

Colossians 2:16-19 - “A Mind Freed by Christ” Study Guide

Passage Outline

A Mind Freed by Christ is a mind...

1.

Freed from Error: Jewish Legalism & Pagan Religion

1.

Jewish Legalism v. 16

2.

Pagan Religion v. 18

3.

Devoted to Christ

1.

Col. 2:16-19 - Study Guide

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Not to Ceremonies & Self-Righteousness, but a Spiritual Relationship with Christ v. 17

2.

Not to Speculation & Lies, but Christ and His Wisdom v. 19a

3.

Growing in Christ's Wisdom

1.

The Place of Growth: Growing in His Body v. 19b

2.

The Means of Growth: Growing in His Nourishment & Fellowship v. 19c

3.

The Nature of Growth: Growing in His Godliness v. 19d

For Discussion

1.

According to Lev. 23:37-38 and Ezek. 45:17, how were “[food and drink](#)” and a “[festival, new moon, or a Sabbath](#)” connected? Of what general category of activities is Paul speaking here, and what does that imply about why we should “

let no one pass judgment

” on us regarding them?

2.

Is Paul saying that the Old Testament Sabbath need not be kept in the New Testament? Consider the distinction between the weekly Sabbath in Lev. 23:3 and the feasts listed in Lev. 23:4-43, which are also called “[Sabbaths](#)” in Lev. 23:24, 32, and 39.

3.

If the Old Testament’s ceremonies were a “[shadow](#)” and Christ is the “

[substance](#)

,” why were the Jews

right

to keep those ceremonies, and why would New Testament Christians be

wrong

to do so?

4.

What can we learn from the “[shadows](#)” in the Old Testament?

5.

What are the characteristics of pagan religion in v. 18? Are they the same or different from modern Charismatic Christianity?

6.

What pagan ideas are we tempted to follow today?

7.

Is fasting a Christian counterpart to asceticism? In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different? In the spirit of 2 Cor. 10:5, how could we “[take every thought](#)” of asceticism “[captive to the obedience of Christ](#)?” Consider Matt. 6:16-18.

8.

What does Paul indicate is the key problem with both Jewish Legalism and Pagan Religion?

9.

What are some practical ways we can turn away from error and devote ourselves more fully to Christ?

10.

If we have turned away from the world's wisdom and are devoted to Christ with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, we will grow in Christ's wisdom. Where should we seek to find that growth? What is the means of that growth? What is the nature of that growth? See v. 19.

11.

What are the 3 "means of grace?" How do you grow through each one?

12.

In what ways does fellowship help us grow as Christians?

13.

What are some practical ways we can seek out Christ's nourishment and fellowship?
Growth in Godliness?