

# COLOSSIANS 2 vs 1

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<sup>1</sup> **For I would that you all knew what great ‘conflict’** (what great ‘agony’... and ‘struggle’)

**I have for you** (each of you...),

**and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face;**

<sup>2</sup> **That their hearts be ‘comforted’** (*‘paraclet-ed’*...the same word for the Holy Spirit that was going to be coming... our Advocate; the One ‘called alongside’ us...),

(Paul says...)

**That their hearts be comforted... being knit together** (being held together... and rising...)

**in ‘love’** (in *agape*; the love of God),

**and unto all riches of the fullness of understanding** (Paul is talking about... being comforted... and being kept together...),

**to the full knowledge of the mystery of God** (He’s wanting us to understand the whole knowledge... of this mystery of God in Christ. How it started with Christ; and how it will finish with Christ... in His glorious return. And don’t let go of this glorious hope.)

(But let’s go on... Paul is still talking about: this secret, this mystery...)

**of God the Father** (apparently, He likes surprises... the mystery of Christ Jesus to all the Gentiles; all the nations...)

(And Paul says... it’s)

**of Christ** (remember: HE is the Centerpiece...);

<sup>3</sup> **In whom are hid all the treasures** (and riches...)

**of wisdom and knowledge.**

<sup>4</sup> **And this I say, lest any man should ‘beguile’ you** (should trick; should deceive... should mislead any of you. Jesus, John, Peter... and here Paul... they all warned us... deceivers would come. Well, they have arrived...)

**with enticing words** (with seductive and persuasive arguments... causing us to wander off into error... like sheep gone astray.)

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**Verse <sup>5</sup> For though I be absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in the spirit, joying and beholding** (paying attention... and observing...)

**your orderliness** (the word is: *taxis*; used 10 times in the New Testament... never suggesting he is speaking of some hand-written dogma. And the question arises: does everything have to be written down? Luke speaks of God... in the order of His course... and I doubt God needs to write things down; Paul to the Corinthians who gathered... said, Do all decently and in order—and what little Paul wrote down was rarely followed!? Hmm?; But let's continue. It is interesting... 6 of 7 times in the book of Hebrews we read, ...forever after the order of Melchizedek—someone we know very little about... but obviously we do know, he was decent and orderly, oh and faithful...; and then once in Hebrews, we read: and not after the order of Aaron—something we know pages... after pages about. Hmm?)

(Here, the Colossians remind Paul... of Melchizedek and even the Lord God. Paul speaks with joy... as he observes... their),

**orderliness**

**and the 'stedfastness'** (this word is: *stereoma*...; it's only used once in Scripture... here. And Paul is talking about strength, and rock solid firmness. It's a military word for... a fortified place; and a solid front against the enemy. He's talking about enhancing our spiritual performance... He's talking about the strength of the Colossians... He's talking about their faith... in action.)

(Paul says...)

**and the stedfastness of your faith** (your trusting...) **in Christ.**

(And Paul continues...)

**<sup>6</sup> Therefore... as you all have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk you all in Him** (In other words: since we received Him by faith... keep walking in faith... step... by step... by step... oh yeah! With a little joy as we're steppin'!):

**<sup>7</sup> Rooted and built up and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in** (*eucharistia*... it's the 3<sup>rd</sup> time he uses this word.)

(Paul wants us to be overflowing...)

**in thanksgiving** (...to God the Father).

**Verse <sup>8</sup> Beware** (be warned...)

**lest any make spoil you through** (seductive) **philosophy**

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**and vain deceit** (and empty misleading... and deception),

**after the tradition of men** (tradition... made up, fabricated... by men... which continues for the last 2,000 years... and some—longer. Jesus says, You make void the word of God by your traditions... but they're so nice; they're so fun to celebrate. Jesus says, We make void the word of God by our traditions; but is anyone listening to Him? The wasted words of Jesus),

(Paul warns us about the deceit and misleading...)

**after the tradition of men, or after the 'rudiments'** (the elementary rules... the 'keeping lock-step')

**with this world, and not** (keep up with...) **Christ.**

**Verse <sup>9</sup> For in Him** (in Christ...)

**dwells all the fulness of the Godhead in bodily** (form).

**<sup>10</sup> And you all are complete in Him,** (He's the head of the body; He's the head of the church...)

**He is the head of all** (Here, Paul is questioning... So you're going to follow someone other than Him? You're going to listen to someone other than Him? Not necessary.)

