

## ***Fullness of Deity in Christ Jesus***

### **Colossians 2:8-15**

Paul is the kind of spiritual leader we all want to know. He has undying love and concern for the church and primarily struggling Christians. He knows they can get ripped off by false teachers who promise unattainable benefits if they follow them, knowing it will only pull them away from Christ and take them down a dark road of defeat, emptiness and disillusionment. So he gives fatherly warnings.

***8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ***

***Captive*** –to carry off as spoil/plunder & put on slave block....Cheat you--rob by means of lies & deceit--robbed of truth & freedom that comes w/ truth.....***Philosophy*** – theories of god, life, spirituality from secular point of view...saying these are higher than simply Jesus & bible...

Paul calls them ‘***empty deceit***’, worthless—far from moving you closer to God, they leave you empty...are ***elemental***, natural, abc’s, basic things in a fallen world that capture your attention away from the all sufficient and sovereign Christ. Cult of environmentalism – God is creator & sustainer. 100K & one year in jail destroying eagle egg. ROLLING HILLS, Wyo. (AP) — Criminal cases brought by U.S. wildlife officials for killing or harming protected bald and golden eagles dropped sharply in recent years, even as officials ramped up issuing permits that will allow [wind energy companies](#) to kill thousands of eagles without legal consequence.

**NS house collapse--tree hugger--** someone who is regarded as foolish or annoying because of being too concerned about protecting trees, animals, and other parts of the natural world from pollution and other threats.

Don’t take advice non-surfer if learning to surf or on race car driving who crashes his car every time he went out if want to learn race car driving.

## **Fullness of Deity in Christ Jesus**

### **Colossians 2:8-15**

When it comes to spiritual thing don't look to worldly wisdom about God from those who don't know Jesus Christ who is God.

Taken captive by philosophies & empty deception, promise of something w/o substance--**ponzi scheme**, illusion of something not real--**Sodom apple**

*Elementary* worldly beliefs w/o true spiritual value....**vegetarianism** "least violent, consciously prepared for the highest vibration." **preference food &**

**preference in people**, perfect body, looks, ego, surf, Solomon conquests, woke culture – French teacher fired not using boy chosen pronoun 575,000 settlement after years in courts.....

*Not giving into these rather than Christ*--devotion, prayer, word of God, life live in Christ, salt and light. Dying to self living for Jesus...**seeks gain live will lose it-lose life for My sake gain it**

**9 For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form,**

In Christ Jesus all fullness of Godhead, Deity dwells...**if you've see me you've seen the Father.** **John 1:1**--To know Jesus is to know God. He was put to death because they rejected this truth & they do the same today....Divine nature fully expressed in Jesus, bodily form—Gnostics said matter evil, spirit good...Paul's doctrine...Jesus fully human, fully God.

**10 and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority; 11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;**

**Complete**, make full, nothing lacking, to fill a hollow space--in Christ position in heaven & actually in life as we grow in grace & knowledge of Christ... the search is over for finding meaning, purpose, the mystery in life...we made in image of God, fallen, now restored back to the person God intends us to be.

## ***Fullness of Deity in Christ Jesus***

### **Colossians 2:8-15**

He's head as creator, has first place...not a lesser emanation or lower rung on spiritual ladder as cults & worldly philosophy might say but—who is God, leader, ruler, author...director, counselor for life and church

Coming to Christ symbolized by a spiritual circumciion of heart, cutting away fleshly part that hid Jesus from us. Flesh life no longer dominates. OT outward symbol of separated life & being in relationship w/ God

*12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.*

ID w/ Christ in death, burial, resurrection thru baptism...outward expression of an inward work of Christ. Salvation *Rom 6 'crucified w/ Christ body of sin done away...'* What is true inward is celebrated outward thru baptism

Spiritually dead, uncircumcision in flesh, separated because transgression and life of sin...doing what feels good & can get away w/ w/o getting caught. Uncircumcision of flesh--can't do anything about it —God's prerogative to *make alive*, He is first cause. Now made alive in Christ, forgiven of transgressions

*Debt* placard of crimes committed on parchment nailed to post of city gate, impossible to pay **Matt 18:21-35**. Blood wipes clean. Nailed double metaphor..nailed post city gate-our crimes *Christ* paid for. Jesus paid what we couldn't, unpayable debt. *Cancel culture of old life*...list of sins, transgressions against God, hostile to God making us guilty deserving the penalty for our misdeeds now taken away, cancelled out *Tetelestai*...nailed to the cross.

## ***Fullness of Deity in Christ Jesus***

### **Colossians 2:8-15**

*15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.*

Disarmed...devil power to accuse canceled...*it is finished, he is finished.*

Preached spirits in prison, led captivity captive...public display, Roman general parade defeated enemy as Jesus made open display by resurrection from dead.