

The Substance Belongs to Christ **Colossians 2:16-23**

Paul gives warnings 2:8 false teachers & now more warnings in this section--so heed them....**Watts riots**...Aug 1965

16 Therefore let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day—17 things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

They judge you because you are not like them in keeping religious laws. Law of Moses dealt w/ ceremonial things, clean & unclean; meats, drink keeping of days. Simply shadows of Christ who is to come. Now that Jesus had come, legalist still insisted you keep the law which in reality undermined the work of Christ on the cross when He said it is finished. Thinking to have Christ and keep the law was a double blessing & brought you that much closer to Christ but in reality had the opposite effect.

Jesus the substance & those things the shadow that pointed to His coming. The shadow has no value when the person is there. If married relationship w/ person not pictures. So to continue w/ the Law brings confusion that the gospel has not come, Christ work, not a reality but it is person is here & don't talk to their shadow.

18 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind, 19 and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

They judge & give appearance of humility & self sacrifice which is inverted pride.

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18, [v. 18](#). It looked like a piece of modesty to make use of the mediation of angels, as conscious to ourselves of our unworthiness to speak immediately to God; but, though it has a show of humility, it is a voluntary, not a commanded humility; and therefore it is not acceptable, yea, it is not warrantable: it is taking that honour which is due to Christ only and giving it to a creature.

Judge you legalism & flesh loves to keep rules, satisfies ego, I'm ok your ok

Therefore, what we have in Christ, salvation, forgiveness, freedom, He is fullness of Godhead, sufficiency of Christ. Grace rules not law Rom 6:14.

Judging freedom, in Christ is saying Jesus didn't do enough, it isn't finished. We have avenue to deeper spiritual life.

Pride is at the bottom of a great many errors and corruptions, and even of many evil practices, which have great show and appearance of humility. Those who do so do *not hold the head*, [v. 19](#). They do in effect disclaim Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man. It is the highest disparagement to Christ, who is the head of the church, for any of the members of it to make use of any intercessors with God but him.

The legalism was w/ food, drink, days – regulation, to do or not to do—not what goes into stomach...Matt 15....Peter housetop.....1Co 8:8....vege not judge meat...Sabbath keeping Ex 20:9

Lords Day is Sunday Rev 1:10 first day of week Acts 20:7; 1Cor 16:2....law a schoolmaster....

Food OT clean and unclean foods

That you may be filled with all the fulness of God, [Eph. 3:19](#). See a parallel expression, *Which is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, fitly joined together, maketh increase of the body*, [Eph. 4:15, 16](#).

[v. 20](#). If as Christians you are dead to the observances of the ceremonial law, why are you subject to them? Such observances as, *Touch not, taste not, handle not*," [v. 21, 22](#). Under the law there was a ceremonial pollution contracted by touching a dead body, or any thing offered to an idol; or by tasting any forbidden meats, etc., *which all are to perish with the using*, having no intrinsic worth in themselves which tend to corrupt the Christian faith,

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Which things have indeed a show of wisdom in will-worship and humility. They thought themselves wiser than their neighbours, in observing the law of Moses together with the gospel of Christ, that they might be sure in the one, at least, to be in the right; but, alas! it was but a show of wisdom,

the gospel teaches us to worship God in spirit and truth and not by ritual observances, and through the mediation of Christ alone and not of any angels.

Christians to *stand fast in the liberty with which Christ hath made them free, and not to be entangled again with the yoke of bondage*, [Gal. 5:1](#)

And the imposition of them is invading the authority of Christ, the head of the church, and *introducing another law of commandments contained in ordinances*, when Christ has abolished the old one, [Eph. 2:15](#).

16 Therefore let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day—17 things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ. 18 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind, 19 and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God. 20 If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you were living in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees, such as, 21 “Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!” 22 (which all refer to things destined to perish with the using)—in accordance with the commandments and teachings of men? 23 These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.

1COR 4:5 Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

2Chr 19:7 Now let the fear of the LORD be on you. Judge carefully, for with the LORD our God there is no injustice or partiality or bribery.”

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Duet 1:17 'You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not fear man, for the judgment is God's. And the case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me, and I will hear it.'

Judge not least you be judged....critics of the church instead of credit to the church. Don't give into those...this church is sick... 7th day Adventist one judges one day above another...communion every Sunday....deal breaker if can't bring coffee....

Shadow....Jesus is our rest....

Jesus not wash hands...not what goes into mouth.....Jesus heals on Sabbath my father is working.....picking grain, David shew bread....strain at gnat swallow camel...

Prize of freedom in Christ...taking items from house...me surfing....watch Sports on Sunday. Self abasement...body conscience...diet...I'm better because what I eat, body no fat,

Passover lamb a shadow of Jesus...at Pentecost HS on believers 1st fruits to God 3000 saved.

Jesus our Sabbath rest

18 Dogma...purgatory pray out of holding....prayers thru Mary....you not worth but veil torn Doc of Nico church Ephh priest over laity...3Jn Diotrephes.

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