

**“How To Resist the Attacks on Jesus’ Sufficiency” 1/18/09**

**Colossians 2:16-23**

**Studies in Colossians- “The Supremacy and Sufficiency of Jesus the Messiah”**

*“And you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.”*

Colossians 2:10

**Complete:** having all parts or elements; lacking nothing; whole; entire; full; having all required or customary characteristics, skills, or the like.

**YES, BUT problems; What is Satan’s most subtle and effective weapon?**

**Matt 4:6... “it is written” he uses the Word!**

**POINT 1-** To resist these attacks we must realize the failure of LEGALISM

**Legalism-** the teaching that salvation or sanctification is enhanced through man-made rules or works.

A. Legalism fails because Jesus is the SUBSTANCE

(1 Tim 4:3-5; Mark 7:19; Gal 4:9-11; Rom 14:14-20; Acts 15:28-29)

*“Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.” (Rom 14:20)Liberty*

**Going** God wants you to trust in Jesus and not in your works!

**Deeper**

**POINT 2-** To resist these attacks we must realize the failure of MYSTICISM

**Mysticism-** the teaching that communion with God comes through direct contact with Him or through some other intermediary apart from Jesus Christ (angels, Mary, etc.).

A. Mysticism fails because Jesus is the HEAD of the body.

(1 Tim 2:5; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Matt 4:10; Rev 19:10; 22:9; Heb 1:1-2)

**Objectivity versus subjective experience; modern charismatic movement.**

**Going** God wants you trust in Jesus and not in other intermediaries!

**Deeper**

**POINT 3-** To resist these attacks we must realize the failure of ASCETICISM

**Asceticism-** the teaching that a person can attain a high spiritual and moral state by practicing self-denial, self-mortification and other self-imposed disciplines.

A. Asceticism fails because its rules perish and are POWERLESS

(Gal 4:3; 9-12; 1 Tim 4:1-3; 1 Cor 6:13; Romans 13:14; John 8:32-36)

*“But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.” (Rom 13:14)*

**Going** God wants you to trust in Jesus and not in ineffective man-made rules!

**Deeper**