



Online Ministries

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No Person Or Plan Is **BIGGER** Than **The Purpose Of God**

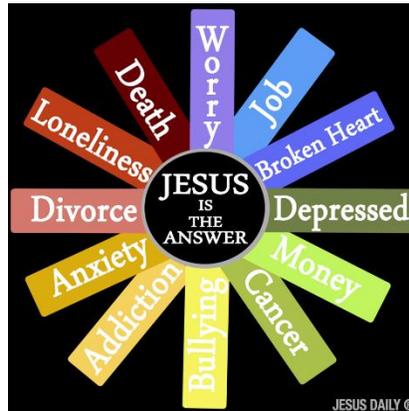
Study of Colossians Chapter 1:24 – Chapter 2:23

Author: Paul

Audience: Church at Colosse

Purpose: To combat errors in the church and to show that believers have everything they need in Christ.

Theme: The **Supremacy** and **Sufficiency** of Christ



Jesus is My Center!				
There is Nothing BIGGER Than My GOD!				
Christ Supreme In The Universe	Christ Supreme In The Church	Christ Supreme In My Life	Christ Supreme In The Home	Christ Supreme In The Community
Christ Over Religiosity	Christ Over All	Put On Christ	In Christ Image	Christ In Relationships
Creation	Reconciliation	Center	Submission	Conversion
<p>Supremacy – the quality or state of having more power, authority, or status than anyone else. Jesus is the ultimate in power, glory, authority, and importance. Jesus’ supremacy over all is developed biblically primarily in Hebrews and Colossians.</p> <p>Sufficiency – the state of being enough or adequate. Jesus has all the attributes of deity so that nothing is outside the realm of His knowledge, nothing is outside the realm of His power, and He is the preeminent one over all creation. Scripture is complete and sufficient for belief and behavior.</p>				

Who is Jesus?

What did Jesus do?

Who am I?

Why am I Here?



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Outline:

- I. Supremacy of Christ
 - a. Who am I? – 1:1-23
 - b. Why am I here? – 1:24-2:1-3
 - c. How do I become rooted in Christ? – 2:6-8
 - d. Freedom in Christ! - 2:9-15
 - e. I do not need a supplement with Christ! – 2:16-23

Vocabulary:

Heresy – teaching contrary to Biblical doctrine

Gnosticism – Greek word for knowledge - Gnostic doctrine taught that the world was created and ruled by a lesser divinity, the demiurge (a heavenly being, subordinate to the Supreme Being), and that Christ was an emissary of the remote supreme divine being, and the redemption of the human spirit is enabled by esoteric knowledge (gnosis)

Asceticism - the doctrine that a person can attain a high spiritual and moral state by practicing self-denial, self-mortification, and the like.

Legalism - describe a doctrinal position emphasizing a system of rules and regulations for achieving both salvation and spiritual growth.

Syncretism – Combining ideas from other philosophies and religions.

Mysticism - that focuses on preparation for, consciousness of, and reaction to what can be described as the immediate or direct presence of God.

The Colossian Heresy Paul's Response		
Heresy	Scripture	Paul's Response
Gnosticism	Colossians 2:8	False Thinking
Christ could not be both human and divine.	Colossians 2:2,3	Christ is God in the flesh; he is the eternal One, head of the body, first in everything, supreme.
One must obtain “secret knowledge” in order to be saved or perfected and this was not available to everyone.	Colossians 2:2,18	God's secret is Christ himself, and he has been revealed to all.
One must adhere to human wisdom, tradition, and philosophies.	Colossians 2:4, 8-10	By themselves, these can be misleading and shallow because they have human origin; instead, we should remember what Christ taught and follow his words as our ultimate authority.
Syncretism	Colossians 2:10	False Thinking
It is even better to combine aspects of several religions.		You have everything when you have Christ; he is all-sufficient



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Heresy	Scripture	Paul's Response
Jewish Ceremonialism	Colossians 2:16-17	False Worship
One must follow ceremonies, rituals, and restrictions in order to be saved or perfected.	Colossians 2:11, 16-23 Colossians 3:11	These were only shadows that ended when Christ came. He's all we need to be saved or perfected.
Angel Worship	Colossians 2:18	False Worship
Angels must be worshipped.		Angels are not to be worshipped, Christ alone is worthy of worship.
Asceticism	Colossians 2:18-23	False Sacrifice
One must deny the body and live in strict asceticism.		Asceticism is no help conquering evil thoughts and desires; instead, it leads to pride.



Discussion Questions:

1. What from the lesson today touched your heart the most?
2. Does my life reflect God's supremacy in it and His sufficiency in my life? Has something else taken supremacy or authority of my life? Have I made other things more sufficient than God, i.e. is He the first thing I turn to in all situations?
3. Is there something I need to nail to the cross because I am still trying to handle, taste, or touch something that does not belong to me?
4. Do I realize that the only way to not succumb to the flesh is to live in the Spirit?
5. Am I alive or dead?