**RISE UP** in 2021

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***ALL WE NEED***

A Study in the Book of Colossians  
***Cancelled***

Colossians 2:8-15



Throughout history, culture has played a huge role in what people see, hear, do, and what they believe or don’t believe.

When various armies came to give their allegiance to King David to unify all of Israel in 1 Chronicles 12:32, God says something profound about the sons of Issachar who came to pledge their allegiance to King David. He said the sons of Issachar **“understood the times,”** and they would know **“what Israel ought to do**.” That is fantastic!

When Paul is made aware of the cultural influences of the times for the Christians in Colossae, he pens the letter of Colossians that we have been studying to admonish them in love, encourage them in truth, and reassure them that they have everything they need.Two major cultural influences that Paul encourages them to resist are:

1. Mystical Polytheism
2. Observance of the Law

*See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.*  **Colossians 2:8**

**Philosophy** –a way of thinking or explanation of things.

**Empty deceit** –promise much but delivers nothing.

**Human tradition** – built on human reason rather than divine revelation from God Himself.

**Elemental spirits** – worldly ideas about religion and truth.

It is wise for us to understand the times that we live in and the cultural influences that Christians and non-Christians face.



In order for you not to be deceived and taken captive by human philosophy, deceit, and things built on human reason rather than divine revelation from God …

You need to be **rooted** so you do not become **deluded.**

We can buy into the philosophies of the world when we are …

In the world, but not in the **Word**.

In verse 9 and the verses that follow, Paul wants to remind them of who Jesus is, and what they have in Him in order for them not to be taken captive and led down a path that is not in line with the truth.

*For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.* **Colossians 2:9-10**

You do not have to look any further than **Jesus** for the truth.

He is truth. He is the full embodiment of truth. He is at the beginning of all things. Everything lives, moves, and has its being in Christ Jesus. In other words …

*For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*  **Colossians 1:16-17**

Why look to the **culture** for your cues when you can look to the **Creator**?

You have **everything** you will ever need in Jesus.

*In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.* **Colossians 2:11-12**

You do not have to look any further than Jesus for **salvation**.

*And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.* **Colossians 2:13-14**

You do not have to look any further than Jesus for **validation**.

Culture cancels **you** because of the things you do.

Jesus cancels the **things** you do because He loves you.

*He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.* **Colossians 2:15**

You do not have to look any further than Jesus for **victory**.