

In Christ
Lesson 17
Colossians 2:1-23

Paul and the Colossians – 2:1-5

1. What did Paul want the Colossians to know? (Colossians 2:1)
2. What did he mean by that? (Colossians 1:9)
3. What did Paul say was his purpose or goal in writing to them? (Colossians 2:2a)
 - What did he hope they “*may have?*” (Colossians 2:2b)
 - Who is the “*mystery of God?*” (Colossians 2:2c)
 - What has been hidden in Him? (Colossians 2:3)
4. What was Paul’s stated concern and his reason for writing? (Colossians 2:4)
5. How did Paul describe his relationship with this church? (Colossians 2:5a)
 - What delighted Paul about the Colossians? (Colossians 2:5b)

Hang In There – Colossians 2:6-8

6. Using Colossians 2:6 & 7:
 - What had the Colossians already done?
 - What did Paul encourage them to continue doing?

7. In verse 8 Paul revealed the first of what these false teachers were saying. Paul warned the Colossians not to be taken captive by them. How did he describe this false teaching? (Colossians 2:8)

In Christ – Colossians 2:9-15

8. How is that different in Christ? (Colossians 2:9)

- Define “full / fullness.”
- What do you think Paul meant when using that word in relationship to Christ?

9. How has the believer been given fullness? (Colossians 2:10)

10. In Christ, what did Paul say about circumcision? (Colossians 2:11)

11. Paul explained how that inward reality was to be expressed outwardly. Using verse 12:

- How is the Believer “*buried with Christ?*”
- How is the Believer “*raised with Christ?*”

12. Using verse 13:

- What is the spiritual condition of one who is not “*in Christ?*”
- Who can change that to being alive?
- How is that possible?

13. What about the role of the written code, for those who are “in Christ?” (Colossians 2:14)

14. What did Christ do with the powers and authorities that opposed Him? (Colossians 2:15)

15. **Reflect:** Look back over verses 9-15

- What are the benefits of all those who are *"in Christ?"* (Colossians 12, 13)
- How did Christ accomplish this for us? (Colossians 14, 15)

False Teaching – Colossians 2:16-23

16. Verse 16 begins with *"therefore"* referring to the previous verses. Because the Colossian Believers were *"in Christ"* what did Paul say they should not allow? (Colossians 2:16)

17. With regard to the Jewish festivals, how did Paul describe them? (Colossians 2:17a)

- In what is the reality found? (Colossians 2:17b)

18. Paul warned the Colossians about allowing the false teachers to condemn them. Make a list of attributes of these false teachers. (Colossians 2:18)

19. What is the reality when it comes to false teachers? (Colossians 2:19)

20. **Reflect:**

- Who is the *"Head?"* (Colossians 1:4, 18)
- Think of Paul's analogy of the human body. What happens when a body part loses its connection to the mind and the muscles?
- What do you think Paul was saying to the Colossians with that analogy?

21. Of what fact did Paul remind the Colossians? (Colossians 2:20a)

- What challenging question did he ask about the world's "rules?" (Colossians 2:20b)

22. What specific *rules*" did Paul mention? (Colossians 2:21)

23. All those rules were negative. What did Paul say about them? (Colossians 2:22)

24. Using Colossians 2:23:

- Why are people (then and now) drawn to such regulations?
- But, in this case, even with all these harsh restrictions and regulations what was the true reality? (Colossians 2:23b)