

**Acts 17:11** “Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

**D. False teachers and false teaching will not derail you, if you are strong in the faith.**

**I Timothy 4:16** “Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.”

**Jude 20** “But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.”

**Heed the Warning!**  
**Colossians 2:8-10**  
**Lesson #8**  
**2/4/24**

**I. Paul warned believers about false teaching.**

**A. This serious warning was about deceptive philosophy.**

**\*\*Colossians 2:8a** “See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, ....”

**Matthew 7:15** “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.”

**2 Timothy 3:6** “They are kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires.”

**B. There are two sources of vain and deceptive philosophy.**

**1. Paul mentioned human traditions.**

**\*\*Colossians 2:8b** “... which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.”

**Mark 7:5** “So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders” instead of eating their food with ‘unclean’ hands?’

**Mark 7:7b** “... their teachings are but rules taught by men.”

**Mark 7:9** “And He said to them: “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!”

**Mark 7:21** “For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, then, murder, adultery, <sup>[22]</sup>greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance, and folly. <sup>[23]</sup>All these evils come from inside and make a man unclean.”

**2. Paul mentioned the basic principles of the world.**

**\*\*Colossians 2:8b** "... which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ."

## II. Paul's focus was on the worthiness of Jesus Christ.

### A. Jesus Christ is God in the flesh.

**\*\*Colossians 2:9** "For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form."

**Colossians 1:19** "For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him."

**John 14:8** "Philip said, 'Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.'<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered: 'Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father.'"

**Matthew 1:23** "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel – which means, God with us."

**John 1:14** "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

**Hebrews 10:5b** "... Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me."

**Hebrews 10:10** "And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

**Colossians 1:15** "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation."

### B. Jesus Christ has been given to us.

**\*\*Colossians 2:10a** "And you have been given fullness in Christ, ...."

**2 Peter 1:3** "His divine power has given us everything we need for a life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness."

**2 Peter 1:4** "Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."

## C. Jesus Christ is the greatest in power and authority.

**\*\*Colossians 2:10b** "... who is the head over every power and authority."

### How can we apply this lesson to our life?

#### A. False teachers are deceptive so be alert.

**Jude 4a** "For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you ...."

**Matthew 7:15** "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves."

**2 Corinthians 11:15** "It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve."

**Jude 16** "These men are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage."

#### B. False teachers deny and twist God's Word, so don't be confused.

**Jude 4b** "... They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord."

**2 John 7** "Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is a deceiver and the antichrist."

**Isaiah 64:6** "All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags."

**Ephesians 2:8** "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.<sup>19</sup> Not by works, so that no one can boast."

#### C. False teaching can be detected when we compare what is said to the Word of God.