

60. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 1:55:58 pm  
Col. 2:8 ¶ 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.

61. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 1:57:48 pm  
The type of philosophy that is ungodly, naturalistic rather than supernaturalistic, and denies who Christ is.

62. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 2:20:41 pm  
Col. 2:9 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,

63. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 2:20:52 pm  
The incarnate Jesus was God in the flesh. Apart from Biblical Christianity, most religions and cults present Jesus as a man or even an angel—but not as the God.

64. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 2:29:48 pm  
Luke 2:21 ¶ And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

65. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 2:33:34 pm  
baptism

66. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 2:33:43 pm  
Christ

67. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 2:33:52 pm  
cross

68. Dr. Andrew Corbett  
14 March 2020 at 2:36:24 pm  
Col. 2:15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Different - Through Colossians

*Philosophy* comes from two Greek words - *philo*, meaning 'love', and *sophia*, meaning 'wisdom'. Philosophy is therefore, *the love of wisdom*. It involves thinking about ideas. The Greeks had a long history of producing *philosophers*, most notably - Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. Many of the early Christian thinkers highly valued these philosophers and their methods for thinking issues through. In the modern era, many of the world's leading philosophers, such as Alvin Plantinga, are evangelical Christians. In fact, there are so many good Christian philosophers today that there the *Evangelical Philosophical Society* (E.P.S. <https://www.epsociety.org/>) that holds a large annual conference for its members in the United States. I mention this to counter the wrong idea that some Christians have about what the Apostle Paul is saying about *philosophy* in **Colossians 2:8**.

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4. Consider Colossians 2:8 and discuss what kind of 'philosophy' the Apostle Paul is condemning?

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5. How does Paul state that Jesus was unique in **Colossians 2:9** and how is this different from how most false religions and cults present Him?

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It seems that the Colossians were not just under threat from the Gnostics, but also faced attack from 'Judaizers' who taught that to become a Christian, one had to become a Jew first. These Jewish Christians were attempting to teach male Gentile converts that they had to be circumcised in order to become a Christian.

6. In Colossians 2:11, what does Paul say to counter this false idea?

The initiation rite for a male Jew was *circumcision* when they were 8 days old (**Luke 2:21**). Paul reminds the Colossians that their initiation rite into Christianity was their water **b** \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 2:12), but that it wasn't this that saved them, because their debt of sin was cancelled when **C** \_\_\_\_\_ died on the **c** \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 2:13-14). In this way Jesus triumphed (**Col. 2:15**).

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67 68

Amen.

69. Dr. Andrew Corbett

6 April 2020 at 8:19:15 pm

Col. 2:16 ¶ Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.

Col. 2:17 These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

Col. 2:18 Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,

Col. 2:19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

Col. 2:20 ¶ If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—

Col. 2:21 “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch”

Col. 2:22 (referring to things that all perish as they are used)— according to human precepts and teachings?

Col. 2:23 These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.

70. Dr. Andrew Corbett

6 April 2020 at 8:38:39 pm

James 1:26 ¶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person’s religion is worthless.

71. Dr. Andrew Corbett

6 April 2020 at 8:38:54 pm

James 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

72. Dr. Andrew Corbett

8 April 2020 at 9:14:23 pm

Col. 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Study 7

COLOSSIANS 2:16-23

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# A DIFFERENT WORSHIP

‘Religion’ is based on a set of beliefs about God and how these beliefs shape how we view the world, treat each other, and regard our purpose. The heart of any religion is revealed by what it teaches about worship, particularly *how* it is to be done and *why* it should be done.

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1. According to James 1:26, what makes a person’s religion *worthless* or *futile*?

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2. What does James state is a characteristic of pure and undefiled religion? (James 1:27)

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Christianity introduced to the world a new way to worship.

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3. What elements of Christian worship are mentioned by the Apostle Paul in Colossians 3:16, which we today take for granted? How do you think this compared to the way people of other religions worshiped when Paul wrote this epistle?

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*Worship* is how we expression our surrender to God. It can involve *praise* which can involve music and singing — something almost unique to Christian worship. While some people see as essentially evil and promoting immorality, Vishal Mangalwadi, in his book, *The Book That Made Your World*, argues that it was the Bible, and Christianity in particular, that redeemed music as a means by which a worshiper could glorify God. He writes, “Music is, of course, integral to the Bible, in which the