

51-Colossians-02-Transcript-TS

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well greetings brethren and welcome to
another wednesday night bible study
we are up to chapter 2 of the letter to
the colossians

and this book the book of colossians
is just a fantastic book for us to be
studying at this time

at this precise moment in our history as
christians especially in the western
world but also in the eastern world as
well

as we uh you know the eastern world is
ahead of us sorry in terms of
persecution of christians

the western world we're just beginning
to feel this uh turning of tables this
this shifting of you know turning the
corner and

entering into a new season a new world
and we need to as

our christians in the eastern world uh
we now need to prepare
to live under persecution and
and part of that persecution is
deception

and we need to be prepared to fight
against this deception

and the book of colossians gives us
everything we need in order to be
successful

in that battle let's open with the word
of prayer and then we'll get into
colossians chapter 2.
heavenly father we come before your holy
throne before jesus christ as well at
your right hand
and we're just so grateful to you father
that you've put it in our hearts
to seek you to seek christ
to to study just to be workman rightly
dividing
uh the word of truth and to understand
the power of this word
we praise you god and just thank you so
much for this blessing that we have
and that we can be together as we study
your word
bless us father with our study and our
understanding deep in our knowledge our
conviction and our faith
we pray in jesus name amen so brethren
as i mentioned we're up to um
colossians chapter two and let me just
bring my screen up here
colossians um chapter two and
i want to just pick up a little bit from
chapter one it's so hard uh
the way the apostle paul thinks and the
way he writes
it's hard to just pick a verse and pick
up you know pick a verse here pick a
verse there
so i just wanted to get a little bit of
the context from chapter one and i found
myself like
why don't i just repeat the whole
chapter but you know we have chapter one
in the archives
so please go back and study that but let
me just pick up a few verses from
chapter one
just so we have context for chapter two
he says in colossians one and verse nine
uh for this cause we also since the day

we heard it
do not cease to pray for you and to
desire
that you might be filled notice this
this is paul's desire
and timothy that the colossians and us
by extension
might be filled with the knowledge of
his will
in all wisdom and spiritual
understanding in other words this is not
superficial this is not you know do you
know the lord
do you accept the lord in your heart say
this little prayer and you'll go to
heaven
this is deep deep deep profound
knowledge
it has we have to dig for it we have to
ask
seek and knock and then it will be
provided
so it's something we really have to go
after and it's not something that paul's
taking for granted
it's something that him and timothy are
praying earnestly
that the christian brethren in colossi
might be filled not just a little bit
but filled with the knowledge of his
will
in all wisdom and spiritual
understanding in order that you might
work
walk worthy of the lord unto all
pleasing so so this
deep knowledge and understanding and
wisdom is required
in order to fully walk worthy of the
lord unto all
pleasing being fruitful in every good
work
and increasing in the knowledge of god
there it is again

there it is again that he wants the
brethren to be increasing
in the knowledge of god and we have a
lot of brethren even
to this day among us that think they
want to discount knowledge
and by discounting knowledge they want
to discount teachers
and and by doing that they want to put
themselves in the forefront because they
have neither knowledge nor the ability
to teach
they just want to make this this
in emotional thing just to follow them in
this emotionalism
well that's not what the apostle paul is
after here
very important that we're increasing in
the knowledge of god and dropping down
to verse 24 in chapter one
and and notice this now who you you
brethren in colossi
now rejoice in my sufferings for you oh
there's suffering involved
the impression you get from a lot of
christian teachers and preachers
is that coming to christ and just
blessing upon blessing
coming to christ and everything is so
great and then the people who aspire
to be in teaching roles they have no
uh sense of persecution
associated with this role they only see
wealth you know put your hand on the
television set or on the screen
and send me money and you'll be blessed
and so while they're promising this uh
material blessing to others they
themselves are the ones who are truly
increasing
in material wealth well paul is saying
as a teacher i am undergoing
significant sufferings for you but you
should rejoice in that

