

Colossians 2:8–23

- Key: united with Jesus the head in death & resurrection / tradition of men
8. Beware lest anyone carry you off as spoil through **philosophy** and **empty deceit**, according to the **tradition of men**, according to the **elementary principles of the world**, and not according to Christ.
 9. For **in him dwells all the fullness of Deity in bodily form**;
 10. and **you have been made full in him, who is the head** of all rule and authority.
 11. **In him you were** also **circumcised** with a **circumcision** made without hands, in stripping off the **body of the flesh**, **in** the **circumcision** of Christ,
 12. **buried together with him** in baptism, in whom you were also **raised together with him** through faith in the working of God, who **raised** him from the **dead**.
 13. And you, being **dead** in your **trespasses** and the uncircumcision of your **flesh**, he **made alive together with him**,
forgiving us all **trespasses**,
 14. **wiping out** the **record of debt** against us with its **decrees**, that which was **hostile** to us, even this he has **set aside**, **nauling** it to the **cross**.
 15. Having stripped rulers and authorities, he made a public display of them, triumphing over them in it.
 16. Therefore let no one judge you in **food or in drink**, or regarding a **festival** or a **new moon** or **Sabbaths**,
 17. which are a shadow of things to come, but **the reality [body] is of Christ**.
 18. Let no one disqualify you [from the prize], insisting on [false] **humility** and worship of angels, taking his stand on [visions] he has seen, puffed up without reason by his fleshly mind,
 19. and not **holding fast to the head, from whom** all the body, nourished and knit together through the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is **from God**.
 20. If **you died together with Christ** from **elementary principles of the world**, why, as if **living** in the world, do you submit to **regulations**, ²¹**"handle not, taste not, touch not,"**
 22. (which all concern things destined to perish with use) according to the **commandments and teachings of men**?
 23. These things indeed have an appearance of **wisdom** in **self-imposed religion**, [false] **humility**, and **severity to the body**, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.