**Colossians Chapter 2**

**Colossians 2:1-3** For I would that ye knew **what great conflict I have for you**, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; **Vs.2** That their hearts might be comforted, **being knit together in love**, and unto all riches of the **full assurance of understanding**, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God (1 Cor. 4:1, Rev. 10:7), and of the Father (1 Tim. 3:16), and of Christ (Eph. 3:4-6); **Vs.3 In whom** **are hid** all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Paul had a great conflict for his converts. His desire was that they would be knit together in love and have full assurance in whom they have believed. That they might apprehend that for which they were apprehended – Phil. 3:12.

**Vs. 3** – “hid” implies that we must search for it (Prov. 2:3-5, Prov. 25:2, Prov. 18:1). The world has no answers. The answer is in Jesus. All of life’s mysteries are solved in him but a fool has no delight in understanding Prov. 18:2

**Colossians 2:4** And this I say, lest **any man** should beguile you with **enticing words**.

We are constantly being beguiled by the conversation of this world. This is why we go to church. The church ought to preach the world out of us (Psalms 73:17). But today the church is preaching humanism, self-esteem, positive thinking, etc. We must revere God’s word over that of “any man” (Rom. 3:4 “let God be true…”) no matter who he or she is.

**What Preaching Is Not:** It is not man’s wisdom - **1 Cor. 2:4-5** And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing **words of man's wisdom**, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. It is not about man - **2 Cor. 4:5** For **we preach not ourselves**, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. It is not eloquent speaking **- 1 Cor. 2:1** And I, brethren, when I came to you, came **not with excellency of speech** or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. Paul was rude in speech (2 Cor. 11:6) and was accused of being contemptible (2 Cor. 10:10). Never confuse good speaking for Godly preaching **– Rom. 16:17-18** Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and **by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple**.

**Colossians 2:5** For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.

Paul complimented the Colossians on their “order” and “stedfastness”. Church should be orderly and consistent. There are authorities of pastors, deacons, teachers; regular times to assemble and responsibilities towards the brethren.

**Colossians 2:6** As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk ye in him:

It should stand to reason that if we desired Christ Jesus as our Lord, we would also walk in him. To do this, we must approach our walk in the same way we received him - submissive, repentant, and unashamed.

**Colossians 2:7** Rooted and built up **in him**, and stablished **in the faith**, as ye **have been taught**, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Verse 8 warns us about being rooted in things other than “in him” and “in the faith”. We are to be stablished by faithful teaching. Although we don’t reverence men, we learn from faithful brethren (2 Tim. 2:2, Tit. 2:4).

**Colossians 2:8 Beware** lest any man spoil you (*take from you*) through **philosophy** and **vain deceit**, after the **tradition of men**, after the **rudiments of the world**, and not after Christ. **Vs.9** For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. **Vs.10** And **ye are complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power:

BEWARE of philosophy and vain deceit. **Webster:** **Philosophy** - *Literally, the love of wisdom. But in modern acceptation, philosophy is a general term denoting an explanation of the reasons of things*. The bible says it is “after men” and “of the world”. Philosophy is prevalent in public education, psychiatry, politics, and even in churches. The world prides themselves in being “opened minded” and mocks the narrow minded, bigoted Christian. Prov. 26:12 Philosophies aren’t black and white. Everything is a matter of opinion or viewpoint. Ps. 19:7 “…the testimony of the Lord is sure…”

Acts 17:18 reveals an encounter between Paul and some philosophers.

**Vs.8** “…and not after Christ.” We are ought to be fully “versed” in Christ. **Vs.10** “Ye are complete in him…” Your life is complete in Jesus. You need not search any further.