because of the fruit that i'm bearing in
my work who now rejoice you now rejoice
in my sufferings for you
and i'm filling up that which is behind
the afflictions of christ in my flesh
for his body's sake
which is the church and we talked about
unpacking the meaning of that
last week whereof i am made a minister
according to the dispensation of god
which is given to me
for you so whatever gifting paul had
he was very clear he's received these
gifts
to for the edification of the body to
fulfill the word of god
even the mystery which has been hidden
from
ages and from generations there it is
again there's a knowledge there's an
under a spiritual understanding
that we have to go after and paul is
saying
this this mystery it has been hidden but
now it's made manifest to his saints
to whom god would make known there it is
again
knowledge to whom god would make known
what is the riches
of the glory of this mystery among the
gentiles there it is again
there's a there's some knowledge which
is not superficial which has to be
pursued which has to be taught
which actually has to be revealed
which is christ in you in you the
brethren of colossi
the hope of glory whom we preach
warning every man and teaching every man
there it is again
knowledge teaching every man in all
wisdom that we may
we may present every man perfect or
mature

in christ jesus where unto i also labor
this is hard work striving according to
his working
which works in me mightily and if you
were with us for the study in ephesians
we talked about this power of god the
same power that raised christ from the
dead
that now works in us mightily and paul
having fully accessed this power was
praying for the ephesians to also access
this power
and also now the brethren that colossi
that they would tap
into this power so this brings us now to
chapter two in verse one
where he says for i would or i wish
that you knew what great conflict i have
for you
and for them at laodicea and as for as
many as i've not seen my face
in the flesh so he did not found these
congregations
but uh he's he's striving for them and
he wants them to know
this is not easy it is a great conflict
there is significant opposition to this
work and i think you know we in the west
we don't understand this
we haven't had it we've really been
operating under what i will call
the long shadow of the roman empire
that when the roman empire converted to
christianity
you know although it was a false
christianity it was still the bible
and the value system that comes from the
bible
and so we had the pax romana and then
for the past 240 odd years 45 years
we've been operating under the pax
americana
you know between the british empire now
the american empire

there's this sense that the bible matters and the value system of the bible matters and although there has been the you know the the uh catholic persecution of the saints and even the protestant persecution of the saints and the emphasis on sunday worship rather than sabbath uh still for the most part we in the west have not known significant persecution we've known some persecution but not like brethren in the east but here now the world is changing and we're seeing this uh marxist communist takeover of the west combined with cooperation with the islamic movements and and and suddenly christianity is being spotlighted as a problem and and in paul's time there was a great conflict in teaching the truth of christ and he wanted the brethren to understand by example what he is going through or was going through so that they themselves would also be equally convicted to fight for this faith in fact to the brethren in thessalonica he says but even after we had suffered before and were shamefully treated as you know at phil philippi we were bold in our god to speak unto you the gospel of god with much contention so brethren these scriptures are going to start to pop off the page for us i always liken scriptures to like a time released capsule where there may be maybe a medication that you're having

and they've they've put it in a time
released capsule
so you take it and at two hours there's
a certain part of the medication that's
released
and at four hours another part and it's
six hours another part and
eight hours another part so so it's time
released
uh this is the same way and i'm not 100
sure how this all works but there's a
science behind
making the medication time released in
the same way these scriptures
they're right in front of us the whole
time we're reading them but they don't
really matter
until our situation changes and then
suddenly
these scriptures pop off the page and i
think that's what that's what's
happening now
as we in the western world begin to
catch up with brett with uh
brethren and christians in the eastern
world around this sense of
uh christianity being persecuted and an
effort to stamp it out
of society so there's going to be great
conflict
and now we're going to see the teachers
who were in position for glory
versus those who were gifted to be in
that role for edification
those that are there for glory just want
to be looked up to
when the persecution begins they'll be
the first
to run those that are imbued by the
spirit
for edification when the persecution
begins they will
intensify the edification following the
apostle paul's example

