### Colossians

## Chapter 2

1I want you to realize what a great struggle I’m undergoing on your behalf, as well as for those in I want you to realize what a great struggle I’m undergoing on your behalf, as well as for those in <span class="placename">LaoDikeaI want you to realize what a great struggle I’m undergoing on your behalf, as well as for those in <span class="placename">LaoDikea</span> and for all those who haven’t met me face to face yet...  
  
2And I want your hearts to be comforted over this, so that you can meet together in love, and be provided with a rich and sure understanding as well as an accurate knowledge of that great mystery of God the Father,And I want your hearts to be comforted over this, so that you can meet together in love, and be provided with a rich and sure understanding as well as an accurate knowledge of that great mystery of God the Father,<sup class="difference">[Syr] and of the Anointed One.  
  
3For the treasures of all wisdom and knowledge are hidden in him!  
  
4I’m saying this so that nobody will mislead you with strong arguments [to the contrary], 5for although I’m not there in the flesh, I’m still with you in spirit!  
  
I’m also very happy to see how well you’re doing in orderliness, and how firm your faith in the Anointed One has become.  
  
6Therefore, since you’ve accepted the Anointed Jesus (our Lord), [you must] keep on walking with him… 7Becoming rooted and built up in him, and growing firmer in your belief in the things that you were taught.  
  
[Yes, I want you to] overflow with these things whenever you’re giving thanks!  
  
8But watch out so that nobody carries you off as a ‘captive’ into the philosophies and empty hopes of human traditions! Because these base things of the world don’t come from the Anointed One.  
  
9Rather, the divinity fully lives within him bodily, 10and you’re [also] fully within him, [the one] who’s the head and source of all government and power!  
  
11For you were ‘circumcised’ into him with a ‘circumcision’ that was done without hands... [it happened] when you stripped away your fleshly bodies though the circumcision of the Anointed One.  
  
12Then you were all buried with him when [you went] under the water, and you were all raised together by your faith in what God (who raised him from the dead) has done in you!  
  
13For that’s when you ‘died’ to your errors and the uncircumcised state of your flesh and became ‘alive’ with him... And then he kindly forgave all your errors 14by wiping away the handwritten [Jewish] Laws that held you down and oppressed you…  
  
He lifted them out of the way and nailed them on to the upright [stake], 15which stripped away the governments and powers, and openly displayed that this is how he’d conquered them.  
  
16So, don’t allow anyone to judge you over [what you] eat or drink, or over your views of festivals such as the New Moons or Sabbaths... 17For these were just shadows of things to come, while the realities belong to the Anointed One.  
  
18And don’t allow anyone to steal your prize by suggesting some lowly form of angel worship and by making strong claims of things that [someone says] he’s seen.  
  
For [this man has become] overly impressed with something he just imagined in the flesh, 19and he’s no longer hanging onto the ‘head’… The one who holds the whole ‘body’ together with its joints and ligaments so that it keeps growing with the [type of] growth that comes from The God.  
  
20However, since you’ve already ‘died’ [when it comes] to the base things of this world (along with the Anointed One), why is it that you (as if you’re still living in this world) are putting yourselves under such laws as 21‘don’t feel it,’ ‘don’t taste it,’ or ‘don’t touch it,’ 22when it comes to things that are just going to be consumed?  
  
For these are the commands and teachings of men!  
  
23Look, it might sound wise (with all its humility, fear of God, and mistreatment of the body), but it’s got no real value... It’s just concerned with [desires of the] flesh.Look, it might sound wise (with all its humility, fear of God, and mistreatment of the body), but it’s got no real value... It’s just concerned with [desires of the] flesh.<sup class="difference">[Syr]