

Colossians 2:6-15

⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits^[a] of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities^[b] and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Two Commands (the What)

1. Walk in Christ (2:6-7)
 - a. “as you received him” – faith in the divine Son who died/was raised for our sins.
Confirmed by “just as you were taught” in v. 7 (see also 1 Cor 15:1-4)
 - b. Rooted, built up, established – all our growth comes from him (see “vine” in Jn 15:5)
 - c. Abounding in thanksgiving- because you have ALL you need in him.
2. Do not be taken captive (2:8)
 - a. By philosophy- pagan thoughts about the nature and reality of the world
 - b. By empty deceit- those adding anything to the gospel by trying to make it look like it must come *with* the gospel (ex. legalism, worship of angels, etc.)
 - c. According to human tradition//elemental spirits- i.e. anything *other* than the Word of God you received

The Reason (the Why)

1. The whole fullness of deity dwells in Christ (v. 9)
2. You have been made complete in Christ (v. 10)
3. Christ is the head of all rule and authority (v. 10)
4. Christ has transformed your life (v. 11)
5. You have died and been raised with Christ (v. 12-14)
6. You have been completely forgiven (v. 13)
7. Christ has disarmed the rulers and authorities and triumphed over them (v. 15)

Christ= Everything

Christ + Anything = Nothing