so despite this great conflict they were
bold
in god to speak unto you the gospel of
god
despite the contention and so paul is
now hoping that the brethren at colossae
come to understand this great contention
that their hearts verse 2 might be
comforted
so so once they realize the great love
and contention that paul is undergoing
on their behalf that their high that
their hearts
might be comforted being knit together
in love
and unto all riches of the full
assurance of
understanding there it is again there's
a depth of knowledge
that is required that paul is expecting
them to have
that he's saying that they they need to
be comforted
being knit together in agape so that's
that's a critical
component of what we're a part of that
we cannot allow our agape to fail in
fact it's prophesied
that it will for the most part for most
brethren but we have to contend for this
we have to fight for this
and and really commit ourselves to the
edification of the body
so how are you doing in your
congregation
how would if we were to stop at time
right now and evaluate you
how are you doing are you committed to
your congregation
are you committed to edifying with
whatever gift or abilities you have
are you committed to edifying your
congregation
because that's a big part of what we're

what we're a part of right now
what we're supposed to be doing being
knit together in agape
and unto all riches of the full
assurance of understanding
there's a level of understanding that we
need here that we are absolutely
convicted about and i just saw and i'll
just mention this briefly i'm
over in the uk so i'm not i'm not in my
normal
circumstances but i was just following
on the slack channel
and i just saw in there somebody state
that you know god can do as he wishes
no he cannot no he cannot
there are things that god may wish to do
but they're impossible for him to do
because it's impossible for him to lie
it's impossible for him to break his
covenant
god is bound by his word and that's why
we can have this full assurance of
understanding
the same way abraham had this full
assurance of understanding
that he was able to hear god's word
accept god's word
and know that it's impossible for god to
lie so there are certain things that
even though god may wish
to intervene and do something he won't
that it's only through christ that god
can do the things that he
he does for israel and that's how we can
have this
absolute full assurance of god and
that's what we need to teach to israel
that you can behold your god you can
have confidence in this god because
study the word
and he will fully uh fulfill what he has
promised
that's that's the fuller and that's

where the full assurance comes from
that god is a god of covenant to the
acknowledgement
of the mystery there it is again there's
something
special and central about knowledge
and a certain type of knowledge to the
acknowledgment of the mystery of god
and of the father and of christ very
strange translation here
if i look at the greek i would just
render this as
to the recognition the acknowledgement
of the mystery
of god end of christ or
or the mystery of christ in god it's
it's the mystery is in is around
christ but it's in god and it's from god
and so now that we understand that the
mystery is in christ we go to verse
three
in whom that is christ are hid
all the treasures of wisdom and
knowledge there it is again
there are treasures of wisdom and
knowledge
but they're in christ it's a mystery
but we have to pursue it and acknowledge
it and god will give it to us
and this i say i'm saying all of this
about all of this central role
of the knowledge of the mystery of
christ
this i say lest any man
should beguile you with enticing words
this is powerful this again shows us
just how
it's about words it's a war of
narratives
people are spinning words because that's
how you get into the minds of human
beings
and and human beings have to interpret
the world around us

through words with ideas narratives
stories
perspectives that has to get into our
head and then as we look around
we can understand we can see and
understand
and interpret what is happening same
event
two people looking at the same event
with wildly different interpretations
this is the power of deception and the
power of truth
so paul is saying look you've got to
have this
full assurance of the knowledge of the
mystery of christ
you've got to understand the central
role
of jesus christ and once you've got that
when these people come with their
enticing words if they are moving you
away from christ
the central role of christ in what god
is doing
you can dismiss them you won't go near
them
you will reject them because of the
knowledge you have
and the full assurance you have of this
knowledge so we cannot play with
knowledge brethren and it's not
superficial knowledge
it's knowledge that has to be developed
over time
and by revelation he says here
and this i say lest any man should
beguile you or spoil you or ruin you
or or entrap you and and uh cap make you
captive
with words with enticing words and we
are seeing this today
we are seeing look look how easily this
this phenomenon
in the last sort of five years of black

