

Colossians 2:18-23

The Vanity of Elemental Spirits

Suspect faith ...

I. False Qualifications

A. Manufactured

B. Ineffective

II. True Christianity

A. Divine

B. Powerful

III. Real Growth

A. From God

B. Productive

... proven true.

Children, Listen ...

1. Do we need anything more than the Bible to teach us true faith?
2. Does false teaching always seem crazy or does it sometimes seem to make sense?
3. What are some good ways for you to get to know God's truth better?

God's Super Provision

Sometimes manmade additions to faith can appear to be reasonable, helpful, and even super-spiritual, but that is most often quite far from the truth. Paul warns against intrusions into the true faith. He never hesitates to remind his readers that God's grace is sufficient for salvation and that His Word provides us with all we need for faith and all we need to know about how to live out our faith. We should not add to what God has given us and we must not expect some super-spiritual experience to boost our faith. God's resurrection power exerted in us is tremendous in and of itself. His Word is a vast treasure of wisdom and inspiration for life. If we are steadfast in the means of grace God has provided for us through the Word, prayer, worship, and fellowship in the Lord our souls will find increasing satisfaction. If that is our focus there will be times of heightened spiritual intensity, but it will from Him and therefore can be trusted as good for the soul.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,
No angel visitant, no op'ning skies;
But take the dimness of my soul away.

George Croly 1780-1860