

Theme: Receiving Christ Jesus the Lord is only the beginning of an entirely new life. It will change our thinking, our goals and our ways. He will not leave any part of us untouched or unchanged.

Background:

Because...of all that has been set forth in 1:3-2:5
Therefore...Colossians 2:6 & 7

Introduction: "Tradition" - Its importance and place: Some "traditions" are worth keeping

I. Living in Christ

A. You received

1. What has been passed down - Jesus in my heart?
 - a. More than "inviting Jesus into my heart and life"
 - b. A more technical term from Judaism
 - The passing of teaching from one generation to another
(Deuteronomy 6:1-15; 1 Corinthians 11:2; 15:1-5; 2 Thessalonians 3:6)
 2. Your sure foundation
 - Is Christ Jesus the Lord (Hebrews 13:8; 1 Corinthians 3:11)
 - By faith – received
- B. So walk - Colossians 1:10 "so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord,..."

II. Growing in Christ

- A mixed metaphor? (1 Corinthians 3:9)

A. Deep roots

1. This life is something entirely new!
 - a. Uprooted from old life
 - NOTE: Apart from Christ, the "roots" ultimately wrap around "me."
 - b. New environment, new foundation
 - Rich, deep, solid
 - Rooted in the divine - not the temporal!
 - Rooted in a Person!
2. Holding onto the Son - Dependent upon Christ Jesus, the Lord!
 - NOTE: There is nothing stagnant about being "rooted" in Christ.

B. Being built (Colossians 1:10) - So we grow!

1. "Building up"
 - a. In the worldly sense?
 - The cult of "self-esteem"
 - The antidote? Romans 12:3; Philippians 2:3
 - NOTE: We will be attacked for not acknowledging or serving the god of self-esteem.
 - b. In a Godly sense - 1:10 Bearing fruit!
2. "In Him"
 - a. The danger? - Growth in "knowledge," but not growing "in Him"
 - b. The delight - Reflecting the life of the One who is "in us"

III. Knowing More of Christ

A. You were taught - Paul shared what had been given (entrusted) to him (Philippians 4:9)

B. Make it your own - established/strengthened in the faith

1. Salvation is the beginning (Hebrews 6:1, 2)
 - a. We must learn the faith
 - b. Using the means he has given
2. We must live the faith

IV. To His Glory – Conclusion

- A. Pass on the traditions of Christ Jesus the Lord!
- B. Put yourself in the place to receive the "traditions" that have been passed down.
- C. Don't take the Christian Life for granted.
- D. Pray that the Lord will establish you (and us) in him so that we may stand secure in the world and walk joyfully and confidently in him all our days.