lives matter came on the scene and just
boom seduced so many breath
so many brethren seduced into social
justice and running up and down
and losing the centrality of christ look
how easily it happened
and this is just the beginning this is
just the beginning
stay tuned more to come more deception
to come
more onslaught to come more focused on
destroying the church of god
and so this is so practical for us
right now
to understand the power of enticing
words people
speaking and saying the things speaking
into your wounds
speaking into your psychological hurts
and making you feel like you're superior
so you go after them don't do that
go after christ he says christ himself
says
beware of false prophets false teachers
which come to you
in sheep's clothing but inwardly
they are ravening wolves this is
dangerous territory
christ is warning us that there are
going to be teachers
that are going to destroy the people of
god going to
tear them apart spiritually and paul now
being taught by christ warns us that we
might be
spoiled and taken captive with enticing
words
and then he goes on for though i be
absent in the flesh
yet am i with you in the spirit joying
and beholding your order
and the steadfastness of your faith in
christ so these reports
are coming to him while he's in prison

and he's hearing of their their
steadfastness in their order and he's
rejoicing in that
and he's with them spiritually as you
there as you have therefore
received christ jesus the lord so walk
you in him
stay steadfast brethren we've received a
certain truth don't get
distracted so easily stay focused on
what we're what we have been called to
beloved oh sorry i just want to go to
jude so he says
uh as you have therefore received christ
jesus so walk you in him
that is going to be a contention so in
jude 3
jude writes beloved when i gave all
diligence to write unto you
of the common salvation so that's what i
wanted to do
instead it was necessary for me to write
unto you and to exhort you
that you should earnestly contend for
the faith which was once delivered unto
the saints
so this is this is when he says here as
you've received christ jesus so walk you
in him
this is going to be a struggle the
wolves dressed in sheep's clothing
are going to come and try to take this
away from you you have to be careful
and make sure that you as as
the brethren that jude was writing to we
are earnestly contending for the faith
and understanding the importance of this
he says in verse
7 colossians 2 verse 7 paul writes
we need to be rooted and built up in him
in him established rooted
rooted in him built up in him and
established in the faith
as you've been taught there it is again

teachers are there
giving you this this edification and you
as a result of this edification
are being rooted think of a plant being
rooted
and then built up and established in the
faith
abounding therein with thanksgiving
so no matter what happens because of the
knowledge that we have
we are just our hearts are just
overflowing
with thanksgiving no matter what happens
and again
the seasons are changing we're going
into some very dark times
but if we nobody can take this away from
us nobody can take this away from us
excuse me they can take physical things
away from us they can take
our liberties away from us but they
can't take away from us the freedom we
have in christ
and the knowledge and the understanding
we have that's why it's so important to
be rooted and established
christ himself taught and i mentioned
this on the sermon
on sabbath i'm sorry i was on mute is
the name of that sermon in case you
missed it
but and i go into more detail here but
one of the categories that he spoke to
here in verse 20
but he that receives seed into stony
places
the same is he that hears the word and
immediately with joy he receives it it's
a beautiful message
he's joyful to receive this yet has he
not rooted himself there's no root
so paul says we need to be rooted and
built up in him
christ says this particular type of

christian doesn't have root
he's happy with the message he endures
for a while
not to the end he endures for a while
for when
tribulation or persecution arises
because of the word
by and by he is scandalized he's
offended
he brings himself into sinfulness
and i speak more about that in the
sermon that i gave on sabbath
but the key here is christ understood
that there are going to be some that are
not rooted
and paul understood that and so he was
contending mightily
to do all he can to establish the
brethren and ensure that they were
rooted and grounded in the faith
but we have our part as well we we have
to take this teaching and really dig
deep into it
and and and allow the spirit to
establish us
in the truth why so that when
persecution comes
we continue to endure with that full
assurance of the acknowledgement
of the mystery that is in christ if
we're not
rooted when the persecution comes
we'll be shocked and offended and i
didn't sign up for this
so we have to be established in this
knowledge in this teaching look look how
many times
over and over paul emphasizes the
centrality
of the knowledge of christ the deep
knowledge
he says in verse 8 beware lest any man
spoil you through philosophy and vain
deceit there it is again

