

## Complete in Christ

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### Introduction

1. Text Colossians 2:4-10
2. Complete means: “lacking no part; finished; through.”
3. In Christ we have no lacking part. We are complete in Him. Verse 10
4. As we study though we find that some were not complete, they fell away from the Savior.
  - a. This was true of Jesus’ followers Judas and Peter
  - b. This was true during the days of Paul. 1 Timothy 1:19-20 (Hymenaeus and Alexander); 2 Timothy 2: 16-18 (Hymenaeus and Philetus); 4:10 (Demas).
  - c. This will be true during our days also.
5. Thus we have the challenge of being and remaining complete in Him.

### II Discussion

- A. We have the WARNINGS of not being complete in Him. Vs 4 (deceive NKJV), 8 (NKJV “Beware lest anyone cheat you)
  1. Warnings of fair speeches. Romans 16:17-18; Ephesians 4:14; Titus 1:10
  2. “Spoil” (Verse 8) a slave trader carrying away people of a conquered nation into slavery. NKJV has cheat
  3. Paul list of some doctrines that we are to be aware of:
    - a. Philosophy – knowledge. 1 Timothy 6:20; 1 Corinthians 8:1
    - b. Vain deceit – empty cheating, ill-gotten gain. 1 Timothy 2:14; Mark 7:13-23; 2 Thessalonians 2:10; Ps 5:6
    - c. Tradition of men –can be wrong- Mark 7:3; Eph 4:14; Titus 1:14; 2 Thessalonians 2:15
    - d. Rudiments of the world. Elementary teaching – Hebrews 5:12-14; Colossians 2:20-22
- B. We have the DIRECTIONS on how to be complete in Him. Verse 5 order
  1. We are to have order – military line- unbroken, intact. Galatians 6:16; Luke 1:79; Psalm 112:5; 1 Corinthians 14:40
  2. We are to be steadfast – to make ready; solid front. Ephesians 6:11; Philippians 1:27; 1 Peter 5:6
  3. We are to receive to take to join oneself; these people had joined themselves to Christ. They had been taught and were obedient to those things they heard.
  4. We are to walk – this identifies the life, stick to the first lessons in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:17; Philippians 2:12-16; in word, Colossians 3:16-17; worship Col 3:16; in home 3:18-22; in business 3:22-4:1
  5. We are to be rooted firmly planted. Ephesians 3:17; Colossians 1:23
  6. We are to be built. Construction of a building must continue to be built up by studying God’s Word.
  7. We are to be established – to firm or stable. Jude 3; Philippians 1:17
- C. We have the STANDARD on remaining complete in Him. Verse 10
  1. We have Him as the example. I Peter 2:21
  2. He is the standard because He is the:

- a. The Christ - the anointed on Isaiah 7:14; 53; Matthew 1:21-23
- b. The Jesus The savior from sin
  - 1. Sin alienates from God. Colossians 1:21
  - 2. Jesus reconciles us back to God. Colossians 1:20-22; 2 Corinthians 5:17-22
  - 3. Jesus redeems us from sin. 1 Peter 1:18-19
- c. The Lord, authority.
  - 1. He has all authority Matthew 28:18
  - 2. He can state the terms of pardon therefore. Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Luke 24:46-48
  - 3. Men must obey. Hebrews 5:8-9
  - 4. He is the Head of the church. Colossians 1:18

### III Conclusion

- 1. Are we heeding the warnings, are we following the direction and are we looking at the standard?
- 2. If not then we are not complete in Christ.
- 3. We must be and can be complete in Christ by obeying. Colossians 2:12
- 4. Will you obey now!

Sources: Old sermon, AT Robertson Word Studies; Matthew Henry Commentary; Getwell lectureship on Colossians; Tom Holland on Colossians Complete in Christ