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.