



PART 6: YOU ARE ALREADY

Sermon Notes

Text: Colossians 2:6-15

Intro:

Sometimes the thing that we are searching for is already in our possession, we just don't realize it.

Paul is not telling the Colossians to continue searching in order to become mature; he's telling them that maturity will be found in sinking their roots deeper into the faith they've already received.

v. 6-7

- Refers back to everything Paul said about Jesus in 1:1-2:5.
- Summarized everything to follow in the letter.

1. You're already Complete (v. 8-10)

We intuitively realize that we are missing something, so we try to fill it with experiences, people, substances, relationships, etc.

"Take you captive" - word used to describe the plundering of cargo from a ship.

All of God was and is in Jesus Christ, which means to experience all that God has for us, all we need is Jesus.

If we haven't experienced all God has for us, we don't need to keep searching; we need to sink our roots deeper.

2. You're already "in" (v. 11-12)

Circumcision was the symbol of inclusion for Jewish men.

False teachers tried to convince the Colossians that they needed to also convert to Judaism to experience true maturity.

3. You're already free (v. 13-15)

Two powers stood against our freedom:

- 1) Legal indebtedness: Jesus paid our debt
- 2) Powers and authorities: Disarmed on the cross

"the best government and the highest religion the world at that time had ever known—conspired to place Jesus on the cross. These powers, angry at his challenge to their sovereignty, stripped him naked, held him up to public contempt, and celebrated a triumph over him. In one of the most dramatic statements of the paradox of the cross, and one moreover which shows in what physical detail Paul could envisage the horrible death that Jesus had died, he declares that, on the contrary, on the cross God was stripping them naked, was holding them up to public contempt, and leading them in his own triumphal procession – in Christ, the crucified Messiah. When the 'powers' had done their worst, crucifying the Lord of glory incognito on the charge of blasphemy and rebellion, they had overreached themselves. He, neither blasphemer nor rebel, was in fact their rightful sovereign." ~N.T. Wright.

Conclusion:

v. 6-7

Psalm 1:1-3

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. Have you ever been searching for something only to realize you already had it?
2. Do you agree that sometimes Christians are searching for things in the world that they already have in Christ? Like what?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read Galatians 1:6-10. It is believed that, like in his letter to the Galatians, Paul is trying to refute false teachers who are infiltrating the Colossians church. They are trying to convince the Colossians that to be complete, 'in', and free, they must also add other spiritual experiences and religious practices. How do we keep ourselves from being "confused" by those who "pervert the gospel of Christ" (v. 7). How can we keep these types of false teachers out of places of influence in the church?
2. Read Romans 2:25-29. Why all the talk about circumcision? What is the point Paul is trying to make? What's the difference between being a Jew (or a Christian) outwardly verses inwardly (v. 29)?
3. Read Psalm 1. How does this Psalm relate to the themes of Colossians? What does it mean to "delight" and "meditate" on the law (v. 2)?

Application:

1. Experiencing more of God is not a matter of continuing the search; it's a matter of sinking our roots deeper into Jesus. How will you do that this week?

Prayer:

1. Pray for protection from the messages of false teachers.
2. Other Requests
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