

“Captivated by Christ”

Colossians 2:8-15

Central Idea: Christ is sufficient. Nothing aside from Him is necessary for salvation.

I. Warning About False Teachings (8)

- “To take captive” has the force of “to kidnap”
 - Shows the force with which the false teachers spoke
- Philosophy: the speculations and ideas of people not rooted in divine revelation
 - “Empty deception,” it has no substance or power
 - Based on human principles and man-made traditions

II. Truth About Christ: Who He Is (9-10)

- He is the Fullness of God
 - Jesus contains the full, unique essence of God
 - The incarnation is still presently a fact
 - The entirety of God’s essence dwells in Him alone
 - There is no distribution of His divine power and majesty
- He is Sufficient
 - Jesus has made believers complete
 - There is no need that Christ does not supply
- He is Head Over All
 - He has no need to resort to other intelligences

III. Truth About Christ: What He Has Done for Us (11-15)

- Removed the dominion of our sin nature
 - Through spiritual circumcision, sin no longer rules over us

- Ended our former way of life
 - Because we have been buried with Him, we are separated from bondage to sin
- Raised us from death
 - This occurred through faith
 - Baptism is our expression of faith that God raised Jesus from the dead and that we will rise with Him
- Made us alive
 - Despite our sinful nature and sinful actions
- Forgave our transgressions
 - How He made us alive
- Canceled our debt
 - “Canceled,” literally to smear something written in wax
 - To wipe away or remove; Practically, to destroy
 - “Certificate of debt:” signed paper stating what was owed
- Defeated our enemies
 - Our spiritual enemies have been disarmed and defeated
 - The battle is ongoing but the result is secured.
 - Their doom was sealed at the cross

Application:

- Reject:
 - Additions to Christ
 - Deceptions that seek to take you captive
- Rest in the sufficiency of Christ’s finished work