

Lesson 28
The Fullness of The Godhead
Col 2:8-9

Col 2:8-9 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.⁹ For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. KJV

I. The Warning

- a. This section of Paul's letter to the Colossians is a warning about being drawn away by **false teachers**.
- b. Paul disposes of the **Docetic theory** that Jesus had no human body as well as the Cerinthian separation between the man Jesus and the spirit of Christ.
- c. He warns them about teachers who bring **deceitful notions** about Christ which would lead believers astray.
- d. He warns about being drawn away by **cheap substitutes** and false notions and tells us to stay away from anything that is not the Christ that he preaches.

II The Superiority of Christ

- a. It pleased the Father that in Christ dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. He, as man, was **not merely God-like**, but GOD. Col 1:19; 1 Tim 3:16
- b. The fullness of the Godhead dwells in Christ **really, and not figuratively**; for he is both God and man. Matt 1:23
- c. Paul asserts that "all that the Godhead is," not just **certain aspects**, dwells in Christ and in physical form. Phil 2:6-11
- d. The fullness of the Godhead was in Christ **before** the Incarnation (John 1:1); and during the Incarnation. 1 John 1:1-3.
- e. It was the **Son of God** who came in the likeness of men, thus, he asserts plainly both the deity and the humanity of Jesus Christ in corporeal form. John 3:16-18

III. The Resources We Have in Christ

- a. There is a fullness in Christ suited to the empty, burdened, destitute state of the **human soul**, but in the philosophy of the world no substitute is found. Matt 11:28
- b. In Him there is such dignity, authority, power, and moral excellence as to be fitted to the work of creating the world and **redeeming his people**. Col 1:12-16
- c. In Him is the supply of **everything needful** for our salvation. Heb 2:8-11
- d. We have a Savior who is in no respect deficient in wisdom, power, authority and grace to redeem and to save us from the **power of sin**. Rom 6:3-14
- e. There is nothing necessary to be done in regards to our salvation which he is not qualified to do or which He has **left undone**. John 19:30

IV. Live As-If These Things Are True

- a. **In His spirit**, there is no enablement lacking to us in the performance of our duties, meeting temptation, or bearing trials. Luke 11:9-13
- b. In no situation of trouble, danger, or distress of any kind will we find that there is a **deficiency** in him to preserve us and deliver us. Rom 8:35-39
- c. In no effort to which we have been called will there be any lack of power or ability of any kind to accomplish that for which Christ **enables us**. Phil 4:11-13
- d. He is **available** in all our tribulations, afflictions, troubles, weaknesses, temptations, and needs. Heb 13:5-6

Lesson 28
The Fullness of The Godhead
Col 2:8-9

- e. He supplies whatever is needed from his **fullness**, an unending supply-just as, if we were thirsty, we might go to an ocean of pure water and drink. John 7:37-38

V. Application

Since God has revealed to us these truths about Christ, then: How much of Christ do I wish to experience? How much of Christ do I really desire to live?

- a. Christ is infinite.
He is without limitations. How much of His infinitude do I grasp? If I grasp so little how then can I be yielded to Him in all things?
- b. Christ is love.
His love for me personally is sure and is never diminished. If I struggle with that, how can I trust Him?
- c. Christ is omniscient.
He knows the absolute truth about what is. Since I feel quite naked and exposed under such knowledge, how can I freely confess my sin and failure to Him?
- d. Christ is sovereign.
Every thing that comes into my life is a gift of God for me to experience. If I resist so much of what He gives to me as a gift, how can I delight in Him?

Three Dollars Worth

*I would like to buy three dollars worth of God, please.
I would like to buy just a little of the Lord.
Not enough to explode my soul and disturb my sleep.
Not enough to take control of my life.
I want just enough to equal a cup of warm milk.
Just enough to ease some of the pain from my guilt.*

*I would like to buy three dollars worth of God, please.
I would like to find a love that is pocket-sized.
Not enough to make me love someone different from me.
Not enough to change my heart.
I can only stand just enough to take to church when I have time.
Just enough to equal a snooze in the sunshine.
I want ecstasy, not transformation.
I want the warmth of the womb, but not a new birth.
I would like to purchase a pound of the eternal in a paper sack.
If it doesn't work, I would like to get my money back.*

*I would like to buy three dollars worth of God, please.
I would like to hide some for a rainy day.
Not enough for people to see a change in me.
Not enough to impose any responsibility.
Just enough to make folks think I am ok.
Could I just get three dollars worth of God, please?*