



**“Philosophy or Christ:
Life’s Most Important
Choice ”**

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How can godly wisdom help us stay on course and avoid being misled by false teachers?

I. We must **HEED** the **WARNINGS** of imminent danger. (v.8)

Philosophy / Philosophia = “The love and pursuit of wisdom.”

II. We must **STAND** upon the **SOLID** foundation of Jesus Christ. (v.8-10)

False teachers will (A) take away from what Jesus did on the cross or (B) they will try to add to what Jesus did on the cross.

“Where does this teaching put Jesus Christ and His work on the cross? Does it deny either Jesus’ Deity or His humanity? Does it teach we must have some type of “new experience” or that we must do something to add to what Jesus did on the cross in order to be saved?”

My Next Steps:

- ◇ In order to keep growing and maturing in my faith I will, starting tomorrow, read a chapter a day from the book of Mark.
- ◇ In order to make right decisions I will pray daily and ask God to give me His wisdom (James 1:5-6).
- ◇ This week I will look up and study the scripture references located on the back of the sermon notes.
- ◇ Other: _____

The Colossian Heresy

Paul answered the various tenets of the Colossian heresy that threatened the church. This heresy was a “mixed bag,” containing elements from several different heresies, some of which contradicted each other.

<i>The Heresy</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Paul’s Answer</i>
Spirit is good; matter is evil.	1:15-20	God created heaven and earth for His glory.
One must follow ceremonies, rituals and restrictions in order to be saved or perfected.	2:11, 16-23; 3:11	These were only shadows that ended when Christ came. He is all you need to be saved.
One must deny the body and live in strict asceticism (a self-denying way of life).	2:20-23	Asceticism is no help in conquering evil thoughts and desires; instead, it leads to pride.
Angels must be worshiped.	2:18	Angels are not to be worshiped; Christ alone is worthy of worship.
Christ could not be both human and divine.	1:15-20; 2:2, 3	Christ is God in the flesh; He is the eternal One, head of the body, first in everything supreme.
One must obtain “secret knowledge in order to be saved or perfected, and this was not available to everyone.	2:2, 18	God’s secret is Christ, and He has been revealed to all.
One must adhere to human wisdom, tradition, and philosophies.	2:4, 8-10; 3:15-17	By themselves, these can be mis- and shallow because they have human origin; instead, we should remember what Christ taught and follow His words as our ultimate authority.
It is even better to combine aspects of several religions.	2:10	You have everything when you have Christ; He is all-sufficient.
There is nothing wrong with immorality.	3:1-11	Get rid of sin and evil because you have been chosen by God to live a new life as a representative of the Lord Jesus Christ.