

Paul continues his efforts of encouragement and direction to the church in Colossae as he progresses through his letter, specifically in chapter 2. With bold imagery he challenges the them to walk with Jesus in a specific way, gives them clear warnings, and ends with a reminder of who they are in Christ.

Colossians 2:5-2:15

Alive

in

Christ

I. COMPARING OUR STORIES

Scripture makes it clear that in Christ we are a new creation. However, even after being regenerated in Him, we're under attack and susceptible to the thwarts of the flesh, the world, and the devil. Just because Christ is in us, it does not mean that we no longer struggle or are immune to temptations of various kinds.

MY EXPERIENCE...

YOUR EXPERIENCE...

II. CONSIDERING OUR STRUGGLES

WHAT are some reasons believers tend to stop growing in Christ?

ARE there consequences you've encountered in becoming spiritually stagnant?

IF you had to identify with specific spiritual distractions in your life, **WHAT** would they be?

WHEN you consider ways you've grown in Christ over your life, what were the factors that contributed most?

Colossians 2:5-15

Alive in Christ

Read Colossians 2:5-15

OBSERVATION

Verse 6 begins with the connector, “Therefore”. What does vs. 5 say that then connects vs. 6?

In vs. 7, what four verbs does Paul use to describe how the Colossians ought to walk with Christ?

List the things Paul warns against being taken captive by in vs. 8.

What are the things contrasted in vs. 10-14.

According to vs. 15, what three things are true regarding Christ’s completed work on the cross?

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean to walk with Christ? Consider Galatians 5:16-17, 25

Describe the differences in the images Paul uses in vs. 7 as he encourages the Colossians regarding *how* they should walk in Christ.

According to vs. 8-10, what are the “footholds” Paul mentions Satan using to draw us from Christ? Describe how these things look in our lives today.

What does it mean that we are “circumcised in Christ,” according to vs. 11? (Consider Gen. 17:1-4, Deut. 10:16, and Jeremiah 4:4)

Similarly, what does it mean to be “buried with him (Jesus) in baptism”? (See Mark 1:4 and Romans 6:1-10, 1 Cor. 10:1-2; 12:12-13 for insight)

In vs. 14 Paul references a “record of debt” and its “legal terms”. What are these things and why was Christ the only one able to cancel them on our behalf?

As this section ends, read through other translations of vs. 15 to better comprehend what exactly Jesus accomplished on the cross.

APPLICATION

What patterns can you establish today that will help establish you in your walk with Jesus?