

Series: Colossians—The Supremacy of Christ

Sermon: The Sufficiency of Christ

Scripture: Colossians 2:6-23

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Colossians 2:6-23 (ESV)

6 *Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,*
7 *rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught,*
8 *abounding in thanksgiving.*
9 *See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.*
10 *For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,*
11 *and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.*
12 *In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,*
13 *having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.*
14 *And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,*
15 *by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.*
16 *He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.*
17 *Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.*
18 *These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.*
19 *Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,*
20 *and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.*
21 *If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—*
22 *“Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch”*
23 *(referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings?*
24 *These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.*

3 Warnings:

1. Let no one take you captive. (v. 8-15)

By what?

- Philosophy: love of wisdom
- Elementary principles: Greek - *stoicheia*

How to fight against being taken captive:

Remember who Jesus is! (v. 9)

Remember who you are in Jesus! (v. 10)

Remember what Jesus has done! (v. 11-15)

2. Let no one pass judgment on you. (v. 16-17)

For what?

- For the freedom that we have in Christ.
- For the substance that we have in Christ.

3. Let no one disqualify you. (v. 18-19)

How?

- By embracing a false gospel
- *By not holding fast to Jesus: the Head of the church (v. 19)*

1 Corinthians 1:30 (NIV)

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.