



Colossians 2:16-23  
Views Hostile to Christian Liberty  
Rich Hagenbaugh July 18, 2021

**I. The Disguise of \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 2:16-17).**

*(16) Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. (17) These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.*

**“Two big controversies in the Early Church involved diet and days.” (Pastor Karl on Romans 14)**

**“There are always those who want Christians to look beyond the Gospel for fulfillment.” (Pastor Aaron)**

**Ceremonialism emphasizes works as a means of grace.**

**If verse 16 is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christian Liberty,  
Verse 17 is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christian Liberty.**

**These shadows are now \_\_\_\_\_, they have  
lost all right to exist, they have lost their binding force.**

**II. The Defrauding of \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 2:18-19).**

*(18) Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind. (19) They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.*

**Categories of Mysticism:**

**A. Self-Humility.**

**Mysticism produces false humility producing  
personal \_\_\_\_\_.**

**B. Worship of Angels.**

**Mysticism operates through \_\_\_\_\_,  
not Christ.**

**“It is the highest disparagement of Christ, who is the  
Head of the Church, for any of the members to  
make use of any intercessors with God but Him.”  
(Matthew Henry)**

**C. Visions.**

**Mysticism emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_ experience,  
by-passing the Scriptures.**

**III. The Deceitfulness of \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 2:20-23).**

*(20) Since you died with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, why, as though you still belonged to the world, do you submit to its rules: (21) “Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!”? (22) These rules, which have to do with things that are all destined to perish with use, are based on merely human commands and teachings. (23) Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.*

**“Since you have died with Christ” WHY?**

**What does a dead person have to do with man’s  
rules?**

**The Product of Asceticism:**

**A. The Appearance of \_\_\_\_\_. This kind  
of wisdom does nothing but puff up the wearer.**

**B. Self-imposed \_\_\_\_\_. It is fake religion  
that is not true worship of the true creator.**

**C. False \_\_\_\_\_. This is the only disease  
that makes everyone sick but the one who has it.**

**Any religious system that is unwilling to accept Jesus  
Christ as the only and all-sufficient Savior is an indulgence  
of the flesh, from man’s conceit, as though he were able to  
perfect Christ’s work.**