



Colossians: Jesus Over Everything

September 3 – Colossians 2:6-15

Section 1: Introduction

This week, we come to Colossians 2:6-15.

In this passage, Paul emphasizes the supremacy of Christ and the believers' union with him. Colossians 2:6-15 is a pivotal passage within the broader context of the letter to the Colossians, where the apostle Paul addresses theological challenges and encourages believers to remain steadfast in their faith in Christ.

Drawing on previous themes such as circumcision, baptism, and more, Paul seeks to once again reaffirm Jesus' supremacy, sufficiency, and authority. Christ is better than any man-made philosophy, believers are circumcised spiritually through Christ, not by human hands, and there is the forgiveness of sins and triumphal victory over the powers and authorities through his death and resurrection.

Because of all this, believers are encouraged not to be subject to man-made rules and regulations but to focus on their identity in Christ.

Read Colossians 2:6-15.

Section 2: Walk slowly through your passage

- What is the main theme of this passage, and how does it connect to the broader context of Paul's message to the Colossian church?
- According to verse 6, what does Paul exhort the Colossian believers to do?
- In verses 8 and 9, what warning does Paul give to the Colossians? What kind of deceptive philosophies and empty deceit is he addressing?

How does the assertion that "all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form" (verse 9) serve as a defense against these deceptive teachings? How does this truth counteract the false notions being promoted?

- What does Paul mean by being "circumcised with a circumcision made without hands" in verse 11? How does this spiritual circumcision relate to believers' relationship/new identity with or in Christ?
 - How does Romans 2:25-29 expand what you think Paul's words about circumcision mean here?
 - What about Galatians 5:1-6?
- How does Paul describe the victory of Christ over powers and authorities in verses 14 and 15? What implications does this victory have for the lives of believers?

How does the imagery of Christ "disarming" and making a "public spectacle" of these powers relate to the themes of his supremacy and authority established earlier in the passage?

Section 3: Reflection questions

- How deeply are you rooted in your faith in Christ? In what areas do you feel “uprooted” in your faith? What practices or habits have you developed to ensure that you are consistently “walking in him” and drawing strength from this relationship?
- Reflecting on the idea of spiritual circumcision, what areas of your life need deeper transformation and renewal? How can you actively cooperate with Christ's work in you to put off sinful behaviors and attitudes?
- Take a moment to meditate on the concept of having your “trespasses forgiven,” being “made alive” in Christ, and having a Lord who is “triumphing” over the rulers and authorities. Are there past mistakes or regrets that you still hold onto? How can I fully embrace the freedom, new life, and victory that Christ offers?

Section 4: Pray the Scriptures

Using Colossians 2:6-15, write out a prayer in response to what you’ve read or use the prayer already constructed below to pray this passage.

[Sample prayer]

Gracious God,

In Christ, I find fullness and freedom. Root me in Your truth, guarding against empty philosophies. Transform me within, as I embrace new life in him.

Forgive my trespasses and help me stand in Christ's victory. Release me from legalism, and let his love guide me.

In his name I pray.

Amen.

Section 5: Memorize Scripture

Throughout this series, we want to be memorizing Scripture. Use the prompts below to help you get Colossians 2:6-15 into your heart and mind.

1. Write out the passage: Write down Colossians 2:6-15 in your journal or on a notecard.
2. Memorize Colossians 2:6-8. Use various techniques to memorize the passage, such as repeating it out loud, creating visual associations, or setting it to a melody or rhythm. Take time to commit these verses to memory.
3. Review and practice: Regularly review the passage throughout the week. Recite it from memory and reflect on its meaning and significance.