



SERIES: August / September Series “HE IS ENOUGH”

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Scripture: Colossians 1-2 Summary

TITLE: Is Christianity a Religion?

Is Christ enough? This is the question we are trying to answer by our study of the book of Colossians. Now, if asked you that question, you would no doubt say “Yes.” Any of us would. We should! But the problem is we don’t live like it. We cling to our stuff. We cling to our goals. We cling to our schedules. We long for Heaven while dreaming about this world. So there’s a disconnect somewhere.

That’s why we’re taking two months to study the book of Colossians. We want to declare with our mouths and our lives that Christ is enough. So today, I want to look at a summary of the first two chapters of Colossians. Colossians 1:4-5 (NLT) says,

“For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God’s people, which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in Heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News.”

God saves our souls and changes our lives. That hope of Heaven drives our daily living for God’s glory. Our confidence in God drives what we do.

Where does this hope come from? Colossians 1:13-14 says, “For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.” God sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. He rescues us from our sins and makes us citizens of Heaven.

What makes Christ so special? What qualifies Him for this mission? Colossians 1:15-18 says,

“Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.
He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,
for through him God created everything
in the heavenly realms and on earth.
He made the things we can see
and the things we can’t see—
such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world.
Everything was created through him and for him.
He existed before anything else,
and he holds all creation together.
Christ is also the head of the church,

which is his body.
He is the beginning,
supreme over all who rise from the dead.
So he is first in everything.”

Jesus is creator, sustainer, savior, head over everything. He, therefore, deserves first place in our lives.

So what does this have to do with our everyday lives? Paul said in Colossians 2:6-7,

“And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”

We are called to grow a deep relationship with Christ so our lives might imitate His. We are called to a relationship with Christ, not manmade religion. Religion frustrates but our relationship with Christ frees us.

So here's my challenge for you today: share this message. Many people are doing religion and finding it disappointing. God offers us a meaningful life with an eternal purpose through Jesus Christ alone.

Religion is a bunch of dos and don'ts that provide no hope and no help. Christ provides hope that never fails and helps each and every day. So share this message of hope with someone who needs it today.

When we share the good news of Christ, we all win the day.