

COLOSSIANS AND PHILEMON

Warnings Against False Religious Practice Col. 2:16 - 3:4

Lesson 6

- Intro.
1. Lesson 5 warned against Error in thinking--being led astray by philosophy or traditions, or insistence on observance of the law of Moses.
 2. Error in thinking is usually followed by error in practice. This is the theme of these verses.
 3. As you study this section, consider what modern doctrines and practices are comparable.

I. Since "you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world" (Vs. 20), therefore: **Guard Your Freedom!**

A. From Requirements of the Law of Moses (Verses 16-17)

1. List the requirements of the law named in verse 16.
2. Why are these no longer to be kept?
 - a. Verse 14
 - b. Verse 17
3. What commandments of the law of Moses do some try to bind on us today?

B. From Requirements of the "commandments and doctrines of men" (verses 18-23)

1. What two practices are listed in verse 18.

Was their humility genuine?
2. Why were these teachers encouraging these practices (vs. 18)?

What were they **not** doing?
3. What will be the result when all members of the body hold "fast to the Head"?
4. How serious was it to follow the false teachers in such thinking and practice (vs. 18)?

What verse in Ephesians parallels this verse?
5. What three regulations were typical of those false teachers (vs. 21 *c.f.* I Tim. 4:1-3)?

Look up the word *asceticism* in a dictionary.
6. What was true of the things they were forbidding (vs. 22; see also Mark 7:14-23)?
7. What was the source of this religion (worship) according to vs. 23?
8. What was said to be the value of all of this toward indulgence of the flesh?
9. What are some prohibitions imposed on religious people today "according to the commandments and doctrines of men"?
10. Go back through this chapter and list the things that made this error attractive.

II. Since "you were raised with Christ" (3:1) therefore:

1. What things should those raised with Christ seek?

Why?
2. What position does Christ occupy in heaven?

What significance does this have for us and how does it relate to the following verses?
3. What false doctrine of that day does verse 3 refute?
4. For what do we hope?