

COLOSSIANS

WEEK 5 - COLOSSIANS 2:16-3:4

16 Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. 17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. 18 Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind. 19 They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

20 Since you died with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, why, as though you still belonged to the world, do you submit to its rules: 21 "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22 These rules, which have to do with things that are all destined to perish with use, are based on merely human commands and teachings. 23 Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

1) Jewish festivals were symbols leading to Jesus' coming to earth (16-17). What things do we do today that are a shadow or symbol of when Jesus will come back?

2) In verse 18, Paul talks about the church being disqualified from eternity with Christ. What are things that might lure a Christian into being "disqualified" from spending eternity with Christ today?

3) In verses 20-23, Paul talks about rules that people are trying to impose on the church. Are there any rules today that the church tries to impose on itself that aren't founded in Scripture?

4) In verses 1-4, Paul says that "with Christ" we are raised, hidden, and will one day appear. How is Christ entwined in your life? How can you invite Jesus into being a bigger part of your daily routine?