it's a very sharp warning and a very deep concern that the apostle paul has that there is something happening whatever reports he was getting about what was happening colossae he in colossal he saw their steadfastness he heard of their orderliness but he also heard of the wolves in sheep's clothing of the infiltration of the false doctrines that were coming in and so he's saying hey guys it's great that you're steadfast and you're orderly but don't take things for granted beware lest any man spoil you through full how does how do they spoil through philosophy philosophy through enticing words doctrine has to creep in there has to be another teaching that creeps in among the brethren that does not put christ at the center again look how easily brethren were seduced by this evil doctrine this marxist philosophy and and not just that you have other brethren that will speak of marxism as if it's a good thing as if it's a nice thing speak of socialism as yeah that we should support socialism and these are brethren it's all words enticing words and marxism is so enticing it's so it sounds so great and anywhere where you look where it's tried to be implemented it's been nothing but destructive and murderous but especially young people they don't look into the past they don't look into history

they just get caught up in the rhetoric
enticing words
so this is totally relevant for us today
beware lest any man spoil you destroy
you
through philosophy how should you
interpret the world around you
what is the meaning of life they're not
teaching the centrality of christ
but some other earthly philosophy and
vain deceit
after the tradition of man after the
rudiments of the world
and not after christ there's the
difference they're not teaching you to
go after christ
social justice this and social justice
that but it's not christ
for in christ dwells all the fullness
of the godhead bodily christ was
god and the fullness of the godhead
dwelt in him through the power of the
holy spirit in his body
and and you know people will say well
where does christ say that he's god
well if you look in luke 9 verse 20 he
said it to them who do you say that i am
peter answering him said the christ of
god
you are the messiah you're the one that
all the prophecies are about
and he straight he immediately commanded
them and charged them and commanded them
don't fool around here he once they got
it right
he straightly charged them and commanded
them to tell
no man that thing this thing needs to
remain a mystery
so you figured it out fantastic make
sure you don't tell anybody
so christ was not up and down saying hey
i'm the i'm the i'm the messiah i'm the
son of god i'm i'm the one that

all the prophecies are about he kept
that quiet
and once his disciples figured it out he
commanded them and charged them
don't tell anybody this thing saying
the son of man must suffer many things
it's necessary
that he's come to earth he has to suffer
many things and be rejected of the
elders and chief priests and scribes
and be slain and be raised the third day
this is necessary
he came on a purpose to rescue israel
and it was important for him to be slain
and to conquer death and to rise the
third day now in 1st corinthians 2 and
verse 7 paul continues the story
but we speak the wisdom of god in a
mystery
it's not fully known and we're speaking
it
even the hidden wisdom which god
ordained
before the world unto our glory and we
unpack that in ephesians
the study on ephesians but he says here
which none of the princes of this world
knew they didn't know
christ commanded them don't tell anybody
this thing
so none of the princes knew for had they
known it
they would not have crucified the lord
of glory
and even the demons themselves satan
himself didn't understand
and deacon jan mentioned this in his
sermon recently that
had satan understood the last thing he
would have done
would it would be to cause christ to be
put to death he would have gone out of
his way to ensure
that christ just dies a natural death

