

Last week we focused on what it means for us to be complete in Christ. Regardless of the accusations of the enemy (Satan), we rest in the reality of being found in the One who settled all accusations against us. Today let's continue to focus on the all sufficiency of Christ and our identity in Him. Countless voices tell us how we can improve on what He's done to create liberating intimacy with the Godhead. Guard your treasure; **it's not what we do but who we are in Christ.**

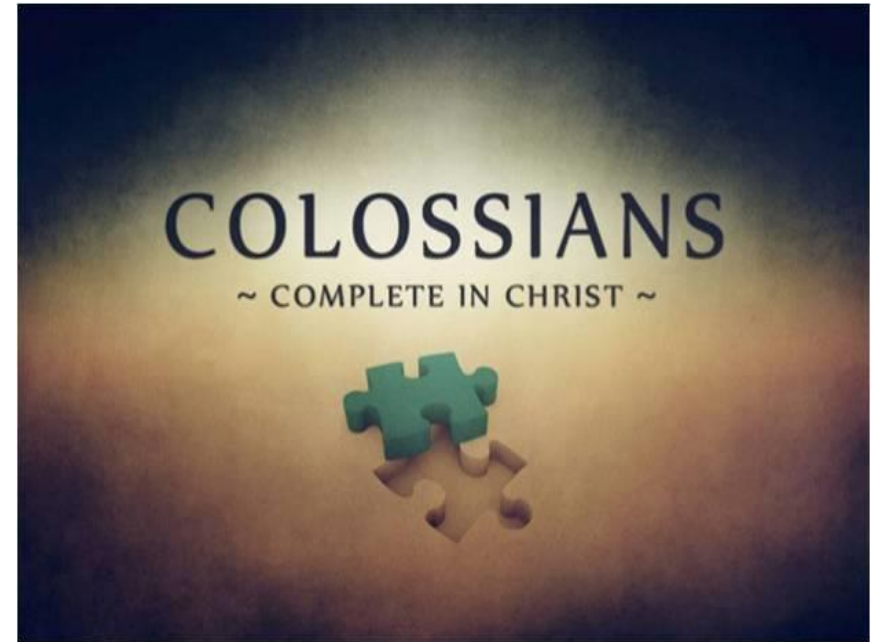
Rest in the reality of that which is in Christ alone (v.17)

Avoid religious rules that are mere shadows (vs. 16-19)

Asceticism cannot compare (vs. 20-23)

Personal Application and Interaction

1. Recall a time when you felt the sting of judgment. Was there some truth in it? How did you feel and what did you do about it?
2. How have you dealt with the rules and regulations that shaped your spiritual journey?
3. How did you come to recognize the “shadows” of “religion” (vs. 16-19)? What did it take for you to separate the shadows from the reality that is in Christ?
4. How is God working in your life to help you discover what it means to find your identity in Christ?
5. “You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from spiritual powers of this world. **So, why do you keep following the rules of the world?**” Rules like... “don’t taste, don’t touch...human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them....” These are rules that “...require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person’s evil desires” (2:20-23, NLT). Personalize Paul’s question in vs 20-21.



Guard your Treasure in Christ

Colossians 2:16-23

Pastor John Ploog
October 13, 2019

