

# The Supremacy of Christ


Part 5

## Warning Against Falsehood

Ryan Guzouskis

# TALKINGPOINTS WALKINGPOINTS



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**Talk** together about the glory of God's kingdom. –Psalm 145:11  
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. –Joshua 22:5

Triangle Community Church aims to be a “transforming church”. We exist to be used by God as He transforms ordinary people into extraordinary followers of Jesus Christ. TCC believes not only that life-change is possible—but that it is to be expected. Growth is God's will for his people. But transformation does not happen by accident. It requires intentional, intelligent action. 1 Timothy 4:7 instructs you to “discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness.” Since “Talking Points, Walking Points” is intended both for individual reflection and for group discussion, questions vary in degree of vulnerability required. Generally it is best to begin group discussions with questions which involve less personal disclosure—but don't linger there. Be sure to “dive deep” too! The questions which require the greatest openness and honesty, as well as those in the section entitled “Digging Deeper in your Daily Quiet Time”, are perfect for private reflection.

## Questions for Reflection or Discussion

- In Colossians 2:4 Paul says "I say **this** so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument." Review Colossians 1:24—2:3 to understand to what "this" refers. What is its main theme?  
  
What is the implication of the fact that these false ideas are "**persuasive**"?  
  
By what false ideas have you ever been "persuaded" (2:4) and "taken captive" (2:8)?  
  
How does a rich understanding of Christ protect us from being taken in by false ideas?
- Notice Paul's logic: Christ is "the fullness of deity" (1:15-17, 19; 2:3 & 9). Christians are "in Christ" (1:27). Therefore Christians are "complete" (1:28 & 2:10). In what sense are **you** "complete"?
- Explain this logic: **Christ** is supreme (1:15-20; 2:3, 9 & 15) **therefore** don't let anyone judge **you** (2:16). How does the conclusion flow from the premise? What's the connection?
- Read Colossians 2:16-23. Do you know any Christians who say that you must follow a certain religious calendar (2:16) or that you must not eat certain things (v. 21)? Tell us about them.  
  
How did you respond to his regulations?  
  
How does Paul respond to them?

## **Colossians 2:4-23**

- 4 I am saying this so that no one will deceive you with arguments that sound reasonable.
- 5 For I may be absent in body, but I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see how well ordered you are and the strength of your faith in Christ.
- 6 So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to walk in him,
  - 7 being rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and overflowing with gratitude.
- 8 Be careful that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit based on human tradition, based on the elements of the world, rather than Christ.
- 9 For the entire fullness of God's nature dwells bodily in Christ,
  - 10 and you have been filled by him, who is the head over every ruler and authority.
- 11 You were also circumcised in him with a circumcision not done with hands, by putting off the body of flesh, in the circumcision of Christ,
  - 12 when you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.
- 13 And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, he made you alive with him and forgave us all our trespasses.
- 14 He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross.
- 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; he triumphed over them in him.
- 16 Therefore, don't let anyone judge you in regard to food and drink or in the matter of a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day.
  - 17 These are a shadow of what was to come; the substance is Christ.
- 18 Let no one condemn you by delighting in ascetic practices and the worship of angels, claiming access to a visionary realm. Such people are inflated by empty notions of their unspiritual mind.
  - 19 They don't hold on to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with growth from God.
- 20 If you died with Christ to the elements of this world, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world? Why do you submit to regulations:
  - 21 "Don't handle, don't taste, don't touch"?
- 22 All these regulations refer to what is destined to perish by being used up; they are human commands and doctrines.
- 23 Although these have a reputation for wisdom by promoting self-made religion, false humility, and severe treatment of the body, they are not of any value in curbing self-indulgence.

## Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

*"Five Question Bible Study" (see page below) is a simple way to study any topic.  
Let's use it to explore the threat of false teachers and false teaching...*

**Monday**—Read Jude 1-4.

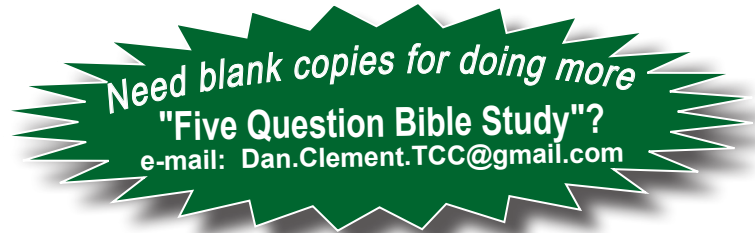
**Tuesday**— Read Jude 5-7.

**Wednesday**— Read Jude 8-13.

**Thursday**— Read Jude 14-16.

**Friday**— Read Jude 17-24.

**Saturday**— In preparation for gathering to worship on the Lord's Day, read Colossians 3:1-17.



### Five Question Bible Study

Bible Text: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) it is found.]



What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would **this text** answer it?



What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text? [and what was their response?]