

***Following Jesus in a Confused Culture:
Means Knowing Truth From Deception
Colossians 2:6-23 (pg 817)***

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I am to continue to g r o w in my r e l a t i o n s h i p with Christ
(2:6-7; Eph 4:10-16; 1 Pet 2:2-5)

Growing in my relationship with Christ will *keep me from*:

- The **deception of h u m a n S p e c u l a t i o n s** because Christ is **fully G o d** (2:8-10; Rom 1:21-23; 1 Cor 1:18-25)
 - *Philosophy* = “love of w i s d o m”
 - *The problem*: It is based on human r e a s o n i n g rather than on C h r i s t
 - *The deception*: Jesus is not f u l l y G o d
- The **deception of L e g a l i s m** because **r e a l i t y is in Christ** (2:11-17; Gal 3:1-5; Heb 10:1)
 - *Legalism* = the idea that a person can, by his o w n e f f o r t s, do some work to o b t a i n or r e t a i n his salvation or please God
 - *The deception*: You must follow r u l e s and keep t r a d i t i o n s in order to please God.
- The **deception of M y s t i c i s m** because **h e a d s h i p is in Christ** (2:18-19; Eph 1:22-23; 4:15)
 - *Mysticism* = Ultimate reality is achieved through personal, s u b j e c t i v e intuition or experience a p a r t from Jesus alone.
 - *The deception*: That as the m a s t e r of your life you d e t e r m i n e your present and future.
- The **deception of A s c e t i c i s m** because **f r e e d o m is in Christ** (2:20-23; John 8:31-32; Gal 5:1)
 - *Asceticism* = an over-developed zeal that seeks to p l e a s e God by extreme acts of s e l f - d e n i a l
 - *The deception*: The l e s s pleasure you have in this life, the g r e a t e r the pleasure in the next.