(Paul says... He's even head of all the...)

**'archies'** (the 'spiritual rulers')

**and powers** (the administrative powers...):

(But let's go on...)

**Verse <sup>11</sup> In whom** (In Christ...)

**also you are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands** (In other words, the old traditions may sound spiritual... but they are no longer needed),

**in putting off** (in stripping off... and throwing down)

**the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ** (and we're not talking about the 8<sup>th</sup> day after His birth. Daniel says, When Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself):

(Paul continues...)

**Verse <sup>12</sup> (By whom you are...) buried with Him in His baptism** (to death),

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**Wherein with Him... also you are risen... through the faith of the operation of God** (when this Circumcision of the Christ was made complete...),

(And God...)

**who has raised Him from the dead** (... gets on with His plans: Phase 2...)

<sup>13</sup> **And you, being dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, has He quickened** (has He enlivened you...)

**together with Him, having ‘forgiven’ us** (having released... ‘graciously released’ us...)

**all trespasses;**

<sup>14</sup> **Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances** (He did what?)

**‘Blotting out’** (the Greek word is: *exaleipho*; it means... to obliterate, to erase, to wipe out. It’s used 5 times in the New Testament... only identified with the work of the Lord God... who will even one day... obliterate all tears from our eyes. He’s a God of grace; He’s a loving Father. We just read that we were dead in our sins... and God our Father...)

**blotted out** (and obliterated... erased fully...)

**the handwriting of ordinances** (decrees... handwritten...)

**‘ordinances’** (this word is: *dogma*; you know, the pages and pages of... civil... and ceremonial... and ecclesiastical laws... and rulings... and edicts... and proclamations... and regulations... and conventions... and protocols... and contracts... and agreements... and doctrines... and declarations... and requirements... and judgments... and decrees. And He did what? He obliterated them... ALL of those things.

He did it! We were dead. He wipe out the handwritten *dogma*. Notice it says: the dogma and not: some dogma. You know most people really don’t believe that is what Jesus accomplished... because they are always wanting to add in their little rules.)

(He obliterated...)

**what was against us** (He did; we were dead!)

(He wiped out...)

**what was opposed to us** (He did: we were dead!)

**and He... ‘took’ it** (the word is: *airo*; they yell, ‘Take Him away’... and crucify Him. And they did

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take Him away and crucified Him; John the Baptist says, Behold the Lamb who 'takes away' the sin of the world... same word: and that's what Jesus did... He took our sins away.)

(Here, Paul is telling us something in addition: Jesus... 'took' it... the handwritten *dogma*...)

**out of 'the way'** (this word is: *menos*; 'from among' them... 'from between' them, it means 'the middle', 'the midst'. In Acts 1, Peter stood up... 'among' them; Luke 10 says... they were sent like sheep 'among' wolves. Revelation 1 says... the Son of man stands... 'among' the 7 candle stands.)

(So what is the point? Paul says... HE... Jesus 'took' it... the handwritten *dogma*... out of 'among' us. And that is something we could not do, because we were dead. Jesus not only could do it... HE did it... and it is finished...)

**nailing it to... His cross.** (Not to my cross... and not to your cross! Though some pharisaical folks would like to take it off His cross and nail it to ours....)

Think it through. He... by himself forever... obliterated the dogmas... the rules and regulations...)

on **His cross**.

(The only thing nailed to His cross... was Himself. You and I could die on 1,000 Calvary's... and it wouldn't save a gnat's ass. It took a life... His life... **to blot out the ordinances**... and save one messed up world);

<sup>15</sup> **And having** (stripped off and thrown down...)

**principalities** (*archies*...) **and powers** (*exousias*...),

**He...** (Christ Jesus... exposed them publically... and)

**made a spectacle of them openly** (boldly...),

(Now if you don't quite know what is going on in this verse, that's okay! We weren't there. But this verse always reminds me of Psalm 82. It says, *elohim*... stand in the congregation of the *El*—the mighty GOD. And He judges those *elohim*. It's like one mighty Guy... walking into the middle of a gang of thugs in South Central... unintimidated, and putting them all in their place.)

(Paul writes of Christ... He exposed them... those rebellious administrative powers in the heavenlies...)

**He made a show of them, openly** (boldly...),

**triumphing over them in it** (on the Cross).

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Just hearing it... makes you want to shout: Glory! Doesn't it?!