

Home Group Leaders Notes for the “Rooted” series  
Week of September 30, 2018

**NOTES TO LEADERS: This passage reveals the specifics of what the counterfeit teachers were promoting among the Colossian church.**

**SHARE IT**

When did angels become something you thought about?

**NOTES TO LEADERS: This question is taken from verse 18.**

**LEARN FROM THE BIBLE**

Earlier, the author (Paul) urged readers to continue living in Christ who is all-sufficient. This week’s passage warns of adding religious regulations to the already sufficient works of Christ. Read Colossians 2:16-23.

What false regulations and notions were being taught?

**NOTES TO LEADERS:**

- **Counterfeit leaders: Posing as judge of Colossian church**
- **Legalism: Food/drink regulations, required religious festivals, etc. (cf. Old Testament types of regulations) (16-17)**
- **Asceticism: self-abasement (18)**
- **Mysticism: worship of angels, visions (18)**
- **Rebellion: Not holding fast to Jesus, God’s leadership of the church**

What would be the results if people followed their teachings?

**NOTES TO LEADERS:**

- **Living apart from the Jesus Christ’s leadership as head (following men instead of Christ (22)**
- **Living under the bondage of legalism - laws and judges**
- **Violating the unity of valuing every part of the body**
- **Departing from the pure gospel of Christ Jesus, following self-made religion**
- **Putting confidence in self-abasement which has no value**

Why are these regulations unnecessary and unhelpful?

**NOTES TO LEADERS:**

- **These things are a “mere shadow” of the things that Christ has completed and given as a gift to us.**
- **Self-abasement, an attempt to please God by human works, has no value before God.**
- **These efforts do not curb nor cure our sin problem.**

How are these regulations in opposition to the good news of what Christ Jesus accomplished?

**NOTES TO LEADERS:** In short, it is man-made religion attempting to please or appease God. This would mean that Jesus Christ did not need to come. It would also make the words of Jesus false – i.e. that only He can save us. (John 14:6).

**DISCUSS TOGETHER**

Where do we see false teachings about “Jesus plus” today? How are they similar to this passage?

**NOTES TO LEADERS:**

- **False teaching still abounds in cults: Mormonism, Buddhism, Etc.**
- **Each of these involves regulations outside of the gospel and the teaching of the New Testament**
- **Each of these distorts and disparages the person and work of Jesus Christ**

What are some man-made regulations (restrictions) still heard in the church? Do they have value? (23)

**NOTES TO LEADERS: This will vary according to people’s experience.**

Why is this warning still important for us today? What are our tendencies about these kinds of notions?

**NOTES TO LEADERS: Our tendency is to try to accomplish things to appease or receive God’s approval. We also tend to look for secret or hidden wisdom. Both are detrimental to our faith in Christ alone.**

May the Holy Spirit empower and encourage you as you shepherd your people.

Steve