

September 8, 2019

Rooted in Christ
Colossians 2:1-15
Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we start chapter 2 of Colossians. Paul has just finished explaining the mystery of Christ, giving an account of Jesus as the Creator and Savior. Now in chapter 2 he talks about his willingness to do whatever is necessary to encourage and build up people in Christ. Paul goes on to talk about being rooted in Christ and avoiding being led astray by philosophy and empty deception. Christ has redeemed us and through Him alone we find forgiveness. Join us this week as we talk about the importance of being rooted in Christ and how we can avoid being led astray by the things of this world.

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ

Colossians 2:8

Colossians 2:1-15 (NASB)

You Are Built Up in Christ

2 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face, ² that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and *attaining* to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, *resulting* in a true knowledge of God's mystery, *that is*, Christ *Himself*, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument. ⁵ For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

⁶ Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk in Him, ⁷ having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, *and* overflowing with gratitude.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty

deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. ⁹ For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority; ¹¹ and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; ¹² having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. ¹³ When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, ¹⁴ having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵ When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. What is the wealth that Paul is talking about in verse 2?

9. What does it mean to walk in the Lord? (6) How does Paul describe it in this verse?

10. How are we made complete in Christ? (10)

11. What is circumcision without hands? What significance does circumcision (physical and spiritual) play today? (11)

12. What is the symbolism of being buried with Him in baptism? (12)

13. What was nailed to the cross? (14)

14. How did Jesus disarm the rulers and authorities? (15)

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

15. Paul was willing to struggle with persecution in order to build others up in Christ. What have you been willing to do in order to share Christ with others?

16. Paul makes the case that true wisdom and knowledge is knowing Christ. What does the world claim is true wisdom and knowledge? How should we interact with this “wisdom” of the world?

17. Paul often reminds believers about their past transgressions.(13) Why is it important for us as believers to remember where we came from before we were redeemed?

18. Knowing where we came from should we be satisfied that we have made progress? What is our goal?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes