

Lessons Learned About God, Life, and Man

1. The only source of true knowledge and wisdom in this world is Christ; He owns all of it, 2:2-3.
2. Christians are under constant assault from another way of thinking, another way of living. It's the way of the world, the way mankind normally lives and breathes when Christ is not involved, 2:4, 8.
3. The way Christians are supposed to live and breathe is from their position inside Christ, that is, they're supposed to think, speak, and do as Jesus thinks, speaks and does because they are in Him, 2:3-8.
4. The philosophy the world lives by is designed to rob and deceive you and it's the creation of man not God, 2:8.
5. Everything that God resides in Jesus, therefore, Jesus is God in the flesh, 2:9.
6. If Jesus holds all wisdom and knowledge, is God in the flesh, and we reside in Him, then we have everything we need for a full and complete life, 2:3, 9, 10.
7. Jesus is the ultimate ruler; He is over every authority and power, including Satan and his minions, 2:10 (2:8, 14-15).
8. Jesus took us out of Satan's world, that is, He stripped us of the old body we used to wear, the one that governed over us with its dogma, its empty and deceitful way of living, 2:8, 11.
9. The moment we believed in Jesus, God clothed us with Jesus' Body, that is, He forever united us with Him—buried, raised, and made alive **together-with** Jesus, 2:12-13.
10. Before we believed in Jesus, we lived a dead existence: we were dead in our sins and we were clothed with and lived in a dead and empty world, 2:8, 11, 13.
11. Jesus forgave all our sins, 2:13.
12. Jesus took the world's dogma, its empty and deceitful way of living (which used to rule us, to which we owed allegiance) and nailed it to the Cross, that is, He rendered it powerless over us, 2:14.
13. Through His death Jesus triumphed over Satan and his minions; He disarmed them and put them to shame, 2:14-15.
14. Since Jesus has freed us from Satan's rule over us through the world's dead and empty dogma which includes religious rules, we should not succumb to it. Jesus is the only real source for living life, 2:16-17.
15. Any system of living that is not grounded in Christ will rob you and it will fail to provide true growth, 2:18-19.
16. The Church grows because of the nourishment that it gets from its Head, Jesus Christ, 1:19.
17. Did you know that you're a body part in the Body of Christ (the Church)? Every one of us serves a function in Jesus' Body, down to the joints and ligaments, 1:19.

Colossians Chapter 2

18. Did you know that you serve an important role in the growth and unity of Jesus' Body (the Church), 1:19?
19. The amount that Jesus' Body (the Church) grows is dictated by God the Father, 1:19.
20. Since we have been forever clothed with Christ's Body and He is no longer subject to the world's dead dogma, we should not do anything the way the world does, not marriage, not addiction, not parenting, not career, not partying, not friendships, not family, not grieving, not depression, not divorce, not celebrating, not retirement, not finance, not fitness, not anything, 2:20.
21. The way the world does things was created by mankind. There are rules for every endeavor in life, rules for eating, drinking, self-improvement, religion, happiness, satisfaction, self-control, and on and on. Some of these rules and ways of living sound brilliant but they fail to address the heart of man's problem: his selfish heart, 2:20-23.

Colossians 2 Summarized

Sentences

2:1-3, for I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and *attaining* to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

2:4, now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words.

2:5, for though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your *good* order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

2:6-7, as you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

2:8-10, beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

2:11-12, in Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

2:13-15, and you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

2:16-17, so let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.