

Sermon Notes

Don't Combine Other Religious and Spiritual Influences with Your Christ-following

Colossians 2:16-23

by Christian Sanich, 11/7/2021

There may be Q&A at the end as time allows. So note your questions.

2:16-17 Against Jewish influence

The regulations of the Old Testament pointed to something in the future. That is Christ. Now that we have Christ, we look to Him.

No one should judge you on these Old Testament ritual matters.

2:18-19 Against supposedly spiritual influences

Don't get turned off course from following Christ and thus lose your reward from Christ.

Watch out when what they teach, versus how they behave, is inconsistent.

Revelation from sources not holding to Christ should be distrusted.

It is from Christ that the church grows the kind of growth that God wants. Christ utilizes the people of His church, to grow the church. But each of those people can only help grow the church properly if they are following the leadership of Christ.

2:20-23 Against ascetic influence

Having died with Christ, you have started a new life. In that new life, there are things that we should do and not do, which we learn from Christ. We should move away from principles that people in the world think are wise, and even that they think are spiritual, if they are not in line with Christ and His teaching.

We shouldn't be following self-made religion, even though it may seem to have wisdom.

From chapter 2, let's remember that there are many things that can lead us away from Christ and following His ways. Two categories: non-spiritual influences, like the cultural philosophies about life, and supposedly spiritual teachings, that are not in accord with New Testament truth. Let's hold tight to Christ, and following His ways.

What is your response to this? Discuss it with someone today.

Suggested related reading: Matthew 15:1-20

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