

(1) The suggested deception

(2) The answer

- c. vs. 18...Don't let anyone cheat you out of your reward that comes from being with and serving Christ by making you a victim of his own devious practices and mysterious rites which, when you are dead with Christ, really have no hold on you even though they may have some limited value in the ideas they express.

(1) The suggested deception

(2) The answer.

As mentioned earlier, these are important warnings and tie closely to our discussion since the believer is often led to seek a deliverance which he may not need or may already have. Since the Holy Spirit is the primary witness to Christ, we must assume that these matters are originated in His inspiring ministry.

3. The Present Reality....largely a very practical matter. Colossians 3:

- a. vs. 1....seek
- b. vs. 5....mortify
- c. vs. 12...put
- d. vs. 15...let
- e. vs. 17, 23...whatsoever.

Above all else, don't seek shortcut spirituality of means of fleshly perfection that chiefly exalt the holder.

C. Observations: (oral)

- 1. The groundwork is surprisingly necessary but amazingly misunderstood.
- 2. It is not a matter of theological learning...simply Christian understanding.
- 3. It suggests a contentedness in the Lord that will show itself in gracious growth.
- 4. It will turn us from total subjectivism and give us the courage to face such trials as may be before us.