

Colossians 2:6-15 (November 12, 2023) “Raised with Christ”

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Colossians 2:6-15

1. Describe the images and for what purposes Paul uses in Colossians 2:7 to describe how we should live in Christ (Jeremiah 17:7-8; Psalm 1:2-3; Matthew 7:24-27).

2. From your study so far in Colossians, what reasons do you find for believers to be thankful? Would you describe yourself as “abounding in thankfulness” (Colossians 2:7)? Explain.

3. **NOTE from Philippians and Colossians: Letters from Prison p. 51 by Marilyn Kunz and Catherine Schell:** “The term philosophy in the first century referred to a way of life rather than to intellectual pursuit. The heresy Paul alludes to seems to be a mixture of Greek and Jewish streams of thought. Judaism insisted on the importance of the tradition of the elders including circumcision, rules about food and drink and keeping festivals, new moons and sabbaths. The Greeks and Romans believed their whole lives were influenced by the spirits of the stars and planets.”

What do the false teachings of the Greeks, Romans, and Jewish thought have in common (Col. 2:8)? Give examples of the “philosophy and empty deceit” evident in our culture.

4. Write Colossians 2:9-10 in your own words (see also Colossians 1:19) and share what it means to you.

5. Paul uses circumcision metaphorically in Colossians 2:11. What is Paul implying (Romans 8:12-13; 2 Corinthians 5:16-18; Galatians 5:16, 24)?

6. Describe the “powerful working of God” according to Colossians 2:12-15.

7. Christ is the “head of all rule and authority” (Colossians 2:10). How did He “disarm the rulers and authorities” according to this passage, 1 Corinthians 15:54-55, and Hebrews 2:14?