

# The Book of Colossians

Theme:

“ALL YOU NEED IS CHRIST!”

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**Date:** 10-7-18    **Lesson:** 3b    **Text:** Chapter 2:13-23

**TEXT:**

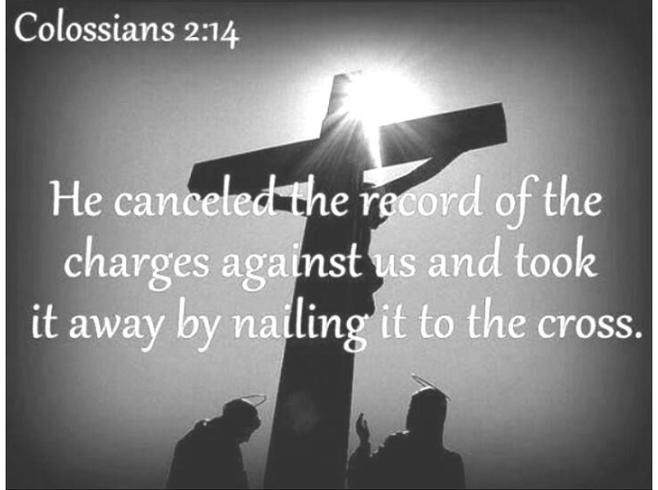
2:1 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for *you and for those at Laodicea* and for all who have not seen me face to face, 2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of **God's mystery, which is Christ**, 3 **in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge**. 4 I say this in order that *no one* may delude you with plausible arguments. 5 For though I am absent in body, yet I am with *you in spirit*, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith **in Christ**. 6 Therefore, as *you* received **Christ Jesus the Lord**, so walk in **him**, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

8 See to it that *no one takes you captive* by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to *the elemental spirits of the world*, and not according to **Christ**. 9 **For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily**, 10 and you have been filled **in him, who is the head of all rule and authority**. 11 In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision **of Christ**, 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working **of God**, who raised him from the dead.

**BEGIN HERE:** 13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God** made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

16 Therefore let *no one pass judgment* on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. 17 These are a shadow of the things to come, but **the substance belongs to Christ**. 18 *Let no one disqualify* you, insisting on asceticism and worship of *angels*, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, 19 and not holding fast to **the Head, from whom** the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from **God**. 20 If with **Christ** you died to *the elemental spirits of the world*, why, as if you were still *alive in the world*, do you submit to regulations— 21 “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” 22 (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to *human precepts and teachings*? 23 These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.

Colossians 2:14



He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.

## NOTES:

### (vv. 1-7) Rooted in Christ – Who is God’s Mystery Revealed

- the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of (Rom 11:25)
- **God's mystery, which is Christ**, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge
- see your good order and the firmness of your faith **in Christ**.
- Therefore, as *you* received **Christ Jesus the Lord**, so walk in **him** rooted and built up in him
- established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

### (vv. 8-15) Christ’s Deity in Bodily Form and Your Baptism into Him

- **Christ, for in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,**
- and you have been filled **in him, who is the head of all rule and authority**
- In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh,
- by the circumcision **of Christ**, having been buried with him in baptism. (1 Pet 3:18-22; Rom 6:1-14)
- in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working **of God**,
- who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh,
- **God made alive together** with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses

Luther’s Small Catechism – Baptism part 4: *What does such baptizing with water signify?-- It signifies that the old Adam in us should, by daily contrition and repentance, be drowned and die with all sins and evil lusts, and, again, a new man daily come forth and arise; who shall live before God in righteousness and purity forever. Where is this written?—St. Paul says Romans, chapter 6: We are buried with Christ by Baptism into death, that, like as He was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

**BEGIN HERE:** -by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. (JUSTIFICATION)

- This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. (Eph 6:12; 2 Cor 2:14; Mt 12:29; Lk 10:18; Rom 16:20)
- He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

### (vv. 16-23) Jesus IS the Head of the Church, the People who set Dietary Laws are NOT

- Therefore let *no one pass judgment* on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come  
(Mt. 12:1-12; John 9:14-16; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 16:1,2; Heb 4:9; 8:5; 10:1; Rev 1:10)

### The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

**NOTE:** The first century Christians began to worship on Sunday – in honor of the Lord’s resurrection. Sunday is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week (Gen. 1:1-5; Mt 28:1-7) it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> day after his crucifixion (Mt. 16:21) and it is the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the new creation (Luke 2:21; 9:28-30; John 20:26-28; 1 Pet 3:18-22)

So now **WHENEVER** we gather around Word and Sacrament, we are “resting” in Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath rest – no matter what day of the week it is...

- *Let no one disqualify* you, insisting on asceticism and worship of *angels*, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind
- *the elemental spirits of the world*, ... submit to regulations
- “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to *human precepts and teachings?*
- These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.
- the substance belongs to **Christ**. (Mt 5:17; Heb 1:1-4; 8:6)
- holding fast to the **Head**, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from **God**.
- If with **Christ** you died (BAPTISMAL IDENTITY)

## LIFE APPLICATION:

1. Do you have your baptism certificate (past event) and can you see your real identity (present reality) in who you are connected to Christ’s death, burial and resurrection?
2. How can you hold fast to the Head of the body and to the true substance of godliness, resting in him?