

# Unstoppable

*Doing What We Should Do While God Does What Only He Can Do*

**“Refusing to Let Philosophy Rob Us of the Best”**

**Colossians 1:19 – 2:23**

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / Oct. 16, 2016*

Let's look at **Three Warnings** that reflect the four commands Paul gives us in **Colossians 1:19-2:23**:

## **I. Watch Out for Worldly Philosophies that Deny or Discount the Person and Work of Jesus Christ**

**Col. 2:8** “Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.”

The word ‘philosophy’ is made up of two Greek words: ‘Philos’ – love and ‘Sophia’ – wisdom, so it's the love of wisdom.

If we exclude Jesus and simply pursue the knowledge of truth as an academic endeavor that's devoid of any relationship with our Creator God through His Son, Jesus Christ, then we'll never come to the knowledge of the truth.

**2 Timothy 3:7** “always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

Wisdom and truth are ultimately found in Jesus Christ!

**Col. 2:3** “in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”

## **II. Watch Out for Religious Philosophies that Start with Jesus But Don't Stay with Jesus Because They Insist on You Adding to Who He is and What He's Done**

If you have a theology of ‘I have Jesus, but I still need to...,’ then you have not seen that the Gospel IS Jesus . The Gospel is not about Jesus and something else.

**I Cor. 1:30** “But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God – and righteousness and sanctification and redemption”

When you become a Christian, He becomes your righteousness, your holiness and your wisdom. That's the gospel. He came and lived the life you should have lived and died the death you should have died.

### **A. Don't Let Anyone Call You Away from Your Single and Simple Devotion to Christ**

**Col. 2:16-17** “Therefore let no one judge you in food or drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.”

Every step away from Jesus is a step towards confusion and back into darkness! Jesus has all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge and everything else is just a shadow what we're really looking for.

**2 Cor. 11:2-3** "For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ."

### **B. Don't Let Anyone Convince You There's Something Better or Higher than Christ**

**Col. 2:18** "Let no one defraud you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind."

Don't get cheated or scammed into giving up your reward of having a personal, intimate and growing relationship with Jesus Christ! There is nothing better and Jesus is enough!

### **III. Watch Out for the Human Tendency to Try and Finish in Your Own Strength What Can Only be Done by a Growing Relationship with Jesus Christ**

We always need more of Jesus because spending time with Him is what allows us to become more like Him. You need to stay focused on transformation more than information since the goal is to become more like Christ and not just have a head full of knowledge.

**Col. 2:6-7** "As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

**Col. 2:9-10** "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him..."

At the heart of all of Paul's warnings he cranks out one of the greatest explanations of what Jesus did for us on the cross!

**Col. 2:13-15** "Colossians 2:13–15 "And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, "having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. "Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."

God took the record of all your sins that made you a debtor to wrath and instead of using them as a warrant to send you to hell, He put that on His Son so that you'll never have to face the wrath of God, but instead you can be forgiven, adopted, filled with the Spirit, and given an eternal inheritance that can never be shaken or taken.

**2 Corinthians 2:14** "But thanks be to God who always leads us in His triumph in Christ Jesus, and always manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place."