and that he wasn't crucified
but they didn't it was a mystery and
they didn't understand and so
the fullness of the godhead dwelt in him
bodily but it's a mystery people do not
understand
back to colossians 2 verse 10 and you
are complete
in him in him in christ in him
christ is the central figure here and
anybody who tries to take us away
from that is a deceiver it's in him
in him in christ and you are complete in
him
which is the head of all principality
and power
and there's a real connection between
colossae
and ephesus these letters that he wrote
to these two congregations
from prison and it's the same man
writing to these
two different congregations in prison
from prison
and what he writes to one will help us
understand what he's writing to the
other
because it's the same thoughts and
understanding and conviction and
perspective that paul has that's
informing his letters
so when he says that he's saying to the
colossians that christ is the head of
all principality and power
that's the same thing he said to the
ephesians in ephesians 1 21 that christ
is far above all principality and power
and might and dominion
and every name that is named not only in
this world but also in that which is to
come
this is going to be very important that
what he says to the ephesians
is not markedly different from what he

says to colossae
back to colossians 2 and 11 in whom
again in christ also you are circumcised
with the circumcision made without hands
so there's a circumcision made with
hands
but then there's this that was actually
pointing to another circumcision
one made without hands in putting off
the body of the sins of the flesh
by the circumcision of christ it's all
about christ
buried with him in baptism with him so
in him
in him now with him wherein also you are
risen
with him through the faith of the
operation of god
who has raised him from the dead and
again he spoke to the ephesians about
this power
that raised christ from the dead that
now works in us and now he's speaking to
the
colossians to say that we have faith in
this operation of god
through this power that raised christ
from the dead and you
being dead in your sins and the
uncircumcision of your flesh
has he brought to life together with him
there it is again with him
having forgiven you all trespasses and
again i think as you as i'm reading this
you're hearing ephesians
ephesians 2 and verse 1 and you has he
quickenened who were dead in trespasses
and sins
where in time past you walked according
to the course of this world
according to the prince of the power of
the air the spirit that now works
in the children of disobedience so
clearly

how the ephesians were being taught that they were once held captive they've been released by this special power and they they now are brought back to life they're brought to new life same thing he's telling the colossians back to verse 14 blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us so this law was against us we israel and the gentiles that have been grafted in to israel there there is a law there's a covenant that when we look at our behavior and our conduct and we look at the covenant we're cursed and so this handwriting of ordinances was against us which was contrary to us actually and we could actually say we were contrary to it and took it out of the way nailing it to his cross so christ came to redeem israel and took all of those curses of the covenant upon himself so that he as the holy one of israel could redeem israel and god could be righteous not not doing whatever he pleases but acting according to the law and god could be righteous in his redemption of israel according to the law because of christ's intervention and having spoiled verse 15 and having spoiled principalities and powers so so these principalities and powers are working through men to spoil us but christ came to spoil them because he's far above them and having spoiled principalities and powers he made a show of them openly triumphing over them in it so you have a sense here he's

making a show of them openly
and again in ephesians 4 and verse 8 he
says wherefore he says when he ascended
up on high
he led captivity captive and then gave
gifts unto men
so you get the sense of almost a parade
where you the roman
soldiers when they conquered the enemy
they would parade them through the
street and lead the captives captive
and that's what christ is now doing with
these principalities and powers making a
show of them openly
when they didn't understand what they
were doing and they destroyed him
they didn't realize that was his victory
nor did they realize our victory
in following christ when they put us
down that's when we rise
he says in verse 16 let no man therefore
judge you in meat
or in drink or in respect of a holy day
or of the new moon
or of the sabbath days now people will
jump on this verse
and they'll say see i if i don't want to
keep the sabbath you're not supposed to
judge me
i can break the sabbath if i want how on
earth
could we gather that from paul's
writings especially when we couple it
with ephesians
why wouldn't we read that read this as
these brethren are being grafted into
the commonwealth of israel they are
leaving their pagan past
and now people are saying why are you
keeping the sabbath
you know how come you're not keeping
christmas with us why are you keeping
the feast of tabernacles
so as you keep these things

