

## The Book of Colossians

### Lesson 6

#### Study Notes

#### The Treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge

**Instructor: Dr. Douglas Woody**

**Text: Colossians 2: 1-9.**

*Introduction: If you know Christ, you can lay your hand on the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. They are matters of daily experience. The Apostle's aim in this chapter is to put his converts on their guard against those who might divert them from their simple faith in Jesus, and their sufficiency in Him. The keynotes are Take heed and Let no one. There were five errors that endangered the Colossian church which Paul will deal with in this chapter.*

1. *Enticing words-- verses 4-7.*

2. *Philosophy-- verses 8-13.*

3. *Legality—verses 14-17.*

4. *Mysticism—verses 18-19.* (Belief that union with or absorption into the Deity or the absolute, the spiritual apprehension of knowledge inaccessible to the intellect, may be attained through contemplation and self-surrender.)

5. *Asceticism—verses 20-23.* (Severe self-discipline and avoidance of all forms of indulgence, typically for religious reasons.)

By way of review let's note the completeness of the believer's salvation in chapter one of Colossians.

We see seven wonderful doctrines of our salvation in Colossians chapter one.

1. The doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 1:12.

2. The doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 1:13.

3. The doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 1:13.

4. The doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 1:14.

5. The doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 1:14.

6. The doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 1:21.

7. The doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ . Colossians 1:22.

*In chapter two we see Paul's heart-desire that the Gospel should be preserved in all its \_\_\_\_\_ and simplicity of free grace minus \_\_\_\_\_ and without the mixture of Judaism or false philosophy. The Devil was certainly at work in both the areas of Laodicea and Colosse. In Laodicea his attack was \_\_\_\_\_ in the church, because when they became rich, they had no need for the Lord Jesus; and we see Him standing at the door knocking for entrance. The Devil's attack on the church at Colosse would be to*

spread \_\_\_\_\_ and false teaching. They were to "beware lest any man should spoil them through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

### **I. The Conflict. Colossians 2:1.**

The word "conflict" is our word " \_\_\_\_\_ " and signifies the fact that within Paul's soul a raging battle was being fought on behalf of the church at Colosse. If care was not taken to instruct the babes in Christ, they would easily be carried away by the false teaching.

### **II. The Comfort. Colossians 2:2.**

"Comforted" is translated from "parakaleo" (*par-ak-al-eh'-o*) meaning "to \_\_\_\_\_ to one's side for consolation." When the church is being attacked, believers should unite in \_\_\_\_\_ to exhort, comfort and instruct.

"Being knit together in love" comes from "sumbibazo" (*soom-bib-ad'-so*) and is defined as "to drive together in association and affection. The coming together of two parties to one \_\_\_\_\_. We come from different social backgrounds; have different levels of education, and may even come from different countries and cultures; and yet we are knit together in love through Jesus Christ.

"Full assurance" refers to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ confidence. The church must be grounded in the faith and convinced through doctrinal understanding. The church should be settled in its beliefs.

Concerning "understanding" here some food for thought.

***Jeremiah 9:23-24 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: 24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.***

### **III. The Coffers of Treasures.**

***Colossians 2:3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.***

In reality all we need is in Christ. He is the reservoir of all knowledge. The Scripture teaches us that He is made unto wisdom.

***1Corinthians 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:***

1. He is made unto us wisdom. To transform the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He is made unto us righteousness. To transform our \_\_\_\_\_.
3. He is made unto us sanctification. To transform our \_\_\_\_\_.
4. He is made unto us redemption. To transform our \_\_\_\_\_.

The soul has been redeemed and the members of this body await to be redeemed.

**Philippians 3:21** *Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.*

#### IV. The Commendation.

**Colossians 2:4** *And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words. 5 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.*

The word "beguile" "*paralogizomai*" here means to deceive by false reasoning. It occurs only here and in James 1:22 where we are warned against deceiving ourselves.

He commends the church for two things: their order, and their steadfastness.

1. "order" is translated from "taxis" which is a \_\_\_\_\_ term denoting "arrangement." Paul viewed the Colossian church as a prepared army. They were properly organized.
2. "steadfastness" comes from "stereoma (ster-eh'o-mah)" which is also a military term referring to a "\_\_\_\_\_ " in strategic warfare.

When Roman soldiers confronted the charge of the enemy, they took their great rectangular shields and locked them together to form a solid wall of steel against which the enemy hurled its spears and arrows in vain. The Colossians were putting up just such a solid resistance against the cult.

When Paul commends the church for their order and steadfastness in faith he recognizes their spiritual \_\_\_\_\_; however, strong churches must still be careful of false doctrine.

#### V. The Construction.

**Colossians 2:6** *As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.*

With the use of military terms in the previous verses; Paul now gives some commands to the church.

1. "Walk ye in Him." The word "walk" is often used figuratively to describe one's living. The term denotes progression and performance in life.
2. "Rooted and built up in Him." These terms relate to building of a structure. "Rooted" comes first and denotes the establishment of a stable foundation. "Built up" follows and speaks of that which is constructed upon the stable foundation.
3. "Stablished in the faith" means to make firm; to make sure. The assurance of the believer should be in the faith; and confident in the Scriptures.
4. "Abounding" means "to exceed' to excel" to be abundantly furnished. It refers to the spiritual growth of the believer and his effective work due to increased strength.