

Colossians

(11) Beware of empty philosophy

Col 2:8-12

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

9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. 11 In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, 12 having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

NIV

Paul's first warning...2:8a

What is Paul's first warning to the Colossians? 2:8a; Mt.7:15, 16:6; Phil.3:2; IPet.3:17

Why does Paul not identify the *specific* 'hollow/deceptive philosophy'? 2:8; 1:28-29

Paul identifies (2) specific types of false philosophies. What's the first? 2:8b; IPet.1:18

Was this evident amongst the Jews? Mark 7:1-8; Gal.1:14; Rom.10:1-2

Why was this *tradition of men* so intolerable? Mark 7:8-13

Was the *human tradition* evident also amongst the Gentiles? IPet.1:18

Does this mean that *all traditions* of men are lies? IIThess.3:6 How do we sort them out?

Paul's second warning...2:8b

What is Paul's second warning to the Colossians? 2:8b, 20-23; Gal.4:1-5; Eph.2:1-2

What is likely the summary of these principles? ICor.1:18-25

What else does, *principles of this world*, likely refer? ITim.3:16-4:5

And these two *deceptive philosophies* are in absolute opposition to what/Whom? 2:8b

Next: The personal and practical Truth of living in Christ...

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Paul's first warning...2:8a

What is Paul's first warning to the Colossians? 2:8a; Mt.7:15, 16:6; Phil.3:2; IPet.3:17

Beware! Don't let anyone carry you off (as spoil) by empty and deceptive philosophy.

Why does Paul not identify the *specific* 'hollow/deceptive philosophy'? 2:8; 1:28-29

He addresses the truth of Christ which refutes ALL false philosophy. One truth, many lies.

Paul identifies (2) specific types of false philosophies. What's the first? 2:8b; IPet.1:18

The first is 'human tradition'. That error/lie that's been passed down thru generations.

Was this evident amongst the Jews? Mark 7:1-8; Gal.1:14; Rom.10:1-2

Absolutely! The Pharisees and scribes (religious leaders) were leading this deception.

Why was this *tradition of men* so intolerable? Mark 7:8-13

The traditions 'set aside' (made of no effect) the commandments of God. They had priority

Was the *human tradition* evident also amongst the Gentiles? IPet.1:18

Absolutely! These were lies 'inherited' (handed down by tradition) from their forefathers.

Does this mean that *all traditions* of men are lies? IIThess.3:6 How do we sort them out?

No. Everything needs to be tested by the Truth of the Word of God. Deception is strong!

Paul's second warning...2:8b

What is Paul's second warning to the Colossians? 2:8b, 20-23; Gal.4:1-5; Eph.2:1-2

Beware! Don't let anyone carry you off (as spoil) by elementary principles of this world.

What is likely the summary of these principles? ICor.1:18-25

The very best of mans wisdom is still not true! God's true wisdom is deemed to be foolish.

What else does, *principles of this world*, likely refer? ITim.3:16-4:5

The deceitful demonic teachings that lead to a false salvation by works. No conscience.

And these two *deceptive philosophies* are in absolute opposition to what/Whom? 2:8b

It's all opposed to the Truth. Lies rather than on Christ. It's always opposed to Him!

Next: The personal and practical Truth of living in Christ...