as you keep these these these
instructions the holy days the new moon
the sabbaths
don't let anybody judge you about that
and
and here and if again put colossians and
ephesians together
ephesians in 2 12 says that at that time
you were without christ
being aliens from the commonwealth of
israel
and strangers from the covenants of
promise
having no hope and without god in the
world but now you are grafted
into this commonwealth of israel and so
they would now
understand what this entails
and and the sabbath is not something to
play with and so if you're not familiar
with our teachings on the holy days
and the and god sabbas please write in
to us info
cgi.org and ask for our teachings on
god's holy days
and just how these holy days unpack the
mystery
of god that paul is talking about that
in order to understand this mystery of
what god is doing in the central role of
christ
in the plan we have to understand the
holy days
and it's by observing these holy days
year after year has been experientially
what we've all had that by observing
these holy days our understanding
of what god is doing grows deeper so he
says
these things these holy days and the
sabbaths are a
shadow of things to come they are valid
you might be sitting somewhere and you
see a shadow cover you and you look

and there's the person so the shadow it
points you to the actual object
to the actual person so these things
these holy days and sabbaths that we
keep they're a shadow they point forward
they help us understand what's coming
they are a shadow of things to come
and it says but i would equally could be
equally uh
translated and now so these are a shadow
of things to come and now
the body is of christ so the church
right now is of christ
and these holy days that we are
observing are a shadow pointing
to the reality that is coming now he
goes on and clearly there was something
going on around colossae
uh and the best way to explain this
would be syncretism and we see it today
where it's a mixing up so there are jews
that are
syncretizing with paganism and pagan
syncretizing with jews
and and paul is trying to keep them on
the straight and now
so now you can see this uh some some
kind of
paganist pagan influence let no man
begal you
of your reward in a voluntary humilitary
humility
and worshipping of angels intruding into
those things which he has not seen
vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind so
they want to pull you away
from the truth in christ and and um
vance stinson
just gave a wonderful sermon um this
past sabbath i believe it's called the
the word the um the implanted word
so look up van stinson the implanted
word and i think
his treatment of james the epistle from

james

really helps us understand this role of
of um the torah in the christian life
and this false christianity that just
makes us read things like oh yeah the
torah is thrown away
uh so look for uh vance stinson the
implanted word
to get a real understanding of the role
of the torah in the christian life
so so don't let them beguile you don't
let them seduce you
of your reward in a voluntary humility
and worshipping of angels
intruding into those things which he has
not seen he has no knowledge
he's making they're making things up
vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind
they want to be teachers they want
followers
and not holding the head there it is
again the centrality of christ
not holding the head from which all the
body
by joints and bands have nourishment
ministered
and knit together increasing with the
increase of god
again as i'm reading this for many of us
if we're familiar with ephesians
we're hearing his letter to ephesians
that these people are not holding the
head
they they have made christ is involved
maybe in their teaching
but not centrally and they're not
holding him as the head
they're putting they're talking christ
say many are coming saying
christ but they're deceiving many
they're putting something else as the
real passion
not christ from which all the body by
joints and bands having nourishment

ministered
and knit together increases with the
increase of god what did he say to the
ephesians
that we henceforth be no more children
tossed to and fro and carried about with
every wind of doctrine
by the slight of men and cunning
craftiness
whereby they lie in weights to deceive
but speaking the truth in love may grow
up into him in all things
which is the head even christ christ is
the head
from whom the whole body fitly joined
together
and compacted by that which every joint
supplies
every joint is supplying according to
the effectual working in the measure of
every
part makes increase of the body onto the
edifying of itself
in love and again we unpacked ephesians
in detail
in the ephesians study but i just wanted
to show you here how
the same thoughts and ideas that are
driving
his communication with the brethren in
ephesus these same ideas and concepts
are driving
his communication with the brethren at
colossa
and so when we want to take that you
know oh the sabbath is done away the
holy days are done away
in ephesians again i'll remind you
ephesians 2 verse 12
that at that time you were without
christ
you gentiles were without christ being
aliens from the commonwealth of israel
and strangers from the covenant of

promise having no hope
and without god in the world but now
you're grafted into the commonwealth of
israel

