

Christ the Substance of all true worship

Colossians 2:15-23

1. The **better** we come to _____ **Jesus**, who is **God's Wisdom**, the greater our experience of God's love and forgiveness, His **peace** and _____, and the **joy** of being in **union with Him**.
2. Sin and _____ no longer have any ultimate _____ over the Christian, they are raised up with Christ and given power to live in way that is fully pleasing to God, having our hearts _____ and circumcised by God.
3. In 2:16-23, Paul will throw down the **practices** of the **false teachers** explaining that **Christ** is _____ and we don't need to add anything to Him. Not **legalism** 2:16-17, not _____ 18-19, and certainly not **asceticism**, that practice of **abstaining** from any **form of pleasure** and treating the body _____ through **rigid fasting** and **arduous meditation** customs.
4. Jesus _____ over death for His people by dying in their place and paying the _____ that was demanded by the Law. When this happened it was a great victory over the **fallen angels** who along with **Satan**, seek to **condemn** and _____ God's people.
5. This has "**disarmed**" God's enemies and now every day that the **church** lives in _____ and **victory**, it is making a "**public display**" of those who would **rebel against God** and seek to _____ His people.
6. **1 Corinthians 5:7** - 7 Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. **For _____ our Passover also has been sacrificed.**
7. **Galatians 4:9-11** - 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the _____ and **worthless elemental things**, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again? 10 **You _____ and months and seasons and years. 11 I fear for you, that perhaps I have labored over you in vain.** NASB
8. **Romans 14:16-17** - 16 Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be _____ of as evil; 17 **for the _____ of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and _____ and joy in the Holy Spirit.** NASB

9. Paul has clearly laid down the fact that Christians are _____ in their **union with Christ 2:10**, and that _____ they need for righteousness before God is already accomplished in Him **2:11-14**.
10. Jesus Himself told us in Matthew 4:10, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him _____." When the Apostle John tried to **worship an angel in Revelation 19:10**, he was told by him, "Do _____ do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the _____ of Jesus; worship God."
11. **2 Peter 1:3-4** - 3 seeing that **His divine power has granted to us _____ pertaining to life and godliness, through the true _____ of Him** who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us **His precious and magnificent _____ in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine _____**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. NASB
12. This is called _____, where God is making us to **bear His _____** in greater degree over time **through the Word and by the Spirit**. Jesus and our **union with Him** and the Father through the _____ is everything we need for the Christian Life.
13. **Man-made _____** is always focused on the dos and don'ts, what man _____ do so we can **celebrate our own _____**. It's nothing but a big **pride parade**, always seeking to _____ the next guy.
14. See here that _____ religious requirements cannot **change the _____**, only **Christ** can. Only **God's free grace**, giving us _____ we do not deserve **melts the heart** and _____ our allegiance to Christ.
15. Anytime the teaching turns us away from the _____ of Christ and His worthiness, and **focuses our attention onto _____** and his achievements, we have become man centered and our efforts are futile and are of "**no _____ against fleshly indulgence.**"
16. It is _____ **centered religion**, designed to give _____ **to man**, and in the end it is **destructive** rather than giving life. It is a _____ from **Christ who is the Substance of all true worship.**
17. True divine life is the _____ **of God, not ourselves**. It is the _____ of God, that does the **Work** of God, in the **People** of God, by the _____ of God. And in the end, _____ gets the glory for it, not man.