

## THE ALL-SUFFICIENT JESUS

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### Text: Colossians 2:16-23 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup> These are a shadow of the things to come, but the **substance belongs to Christ.**

<sup>18</sup> Let no one disqualify you on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup> and not **holding fast to the Head**, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

<sup>20</sup> If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations – <sup>21</sup> “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” <sup>22</sup> (referring to things that all perish as they are used)– according to human precepts and teachings?

<sup>23</sup> These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are **of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.**

### Introduction:

Paul writing to church in Colossae because he had received a report that the church was being threatened by the dangerous teachings of false teachers.

#### DANGEROUS TEACHINGS:

Mix of Paganism, Greek traditions & strains of Judaism

Dietary practices, Sabbaths & the keeping of certain Festivals, New Moons.

Asceticism

Mystical religions – worship of angels.

They denied the very **supremacy** and **all-sufficiency** of Christ.

**1 Kings 18:21** “How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the Lord is God follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him.”

**Ephesians 2:8&9 (NLT)** “For by grace you have been saved by faith. Nothing you did could ever earn this salvation, for it was the **love gift** from God that brought us to Christ.”

You don't work for a gift, you receive a gift.

#### MAIN QUESTION:

**Have you come to Jesus?**

### JESUS IS SUFFICIENT:

The false teachers believed that putting your trust in Jesus was not sufficient for salvation.

They taught that it had to be JESUS + SOMETHING ELSE.

Praying, Fasting, studying the Word are excellent, but they don't save you. It's all about Jesus and not what you do.

In **1 Corinthians 2:5** Paul said that **your faith must not rest in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.**

### **Colossians 2:20-22**

*<sup>20</sup> If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations – <sup>21</sup> "Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch" <sup>22</sup> (referring to things that all perish as they are used)- according to human precepts and teachings?*

### **Acts 14:15b: Turn from these vain things to a living God.**

Christ is the reality.

### JESUS IS THE HEAD:

He is the Head of His body. **He provides leadership, guides and directs, causes the body to grow and mature.**

Headless body – cannot live

We need our physical heads and our Spiritual Head.

Imagine an orchestra – task of conductor.

**Jesus, our Head, directs us.**

### IF IT IS ALL ABOUT JESUS, DOES IT MATTER HOW I LIVE?

**Colossians 2:6** *"Therefore as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so **walk in Him.**"*

Be conformed to the image of Jesus. Sin no longer controls you.

**Ephesians 4:1** tells us to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling** with which we have been called.

**Romans 14** emphasises our freedom, but we must not cause a brother to stumble.

**Romans 14:7 (NLT)** *"We are not our own bosses to live or die as we ourselves might choose."*

**Romans 15:3** *"Christ did not please Himself."*

### CONCLUSION:

**You need Jesus. Salvation is imperative.**

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## Colossians 2:6-23 TPT

### Alive in Christ

<sup>6</sup> In the same way you received Jesus our Lord and Messiah by faith, continue your journey of faith, progressing further into your union with him!

<sup>7</sup> Your spiritual roots go deeply into his life as you are continually infused with strength, encouraged in every way. For you are established in the faith you have absorbed and enriched by your devotion to him!

<sup>8</sup> **Beware that no one distracts you or intimidates you in their attempt to lead you away from Christ's fullness by pretending to be full of wisdom when they're filled with endless arguments of human logic.** For they operate with humanistic and clouded judgments based on the mindset of this world system, and not the anointed truths of the Anointed One.

<sup>9</sup> For he is the complete fullness of deity living in human form.

<sup>10</sup> And **our own completeness is now found in him.** We are completely filled *with God* as Christ's fullness overflows within us. He is the Head of every kingdom and authority in the universe!

<sup>11</sup> Through our union with him we have experienced circumcision of heart. **All of the guilt and power of sin has been cut away and is now extinct because of what Christ, the Anointed One, has accomplished for us.**

<sup>12</sup> For we've been buried with him into his death. Our "baptism into death" also means we were raised with him when we believed in God's resurrection power, the power that raised him from death's realm.

<sup>13</sup> This "realm of death" describes our former state, for we were held in sin's grasp. But now, we've been resurrected out of that "realm of death" never to return, for we are forever alive and forgiven of all our sins!

<sup>14</sup> He canceled out every legal violation we had on our record and the old arrest warrant that stood to indict us. **He erased it all**—our sins, our stained soul—he deleted it all *and they cannot be retrieved!* Everything we once were in Adam has been placed onto his cross and nailed permanently there as a public display of cancellation.

<sup>15</sup> Then Jesus made a public spectacle of all the powers and principalities of darkness, stripping away from them every weapon and all their spiritual authority and power to accuse us. And by the power of the cross, Jesus led them around as prisoners in a procession of triumph. *He was not their prisoner; they were his!*

### Let No One Disqualify You

<sup>16</sup> **So why would you allow anyone to judge you because of what you eat or drink, or insist that you keep the feasts, observe new moon celebrations, or the Sabbath?**

<sup>17</sup> All of these were but a prophetic shadow and the evidence of what would be fulfilled, for the body is now Christ!

<sup>18</sup> **Don't let anyone disqualify you from your prize!** Don't let their pretended sincerity fool you as they deliberately lead you into their initiation of angel worship. For they take pleasure in pretending to be experts of something they know nothing about. Their reasoning is meaningless and comes only from their own opinions.

<sup>19</sup> They refuse to take hold of the true source. ***But we receive directly from him, and his life supplies vitality into every part of his body*** through the joining ligaments connecting us all as one. ***He is the divine Head who guides his body and causes it to grow by the supernatural power of God.***

<sup>20</sup> For **you were included in the death of Christ and have died with him to the religious system and powers of this world.** Don't retreat back to being bullied by the standards and opinions of religion— <sup>21</sup> *for example, their strict requirements, "You can't associate with that person!" or, "Don't eat that!" or, "You can't touch that!"*

<sup>22</sup> These are the **doctrines of men and corrupt customs that are worthless to help you spiritually.**

<sup>23</sup> For though they may appear to possess the promise of wisdom in their submission to God through the deprivation of their physical bodies, **it is actually nothing more than empty rules rooted in religious rituals!**