

P.M. OUTLINE
11/13/2022

"BEWARE"

(Colossians 2:8 - 23)

"Beware" - be on guard for impending danger; be cautious; watch out; take heed; be aware.

Paul warns brethren about false teachers who borrowed from everything to create their doctrine.

John Philips commentary labels five errors in this text: (v8-10) intellectualism (v11-13) ritualism (v14-17) legalism (v18-19) mysticism and (v20-23) asceticism

1. (v8) "lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit ... tradition of men ... the basic principles of the world" - intellectualism

"lest anyone cheat you" - rob you of truth; deceive; dupe; mislead; swindle or fleece.

"philosophy and empty deceit" - (Romans 10:2-3)

"tradition of men" - (Matthew 15:3, v9)

"basic principles of the world" - (Luke 6:46)

"and not according to Christ" - remember, it's Christ above all.

2. (v11-13) "in Him you were circumcised with the circumcision made without hands" Christ Jesus took away the ritual of physical circumcision.

"putting off the body of the sins of the flesh" - the forgiveness of sins.

When did that take place? "buried with Him in baptism" "raised"

"through faith in the working of God" (KJV "the faith of the operation of God")

(v13) "being dead ... made alive" - (Ephesians 2:1, v5)

3. (v14-17) "having wiped out the handwriting of requirements ... nailed it to the cross" Christ Jesus took away the legalism of keeping the Old Law.

(Galatians 3:23-25) "... we are no longer under a tutor ..."

(Hebrews 10:9-10) "He takes away the first that He may establish the second ..."

"having disarmed principalities and powers" - (Hebrews 2:14) "that through death

He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil"

"let no one judge you in food or drink, or regarding a festival ..."

4. (v18-19) "Let no one cheat you of your reward ..."

These false teachers "took delight" basing worship on supposedly super-natural visions,

"intruding into those things which he has not seen," which is mysticism.

"and not holding fast to the Head, from whom ..." - again, Christ is above all.

5. (v20-23) speaks to asceticism: the idea that self-denial is a way to earn favor from God. It is characterized by the words "no" and "don't." It teaches that depriving the body of its normal desires will achieve greater holiness and approval from God.

"you died with Christ" - (Galatians 2:20-21)

"why ... do you subject yourselves to regulations?"

"in self-imposed religion" - you think it looks good to follow your own rules.