

# “Full in Christ”

*Colossians 2:8-15*

## ***Beware of the empty views of man, 2:8.***

\*This center section of the book concerns the problem of heretical teachings being pushed on believers. It appears to be pre-gnosticism (a syncretistic mix of Judaism, Greek philosophy and Christianity).

\**Watch out / Beware* (KJV), as in Phil. 3:2, Mk. 8:15, 13:5. A big problem = Gal. 1:6, I Tim. 1: 3-6, 19,20, 2 Pt. 2:1, I Jn. 4:1, 2 Jn. 1:7,8. Paul's concern is that believers could be deceived (solid believers—1:4, 2:5-7 / 1:23).

Col. heresy = Goal: it aimed to take *them captives through philosophy*.

Essence: it was *empty / without substance* and was *deception*

Source: it came from men and they just passed it on and on.  
it was worldly basics 101 (see 2:20, Gal. 4:3, 9).

\*What empty philosophical systems have been passed on today that we must beware lest we fall prey to them? Ever experience such captivity?

## ***Be aware of the fullness you have in Christ, 2:9-15.***

**Contrast** = empty *deceitfulness of man* (8) vs. fullness *of deity of Christ* (9)

\*To avoid deception we must grasp Christ's special position and ours in Him.

He is full divinity (1:15a), head over all rule / authority

In Him you are complete = lit. “full” because of our union w/Him.

In Him you are spiritually set apart (circ. metaphor, Rom. 2:28,29, Phil. 3:3).

In Him you are spiritually identified (Spirit baptism, I Cor. 12:13).

In Him you have spiritual life now; earlier you were dead (Eph. 2;1-6).

In Him your spiritual debt has been paid for (Rom. 5:10).

In Him was a total spiritual triumph over all in the spirit world (2 Cor. 2:14).