

# **Jesus Is The Centre**

## **Message Study Notes for 6th June 2021**

**Read Colossians 2 verses 6 to 15.**

The Apostle Paul borrowed words from life and used them in new ways. For example, in **verse 8** the Greek word he uses for 'captive' is similar to the word for 'synagogue.'

***Is it possible to become captive to religion, rather than follow Jesus? How?***

Paul challenged what he saw as passion for Jesus being redirected into a letter-of-the-law type of faith. He also warns about '...hollow and deceptive philosophy...' meaning 'world views that don't have Christ at the centre.'

***Do we see such world views today? If so, what?***

***Explore why the following statements might be at odds with the gospel:***

- 'If I memorised more scripture, that would make me more spiritual'
- 'If I dress this way, do my hair this way, I'll be more acceptable to God.'

Paul said even the Bible can be a problem if the way we use it is not in line with Christ.

***Can you think of examples, either today or through church history?***

Some people aren't ready to follow Jesus and want first to investigate, to see what difference Jesus makes in those committed to following him.

***Has Jesus made a difference in your life (or someone you know)? How?***

Paul said Jesus is fully God and a real person.

***Should that be important today? Why?***

Christ is the 'fulness' of God, and in Christ you have been brought to 'fulness'.

***What does fulness mean to you?***

Paul says your sinful nature has been cut away - spiritually circumcised.

***Why, then, do you think we still sin?***

Paul seems to argue that the person obsessed with small details of the gospel can miss the heart of Christ.

***Are there ways to 'study scripture, listen to the apostles, but keep your eyes on Jesus'?***