

2:42 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Colossians 2:16-23

The Church in Colossae was under attack. A serious heresy had arisen and it brought confusion and uncertainty to the Church. The book of Colossians was written, in part, to address the various heresies of the false teachers. In the passage before us we see a very direct and powerful counter attack against those heresies.

Before you begin your discussion read Colossians 2:16-23 and pray that God will give you understanding through the working of the Holy Spirit.

1. The first attack we see is against legalism. It is the teaching that makes the conformity to manmade rules the means by which one measures spirituality. What dangers do you see in measuring your spiritual life merely by a set of rules?
2. It is likely that the false teachers were trying to bring the Church back under the dietary laws set forth in the Old Testament. Read Acts 10:9-16, Romans 14:17 and Mark 7:14-19. What does this tell you about the dietary laws and the Christian?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 8:4-13 and Romans 14:19-23. How would you apply this to Colossians 2:16? Is there anything wrong with observing the dietary laws? According to the above passages, what would make it wrong and what would make it right?
4. The Old Testament gave instructions to celebrate various days and festivals. Verse 17 tells us that these were a shadow of the things to come, namely Christ. They pointed to Him. What would make it wrong to observe these days? What would make it right?
5. Rules and regulations are very attractive to some as a means of showing how spiritual they are. How does a set of rules and regulations like that have an appearance of wisdom?
6. Read John 15:4-5. How is this a definition of spiritual maturity and how is it in contrast to the legalist's view of spiritual maturity?

2:42 Memo:

Don't forget to leave time for prayer requests and to pray for each other. If you are breaking for the summer, consider getting together once or twice during that time maybe for a potluck or...

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