



DISCUSSION GUIDE FEBRUARY 5, 2023

Dive In

Go around and let everyone answer...

When most people talk about “false teaching,” are they concerned with teaching from outside the church or within? Why?

Dig Deep

Read Scripture: Colossians 2:1-12

“¹I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. ²My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. ⁵For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is. ⁶So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. ⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. ⁹For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. ¹¹In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self-ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

- What is Paul’s stated goal and how does he hope to achieve it?
- What does Paul mean when he says, “in Christ all the fullness of the Deity dwells”?
- In what ways does this text teach against self-righteousness?
- There are only two commands in this text. What are they, and why are they important?

Do Big

- David talked about outward pressure (secularism) against Christ being supreme. What are some inward pressures against the supremacy of Christ?
- How do these pressures take our focus off Christ?
- How will you work this week to reject false messages and instead allow Jesus Christ to be Lord of all?



LEADERS

Read Colossians 2:1-12

Background:

The "Colossian Heresy" is a term that is used to describe the false teachings that occurred in the early church of Colossae, causing the apostle Paul to write his Epistle to the Colossians.

The exact nature of the heresy is debated and can only be guessed at by the content of Paul's counterarguments in his letter. There are three broad views on the nature of the heresy. One is that it was a Jewish heresy, with a mystical and ascetic form of Judaism. Another was that it was a syncretic gnostic teaching influenced by Greek philosophy. The third is that it was a mixture of these two.

Key Thought

Christ is the antidote to all false teaching and belief.

Challenge

In verse 7, Paul talks about being rooted and built up in Christ, being strengthened in faith, and overflowing with thankfulness. Each day this week, pick a different element of verse 7 and seek it.

Weekly Memory Verse

“My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ...”

Colossians 2:2