

Freedom In Christ

Colossians 2:8-15

Introduction

I The Trap Of Human Philosophy

- A. Don't be taken **captive**: - Gal 5:1; 2 Pet 3:17
 - 1. Through hollow and deceptive philosophy - Rom 1:21
- B. The characteristics of false philosophy:
 - 1. It depends of human **tradition** - Mk 7:1-9
 - 2. It depends on the basic principles of this world - 1Tim 4:1
 - 3. It is **opposed** to Christ - 2 Pet 2:1

II The Supremacy Of Christ

- A. In Christ all the **fullness** of deity lives bodily - Col 1:19
 - 1. You have been given fullness in Christ who is:
 - a. The head over every power/authority - Eph 1:19-21
- B. In Christ you were also **circumcised** - Gen 17:10; Acts 15:1
 - 1. In the **putting off** of the sinful nature
 - a. Not done by the hands of men
 - b. But done by Christ - Rom 2:28-29
 - 2. Having been **buried** with Him in baptism - Rom 6:3-4
 - 3. Having been **raised** with Him - Col 3:1-4
 - a. Through your faith in God
 - 1. Who raised Christ from the dead

III The Freedom Of The Believer

- A. Our condition prior to receiving Christ:
 - 1. We were **dead** in our sins - Eph 2:1
 - 2. We were dead in our sinful nature
- B. Our condition upon receiving Christ:
 - 1. God made us **alive** with Christ - Eph 2:4-5; Rom 8:11
 - 2. God **forgave** us all our sins - Ps 32:1-2
- C. Our freedom from regulations and demonic subservience
 - 1. God **canceled** the written code:
 - a. With its regulations - Eph 2:14-15
 - b. That was against us and **opposed** to us - Heb 7:18-19
 - c. And **nailed** it to the cross

- 2. God conquered Satan's forces
 - a. He **disarmed** the powers and authorities - Heb 2:14-15
 - b. He made a public spectacle of them
 - c. He **triumphed** over them by the cross - 2 Cor 2:14-15

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

- 1. What philosophies or religious beliefs did you ascribe to prior to coming to know Jesus Christ as revealed in the Word of God?
- 2. Take a few minutes to compare Old Testament circumcision and New Testament baptism. What are the similarities? Differences? How do your discoveries help you better understand these two physical symbols of faith?
- 3. According to Colossians 2:13-15, what impact has Christ's death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead had on 1)Your life? 2) The Old Testament law? 3) Principalities and powers? What should be your response to God?
- 4. In Gal 5:1, Paul wrote "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Ask the Holy Spirit to guard your freedom in Christ and protect you from the world's philosophies, false teaching and religious legalism. Then take a few moments to praise and worship God for His grace in making you alive with Christ, forgiving all your sins and making you forever FREE in Christ.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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