



SERIES: August / September Series “HE IS ENOUGH”

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Thursday, 08/26/2021

Scripture: Colossians 2:8

TITLE: Don’t Get Carried Away

Do you remember those funny faces that you could drag-and-drop? Little pieces of magnet shards to make a person look how you wanted them? You could make them bald with a mustache. You could make them with a unibrow. You could give them a mohawk. The choice was yours.

The problem is we can do the same thing with Christ and our faith. That’s why you see churches and Christians pursuing different ideals. This is why we see certain churches flying different flags, proactive banners, controversial rallies, alternative lifestyle clergy, and so on.

The issue isn’t with Christ. The problem is with us remaking Christ and the church how we want them. Not how they really are. Here is what Paul wrote about this kind of behavior in Colossians 2:8 (NLT).

“Don’t let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ.”

Paul is so serious about the ever-present danger of being led astray. False teachers are everywhere. Satan is smart and crafty. He masquerades himself as an angel of light. What is worse, he can misrepresent as good. But Jesus was clear in Matthew 7:15: “Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves.”

The world and its soldiers are clever. They use slogans like “love is love” or “Stop hate. Love only.” But it’s clever philosophy. It’s marketing that slowly chisels away the truth of Scripture. Now it’s true there are grey areas in Scripture. But many other topics: salvation, righteous living, sexuality, gender, stewardship, etc., are remarkably clear.

Don’t be captured by bad philosophies. Paul uses a unique word only found here in the NT and rarely in other Greek texts. It means to be kidnapped like a treasure. Satan finds great pleasure in deceiving people to abandon the faith and make a mockery of Christianity.

Christ is enough. His Word is enough. His ways are best. His path leads to life. The world’s path leads to death. So when a tv show, a Facebook conversation, an author, teacher, or preacher says to go against what God says, run away as fast as you can.

I remember while pastoring at a church, a couple came in looking for some help. They informed me they had been having an open marriage for years because someone told them it would make

them happier. They chose empty lies instead of the truth of Christ. Now they're divorced and miserable. Don't make the same mistake so many people are making today.

So here's my challenge for you today: Stop remaking Christ and His Word. We all compromise. We are all getting carried away in one area or another. But Paul says, "stop it. Come back. Stand firm."

I encourage you to come back to the Bible and follow what it says. Yes, it will be unpopular. Yes, it will be counter-cultural. But that's what makes Christianity so special. It's revolutionary. So escape and cling fast to Christ. It is in Him we have freedom and life.