

## **Colossians 2:8-10**

### **Christian Wisdom**

#### **Introduction:**

We have all known someone who has received a PHD degree. What does it mean? It means that a person has earned the highest academic degree possible. Essentially it means Doctor of Philosophy. Philosophy is used in the broadest sense; some might have a PHD in Psychology or Economics, Physics, Philosophy, Engineering, Apologetics etc.

Philosophy is not a bad word it means “love for wisdom,” we all need wisdom even if we do not have a PHD degree. The word philosophy occurs in the New Testament only once (Col. 2:8) it does not occur in the Old Testament, but the word “wisdom” is used in the Bible hundreds of times.

The problem that occurs in humanity is that philosophy can be either good or bad. There are all kinds of human philosophies that leave God out of the picture. Christianity is Godly philosophy. God is central in the search for wisdom. That’s called Theology; the study of God in all its Biblical facets. Some theologians earn THD, doctor of Theology.

#### **I. Human Philosophy – 8a**

##### **A. Philosophy is an attempt to explain the universe around us.**

1. Two Greek words: Phileo, “to love” and Sophia, ‘wisdom”
2. Who am I? Why am I here? And where am I going? V.3
3. Francis Schaffter – I Cor. 2:7-8
4. Friedrich Nietzsche – “God is dead”

##### **B. Infiltrated philosophies in Colossae**

1. Jewish legalism – v. 16,17
2. Mysticism – v.18
3. Asceticism – v. 21-23
4. Gnosticism – v.9

##### **C. Human philosophy deficient**

1. Filled with empty deception – Matt. 16:6; Acts 20:29-31
2. Taken captive – Kidnap or spoils carried off in war – II Tim. 3:6
3. Tradition of men – Turn To: Mark 7:5-13 (II Thess. 3:6-11)
4. Elementary principles of the world – Gal. 4:3-5

#### **II. Christian Philosophy – 8b. – 10**

##### **A. Philosophy “according to Christ”**

1. Fullness of Deity – “pleroma” 1:19
2. Sum total of God

##### **B. Proof of Deity:**

1. Our salvation is complete in Christ – v.10
2. Jesus has complete Sovereign authority over all rulers of the earth

##### **C. Consequences are severe for unbelievers:**

1. Outside of the fellowship of God
2. God is angry with the wicked – Psalm 2:12; 85:5; 103:8
3. The anger of God is fully demonstrated in Our Lord’s teaching of the doctrine of hell – (Matt. 10:28; 5:22; 23:15, 33; Mark 9:43; II Peter 2:4-9)