 2:22-23 (NIV) These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

B. Set your mind on things _____

Colossians 3:1 (NIV) Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus Your Freedom (Colossians 2:6-23) Study Guide

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Intro. What does it mean to continue to live in Jesus as Lord (Colossians 2:6)?

In what ways can deceptive philosophy or human tradition take a believer captive (Colossians 2:7-8)?

What does true freedom in Jesus Christ look like in a believer's life?

1A. Why is it important to understand that Christ in His fullness lives in you (Colossians 2:9-10)?

1B. What are the practical implications of the fact that your sinful nature has been 'circumcised' by Christ (Colossians 2:11-12)? How does baptism symbolize what happens to the believer in salvation?

1C. How does the forgiveness of sins and cancellation of the written code (law) set you free from guilt and condemnation (Colossians 2:13-14)?

1D. According to Colossians 2:15, what power does Satan have over the believer? Why do believers then still sin?

2A. What was the purpose of the ceremonial law (festivals, dietary laws) in the Old Testament (Colossians 2:16-17)?

2B. Why are many people tempted to incorporate unbiblical practices from other religions into their worship (Colossians 2:18)?

2C. Why is it so important to remain connected to Christ, the Head of the body (Colossians 2:19)? What practices can damage that connection?

2D. How can a person recognize the deception of false teaching? Why are so many deceived in our present society and churches?

3A. Why do you think that people have such a tendency to follow man-made rules rather than God's Word (Colossians 2:20-21)?

3B. What types of human commands and teachings lead people into bondage in our day (Colossians 2:22-23)?

3C. What common form of preaching today often results in a message of deceptive human philosophy?

3D. What are practical ways you can set your heart on things above so that you can walk in Christ's freedom (Colossians 3:1)?