

## Beware Of Spiritual Kidnapers

### Colossians 2:8-12

#### Intro:

- A. These christians are steadfast Vs. 5.
  - 1. They are a source of joy.
  - 2. They are steadfast in Christ.
- B. They are to continue to live for Him Vs. 6.
  - 1. They are Rooted in Christ.
  - 2. They are "growing" in Him.
  - 3. They are established in the faith.
- C. Paul warns them of danger.
  - 1. Vs. 4 False teachers would beguile them.
  - 2. Vs. 8 Slick talkers might "spoil" them.

#### I. The Danger That Threatened Them.

- A. Vs. 8 "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit."
  - 1. "Beware" = βλέπω = "to see", "consider".
  - 2. "Spoil" = συλαγωγέω = "to carry off as booty or as a captive", "to kidnap".
  - 3. "Philosophy" = φιλοσοφία = "love of wisdom".
  - 4. "Vain" = κενός = "empty".
  - 5. "Deceit" = απάτη = "deceit", "by false statements".
- B. "...after the traditions of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."
  - 1. "Traditions" = παραδοσις = delivery, one to another.
  - 2. "Rudiments" = στοιχείον = "a little step", "a pin", "a peg", "component parts of a series", "elementary things".
  - 3. "built on men's thoughts and ideas, instead of on what Christ has said" - Tay
- C. Vs. 9 "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."
  - 1. "Dwelleth" = κατοικέω = "to settle down".
  - 2. "Fulness" = πληρωμα = "the contents of a thing", "that with which anything filled".
  - 3. "Godhead" = θεοτης = "divine nature".
  - 4. "Bodily" = σωματικως = "the human body".

- D. The tactics of the kidnappers and Paul's Reply.
  1. They said that these Christians were being deprived of essential information.
  2. They offered the old, tired and untrue fantasies of gnosticism.
  3. Christ is really the source of all true wisdom and knowledge. Vs. 3,9

## II. They Were Complete In Christ.

- A. "And ye are complete in Him,"
  1. "Complete" = πληρωω = "to make full".
  2. "and by your union with him, you also are filled with it..." - TCNT
- B. "...which is the head of all principality and power."
  1. "Head" = κεφαλη = "the head of man or beast".
  2. "Principality" = αρχη = "the first place", "the beginning".
  3. "Power" = εξουσια = "delegated authority". There is nothing to forbid or hinder.
  4. "he is the fountain head from which all dominion and power proceed". - Knox
- C. They did not need circumcision.
  1. Vs. 11 Perhaps the Gentiles were being challenged by their false teachers that they did not possess even the "rudiments" of the Jewish Religion and were therefore lacking in the most basic of religious things.
  2. According to Paul they had been circumcised. Since they were "in Christ" they then possessed what He possessed.
  3. They were circumcised, but it was, "made without hands, in putting off the body", It was not with any physical act, it was spiritual.
- D. Vs. 12 They had been raised with Christ.
  1. They were first buried.
  2. "Buried" = συνθαπτω = "to bury together".
  3. This was, "in the immersion".
  4. Again Paul writes concerning the "new teaching" this was directed toward the idea of their being inferior. This identifies them as being participatory in His glorious resurrection.
  5. Again, this truth is spiritual, it is pictorial, yet it is literal!
  6. He, Christ is not inferior. Vs. 3, 7, 1:18.