



Nothing Else but Christ Alone

Colossians 2:6-15

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Validation from the World vs God





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We often feel: inadequate, imperfect, lacking in many areas and many with low self esteem and feelings of failure.

But the Good News is... **CHRIST COMPLETES YOU**



Colossians 2:6-10

⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ **rooted and built up in him,** strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and **overflowing with thankfulness.**



Colossians 2:6-10

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

⁹ **For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,** ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to **fullness**. He is the head over every power and authority.



Roadmap

Nothing Else But Christ Alone

I. Remain in Christ (6-7)

II. Resist All other Voices (8)

III.Refresh yourself in His Saving Work (9-15)

Conclusion: Receive the Victory in Heaven



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- **The Church of Colossae is very similar to our church community here:**
 - A young group of believers who started out strong but began to get distracted in their works and achievements → **Syncretism**
 - They were **being influenced by false teachers** and living in a culture of hollow philosophies. (v. 8)
 - They were questioning if Jesus was **sufficient** or **even God**. Ultimately **they thought they could overcome sin out of their own works.**



I. Remain in Christ

- **While in Prison, Paul felt convicted to write this letter to show the Colossians:**
 - **THE ALL SUPREMACY AND ALL SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST**
 - **THE NEED TO BE ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN CHRIST**



I. Remain in Christ

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- **Christ Jesus is the Only Way** → In Greek culture this was almost impossible. Caesar is God. Greek Gods and philosophy
- **Rooted and Built Up** → Deep vs Shallow



Psalm 1:1-3

- ¹ Blessed is the one
 who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
 or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
 and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ **That person is like a tree planted by streams of
water,
 which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
 whatever they do prospers.**

Petronas Towers (KL)

Deep
Roots=Sky
High
growth



Structure
1483 ft (452m)

Foundation
394 ft (120m)



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- **Overflowing with Thankfulness** → Paul mentions this 7 times in Colossians. Thankful because of what Christ has done!



Paul's Reflection 1 Timothy 1:15-17

¹⁵ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might **display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.** ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.



II. Resist All Other Voices

⁸ See to it that no one **takes you captive** through **hollow and deceptive philosophy,** which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

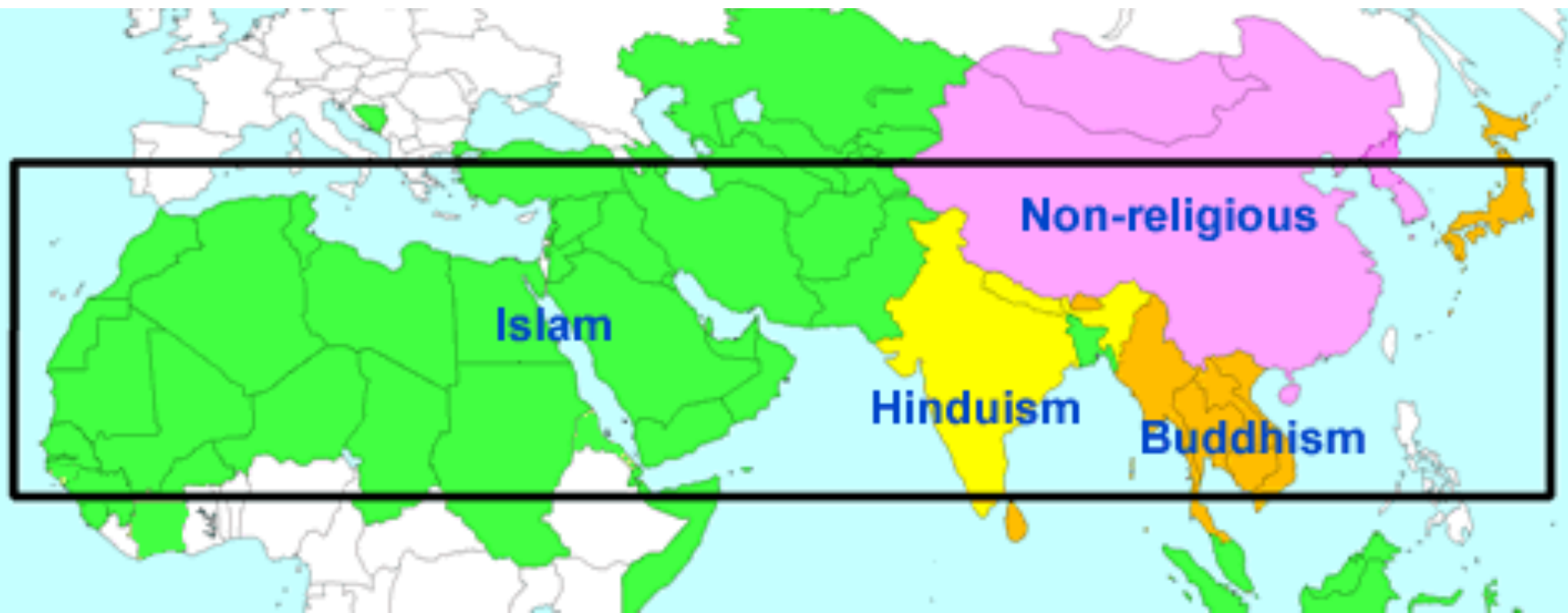


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Philosophy – Greek stoicism, Gnosticism, Judaism, Adding to the faith, legalism, ascetism, human traditions... Satan uses all of this to distract from Christ.

- **What is holding us Captive?**





Major Religions in the 10/40: THUMB

Tribalism – Animism

Hinduism

Unreligious – Atheist

Muslim

Buddhism

Minnesota Engage Global





“Man, in his creativity, has invented innumerable religions in his attempt to reach God.

God, in His love, has given us the truth: the one religion, Christianity, in which **God attempts to reach man.”**

- Gotquestions.org



Christianity is the Only Way

Though Christianity may seem similar to other religions in some ways, one main way it is different is that **it is based on the worship of a God who reconciles the world to His Holiness**. He sent His Son, **Jesus**, to die on the cross and rise again to claim victory for us over sin and death.

All of humanity is searching for the same things: **purpose, love, hope, peace, comfort, salvation. We find those things in Jesus.**



The Unique Gospel: Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ For it is by **grace you have been saved, through faith**—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—
⁹ **not by works**, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.



III. Refresh Yourself in His Saving Works (v 9-15)

⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been **brought to fullness**. He is the head over every power and authority.

¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, ¹² having been **buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.**



III. Refresh Yourself in His Saving Works (9-15)

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,** ¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made **a public spectacle** of them, **triumphing over them** by the cross.



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Jesus cancelled our Legal indebtedness → It is finished, it is done.

The Victory Lap in Heaven → **“Following God might mean losing Short Term, but you will never lose in the Long Term.”**



The Victory Lap: Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth ,“for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “**Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.**”



Revelation 21:1-7

⁴ ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. **There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain**, for the old order of things has passed away.” ⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, **“I am making everything new!”** Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

⁶ He said to me: **“It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.**



Conclusion:

“why should we leave the fountains of living waters, to hew for ourselves with infinite pains, broken cisterns that can hold no waters?”

All we need is Christ. Let us lift our eyes from the low earths and low creatures and behold, no man has a helper, **save Jesus only!**”

- Alexander Mclaren (1826-1910)



Conclusion:

1. Let us **Surrender** our Earthly Struggles.
2. Let us **put our Earthly Accolades** behind us.
3. Let us **Focus on Jesus Christ Alone.**