

## #8 Resisting Spiritual Intimidation

Colossians 2:16-23

### 1. DON'T LET OTHERS GUILT YOU INTO MIXING LAW WITH GRACE

**Colossians 2:16** *Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.*

### 2. DON'T LET OTHERS SWAY YOU AWAY FROM GOD'S PATH TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH

**Colossians 2:18** *Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.*

#### GROWTH THAT IS FROM GOD...

- ❖ True spiritual growth comes from holding fast to the Head
- ❖ True spiritual growth comes from being nourished by the Head
- ❖ True spiritual growth comes from being knit together in His Body

### 3. DON'T BE FOOLED INTO THINKING THAT RELIGIOUS RULE-KEEPING TRANSFORMS THE HEART

**Colossians 2:20** *If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— <sup>21</sup>“Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” <sup>22</sup>(referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings? <sup>23</sup>These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.*

## THE 'LEGA-LIST'

- “Thou shalt not go to any movies”
- “Thou shalt not do any mixed swimming”
- “Thou shalt not drink any alcohol”
- “Thou shalt not smoke cigarettes, or anything else for that matter”
- “Thou shalt not wear pants”
- “Thou shalt not have long hair, or facial hair”
- “Thou shalt never under any circumstances dance”
- “Thou shalt not miss church... ever”
- “Thou shalt not use any other version of the Bible other than the one that Jesus Himself used, the King James Version”

**Spiritual growth in your life and mine does not begin with behaving better, but with believing better!**

#### PREEMINENCE PRINCIPLE #8:

Putting Jesus First involves *Living in the Freedom of Grace*, and resisting influences that seek to bring us back into bondage

“CHRIST OUR LIFE”  
Colossians 3:4

THE FOCUS OF MY LIFE WAS ...

THE FOCUS OF MY LIFE NOW IS ... **JESUS!**

#### FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. How do we as Christians grow in our faith?
2. Where does the growth come from?
3. Grace means "getting what we don't deserve". What does God give to believers that they don't deserve?

#### BIBLE READING PLAN

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Isaiah 43    | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday: Isaiah 47 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday: Isaiah 44    | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday: Isaiah 48   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday: Isaiah 45   | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday: Isaiah 49 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday: Isaiah 46 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Isaiah 50   |

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