Colossians #17 Pastor Tom Stegall   
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**THE SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST VS. MYSTICISM**

**(Colossians 2:18-19)**

**A. The CONTEXT Regarding MYSTICISM (2:8-17)**

1. The central message of Colossians is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ in His person and work and that believers are positionally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Him. (2:9-15)

* *How does this relate to the gospel?*

2. The counterfeits to believers’ completeness in Christ that Paul warns about in Colossians 2 include:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

* *What is mysticism?*
* *How does mysticism show itself today?*
* *How was mysticism showing itself in Colosse?*

**B. The COMMAND Regarding MYSTICISM (2:18a)**

1. This is a prohibition against letting someone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you in the race of the Christian life (1 Cor. 9:24-27; Phil. 3:14), which may result in the loss of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor. 3:12-15).

2. This command applies to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ believers in Christ because anyone can be deceived or intimidated.

3. This warning is directed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mystical false teachers that come your way regardless of their personality, charisma, or popularity.

**C. The CHARACTERISTICS of MYSTICISM (2:18b)**

1. The false teaching of mysticism is inconsistent with God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as the basis and means for true spirituality and sanctification in the Christian life. (Rom. 5:1-2; 2 Cor. 12:9-10)

2. False teachers of mysticism delight in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ humility versus genuine humility before God (Acts 20:19; Phil. 2:3; Col. 3:12; Jas. 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5).

3. The false teachers of mysticism tend to exalt \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, such as angels, instead of Jesus Christ (John 14:6; 15:26; Col. 1:18; 1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 4:15-16; 10:19-20).

* *How should we view angels today?* (Gal. 1:8-9; Heb. 1:14; 13:1; Rev. 22:8)

4. Mysticism is also characterized by supernatural \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and extra-biblical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that are not from God. (Deut. 4:2; 2 Cor. 12:2-4; Rev. 22:18-19)

* *How does this relate to faith? (Heb. 11:1; 2 Cor. 5:7)*
* *Are feelings a reliable guide? (Prov. 28:26; Jer. 17:9)*
* *Is the Bible a sufficient source of truth?* (Acts 17:11; 1 Cor. 4:6; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)

**D. The CONSEQUENCES of MYSTICISM (2:19)**

1. Intruding into the realm of mysticism will impact your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus Christ in your daily Christian life. (1:18; Gal. 5:4)

2. Embracing mysticism will also negatively affect the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of individual believers and the rest of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Eph. 4:11-16)