

## THE FOLLY OF MAN-MADE RELIGION Colossians 2:6-15

Thus, Paul teaches the believers in Colossae that Jesus Christ is sufficient to meet all the needs of those who are His. Christ satisfies our thirst for wholeness. He satisfies our longing to know God, our deepest yearnings to be full.

Sinclair Ferguson

1. Alex Trebeck says, “‘If Jesus is enough’ is the answer, what is the question?” (6-7)
2. Columbo says, “Oh, one more thing.” (8)
3. Brother Paul explains it for you. (9-15)

## II. Getting to Know You

1. What is something that you have had a hard time selling or throwing away?

## III. Into the Bible

2. This is the third time in just over a chapter that Paul has talked about the excellence of Christ. For him, understanding the unmatched glory of who Jesus is becomes the foundation for everything else. The fact is that we will never run out of reasons to praise and worship Jesus Christ, even throughout eternity. Revelation 5 is a scene of worship in heaven. What are some similarities between the praise of Revelation 5 and what we have seen so far in Colossians? What elements are different?

## Small Group Homework

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3. In Colossians 2:12 Paul speaks of being buried with Christ in baptism and raised up through faith in His work. In Romans 6, Paul also talks about being identified with Christ through the picture of baptism. Read Romans 6:1-11. What is Paul helping us to understand? How does baptism picture our identification with Christ? How does this relate to sin, forgiveness, and obedience?

### IV. Application

4. The idea of fullness or completion has come up many times already in the book of Colossians. Paul wants these precious people to understand that they have everything that they need in Christ. Peter gives a similar understanding in 2 Peter 1:3. Broadly, what are some ways that the church still looks to “other things” to make her complete? Personally, what additional things do you still look toward to make you feel complete?

## Small Group Homework

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5. Paul points out that we can be easily taken captive by worldly thinking and deception. What are some areas where you have allowed worldly thinking to define your understanding? In what ways or in what areas are you most prone to place worldly wisdom above spiritual wisdom and understanding?

6. That wonderful picture of Christ brings with it a wonderful picture of forgiveness. How does the forgiveness given by Christ impact the forgiveness that we extend to others? In what ways does your forgiveness fall short of Christ's perfect model of forgiveness?