

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Colossians 2:8-12

Lesson 7

REVIEW:

Share how Colossians 2:4-7 is influencing your life today.

FIRST DAY:

Read and study Colossians 2:8-12 inductively. See last page.

SECOND DAY: Read Colossians 2:8

1. What does the first word of Colossians 2:8 say to you?
 - a. According to this verse what are we to *BEWARE* of?

2. Focus on the word *spoil*. Often, when we think of the word *spoil* we think of something that is decaying or becoming corrupt. Here, the word means to *spoil* in the sense of plunder, rob, or take captive; to enslave. Paul is telling them to *beware lest anyone plunder or rob you of your faith*. What would be the effect of a believer's faith being robbed or weakened?

3. Paul's concern is that these believers' faith be not spoiled *through philosophy and vain deceit*. Vain and deceitful describe the *philosophy* that was infiltrating the church. What did Paul say this *philosophy* was based on?
 - a. *after*

 - b. *after*

 - c. *not after*

Challenge: Research the possible explanations of what the word *rudiments* may refer to.

4. People often want a Christ that fits into their system of thought, not a system of thought that is according to Christ. Why is it vitally important that teaching concerning Christ be based on Christ as revealed in the Word of God?

Christ is the standard by which we are to measure philosophy and all phases of human knowledge.

THIRD DAY: Read Colossians 2:9

1. Let Colossians 2:9 be programmed in your mind and engraved on your heart. Applied, it will keep you from being robbed, plundered, or enslaved by *philosophy* and *vain deceit*. Program it in your mind now by printing it here and then memorize it.
2. The truth set forth in Colossians 2:9 declares that in Jesus is found **all** the attributes of the Godhead. In Jesus *dwelleth all the fulness*. *Selah* Jesus Christ is God incarnate (God in the flesh). What do the following Scriptures say about this:
 - a. John 1: 1
 - b. John 14:9,10
 - c. II Corinthians 5: 19
 - d. I Timothy 3:16
3. *Fulness* in Colossians 2:9 is described as, *the total contents of all the gifts and attributes of God or the whole glorious total of what God is*. Why is it important for you to understand that Jesus is the *fulness* of God in bodily form?

FOURTH DAY: Read Colossians 2:10

1. What glorious truth is revealed in Colossians 2: 10 about every believer?

- a. Consider the word *complete* by defining it.
- b. Why isn't there anything we can do to add to our salvation?
- c. Complete this statement: Because I am *complete in Him*, I

2. How does Colossians 2: 10b describe Christ?

Challenge: Define *principalities and powers*.

- a. What does it mean to you personally that Christ *is the head of all principality and power*?

FIFTH DAY: Read Colossians 2:11,12

1. Observe Colossians 2: 11 from the following version: *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. NIV* Circumcision literally represents a cutting away of the flesh. (See Genesis 17:9-11) The spiritual significance of *circumcision* represents the *purification of the believer and his consecration to God*. From Colossians 2:11, explain how this is accomplished.

- a. What does Romans 2:29b reveal about *circumcision*?

2. What does Colossians 2:12 say about *baptism*?

- a. The act of baptism is representative of what has happened to us internally. Find the one word in Colossians 2: 12 that opens the door to spiritual resurrection from spiritual death.

1.) How does Ephesians 2:8 confirm this?

3. In referring to *circumcision* and *baptism* we often think of external acts. Why are internal changes more important than external?

SIXTH DAY: Review Colossians 2:8-12

1. Paul's intent was that believers not be *spoiled through philosophy and vain deceit*. He attempted to prevent this in Colossians 2:8-12 by reminding them of Who Christ is and what they have simply because they are *in Him*. How has this lesson been helpful to you in today's climate of dangerously seductive philosophies?
2. Choose a phrase from Colossians 2:8-12 that has especially captured your attention. Explain why.
3. *In Jesus constantly and continually dwells all the fulness of the Godhead in bodily form*. When a person's view of the Lord Jesus is inadequate, why are their views about everything else out of focus?
4. Why is Jesus all we really need?

Colossians 2:8-12

VERSE

WHAT THE VERSE IS SAYING

- 8 Beware lest any man spoil 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:
- 11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:
- 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Who:

When:

What:

Where:

Why:

How:

What does this passage mean?

How does it apply to you personally?