

COLOSSIANS – 2:18-23

“Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances....”

- Colossians 2:20

1. 2:17 – A Shadow and a Body

- a. The ordinances and festivals are still a shadow – Heb 8:4-5, 13:14, Rom 11:26
- b. “Things to come” is the incomplete future prophetic kingdom – Heb 11:20
- c. The body is your participation: complete in Christ – Col 2:10

2. 2:18 – Don’t Be Guiled!

- a. Your reward is received in Christ – Col 2:3, Rom 4:4, 11:12
- b. You are heirs of God - Rom 8:17, Gal 4:7, Eph 3:6, Titus 3:7
- c. The law was given by angels – Acts 7:53, Gal 3:19
- d. Humility to angels is not instructed or demanded – Heb 2:7-9, Gal 4:14
- e. You know things hidden from the angels - 1 Cor 6:3, Eph 3:9-10
- f. The fleshly mind is vain and religious – Gal 5:16, 6:12-15, Rom 8:4-5

3. 2:19 – Holding the Head

- a. Our Head is preeminent and he is sufficient – Col 1:17-18
- b. We don’t lift the head, we belong to the head – Eph 1:22, 1 Cor 11:3, Col 2:10
- c. Nourished, knit, and increased by the Head -1Cor 10:16, Eph 4:3, 15-16, 5:29
- d. Our spiritual growth depends upon our understanding of this doctrine.

4. 2:20-23 – Your Position in Christ

- a. If ye be dead (this is a given) – Col 2:12, Rom 6:3, 7:4, Gal 2:19-20, 6:14
- b. Rudiments of the world, rules applied to the flesh – Gal 4:1-5, 9-10
- c. Positional truth: your standing – Rom 5:2, Eph 1:3, 2:6, 2 Cor 5:21
- d. Your state is changing – Phil 2:19-20, 4:11, Col 4:7-8
- e. Doctrines of men do not hold Christ as the head – !Mk 7:5!, Col 2:8, Titus 1:14,
- f. Touch, taste, handle are flesh rules – 1 Tim 4:1-3, Rom 7:23, 8:1-5
- g. The fleshly nature of voluntary humility – Gal 5:11-13