

Sermon Reflections

Walking Worthy (Colossians 2:16-3:4)

Summary: The doctrines of the Christian faith are relevant for everyday life. Remember their truths to guide your life.

1. Understand the role of the law and Christ to avoid legalism (vv. 2:16-17)

- Legalism confuses justification with sanctification. Legalism thinks we can earn our salvation.
- The passage describes these festivals or rituals as a shadow of things to come. What is this foreshadowing referring to?
- How could a greater understanding of Christ's work on the cross help you guard against the concerns of what others may say against you?

2. Understand the preeminence of Christ to avoid mysticism (vv. 2:18-19)

- False teachers trusted in their mystical activities, trusted in their mystical experiences, trusted in their selves. How can you guard against false teachers in today's world?
- The false teachers were puffed up with pride based on their actions. What are some areas you struggle with pride and how can a deep understanding of Christ's work on the cross help that struggle?

3. Remember your union with Christ to avoid false teaching (vv. 2:20-23)

- Union with Christ refers to salvation. When you trust Christ, God declares you righteous by Christ's work. The false teachers believed that not touching something kept you clean. The Colossian believers were clean by their union with Christ.
- How does your view of your union with Christ influence how you extend grace to others?

4. Walking Worthy (vv. 3:1-4)

- Set your heart on Christ, set your path or course on the things that are above. When the world is raining and storming and beating against the sides of the "ship", continue on the course that you have set.
- What does Paul say are the reasons you should pursue Christ? What are the things of this world that challenge your pursuit of Christ? Paul provides these doctrines of the Christian faith to strengthen you to walk worth with the Lord.