so so this whole idea that you know
this is a gentile thing we can do
whatever we want
no we're grafted into the commonwealth
of israel

back to colossians
chapter 2 and verse 20 wherefore
if you be dead with christ so there it
is again with christ
christ christ christ christ you're in
him you're in him you're in him you're
with him you're buried with him you're
raised with him

you're now you're dead with christ from
the rudiments of the world

why as though living in the world
are you subject to ordinances and what
are the ordinances

is is the ordinance don't keep the
sabbath or sort of show you know the
ordinance keep the sabbath and therefore
you don't have to keep it anymore
no there's these asynchrotism there's
some weird sort of teachings
that are infiltrating um

a mixture of judaism and paganism
and that's what's going on today we're
seeing syncretism

where we see versions of christianity
mixed with paganism now mixed with islam
mixed with marxism actually that's a big
one for us today

marxist marxianity marxist philosophy
being infiltrating into the teachings of
christianity even into the church of god
where people are putting forward
something that sounds so
social justice righteous and it's
syncretism
it's not christ it's not

holding christ as central and being
passionate about christ and his promises
we're getting passionate about today's
world and trying to save this
when it is just collapsing all around us
you're trying to save this
this is what needs to be replaced
so why is though living in the world are
you subject to ordinances
touch not taste not handle not which are
all to perish with the using
so there's some sort of treatment here
and it's not necessarily judaism
uh it may be pagan is maybe a mixture of
them
but there's some kind of ritualistic
process
happening here and and the brethren are
getting caught up in it
and paul is saying why are you doing
this
after the commandments and doctrines of
men these these things are of men the
sabbath
the holy days you just don't have to go
to leviticus 23
god says tell moises tell the children of
israel
these are my holy days so the sabbaths
in the holy days are not commandments
and teachings of men
but whatever it is that they were
getting into here don't touch this don't
taste that don't handle that
these things are made up by men
traditions of men after the commandments
and doctrines of men
which things have indeed a show of
wisdom in will worship
and humility and neglecting of the body
so there's a show of wisdom in it it
appears like there's something there it
sounds good
even today again we can sort of lift

from colossi
and place it here in the west today
and say social justice when do we want
it now
what do we want justice when do we want
it now it sounds
righteous it sounds good
it has a show of wisdom in will worship
worshiping the will that that hey by by
the power of our will we can make this
happen
and brethren gets seduced and not
keeping
christ central which things have indeed
a show of wisdom
so he's acknowledging that it sounds
good in will worship
and humility and neglecting of the body
not in any honor
to the satisfying of the flesh so
there's through this this a
ascetism uh the sacrificing the way that
these people are living it seems
righteous
and then he goes on and will continue in
chapter 3 next week god willing
if you then be risen
with christ there it is in christ in
christ with christ
in christ with christ this knowledge of
christ
let's not get deceived or uprooted or
spoiled
let's stay in christ and with christ if
you then
be risen with christ seek those
things which are above don't get
caught up brethren and now as well i
have to comment on the u.s election
process which isn't over yet uh middle
of december should finally be complete
but hopefully brethren as much as you
know brethren may be patriots who want
the best for america

others who just sort of want social
justice and think they want a vest for
mankind
thinking that the destruction of america
is a good thing
in any case as much as we hope for the
best
in this world we live with whatever the
outcomes are
because we're seeking those things which
are above
where christ sits on the right hand of
god
and again we go to ephesians to see
how is it that he sits on the right hand
of god this mighty power that god used
to reach down to raise him from the
earth from the middle of the earth from
the grave
and bring him back to life and place him
at his right hand
that same power is the power that's
working mightily and paul
in this contention against these false
teachers
and we brethren have access to that same
power now
rightly dividing the word of truth not
allowing these
these principalities and powers through
the enticing words of man to seduce us
away from
the understanding of the mystery that is
in christ
the hope of glory jesus christ is lord
brethren god willing we will see you
next week
god bless
you