

THE MYSTERY - CHRIST IN YOU - Page 1 of 14

Colossians 1:1-29
(King James Version)
1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother,

Colossians 1:1-29
(Wuest's Expanded Translation)
1-2 Paul, an ambassador of Christ Jesus through the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

Colossians 1:1-29 **(The Amplified Version)**
1 PAUL, AN apostle (special messenger) of Christ Jesus (the Messiah), by the will of God, and Timothy [our] brother,

Colossians 1:1-29
(Easy-to-Read Bible)
1 Greetings from Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am an apostle because that is what God wanted. Greetings also from Timothy, our brother in Christ.

2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

to the saints in Colossae, even the faithful brethren in Christ. [Sanctifying] grace to you and [tranquilizing] peace from God our Father.

2 To the saints (the consecrated people of God) and believing and faithful brethren in Christ who are at Colossae: Grace (spiritual favor and blessing) to you and [heart] peace from God our Father.

2 To the holy and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ who live in Colossae. Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

3-8 I am giving thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ concerning you, constantly offering petitions,

3 We continually give thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah), as we are praying for you,

3 In our prayers we always thank God for you. He is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

having heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the divine, self-sacrificial love which you constantly have for all the saints

4 For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus [the leaning of your entire human personality on Him in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness] and of the love which you [have and show] for all the saints (God's consecrated ones),

4 We thank him because we have heard about the faith you have in Christ Jesus and the love you have for all of God's people.

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5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

because of the hope which is laid aside for you in heaven, concerning which you heard before in the word of the truth of the good news

5 Because of the hope [of experiencing what is] laid up (reserved and waiting) for you in heaven. Of this [hope] you heard in the past in the message of the truth of the Gospel,

5 Your faith and love continue because you know what is waiting for you in heaven—the hope you have had since you first heard the true message, the Good News

6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

which is present with you even as also it is in all the world constantly bearing fruit and increasing, just as it is also among you from the day when you heard it and came to know experientially the grace of God in the sphere of truth;

6 Which has come to you. Indeed, in the whole world [that Gospel] is bearing fruit and still is growing [by its own inherent power], even as it has done among yourselves ever since the day you first heard and came to know and understand the grace of God in truth. [You came to know the grace or undeserved favor of God in reality, deeply and clearly and thoroughly, becoming accurately and intimately acquainted with it.]

6 that was told to you. Throughout the world, this Good News is bringing blessings and is spreading. And that's what has been happening among you since the first time you heard it and understood the truth about God's grace.

7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;

even as you learned from Epaphras, the beloved, our fellow bonds slave, who is faithful on your behalf as a servant of Christ,

7 You so learned it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ in our stead and as our representative and yours.

7 You heard it from Epaphras, our dear friend and co-worker. He is a faithful servant of Christ for us.

8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

who also declared to us your love in the sphere of the Spirit.

8 Also he has informed us of your love in the [Holy] Spirit.

8 He also told us about the love you have from the Spirit.

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9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

9-16 Because of this, we also, from the day we heard, do not cease on behalf of you offering our petitions and presenting our definite requests, that you might be filled with the advanced and perfect experiential knowledge of His will in the sphere of every kind of wisdom and intelligence which is spiritual,

9 For this reason we also, from the day we heard of it, have not ceased to pray and make [special] request for you, [asking] that you may be filled with the full (deep and clear) knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom [in comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God] and in understanding and discernment of spiritual things —

9 Since the day we heard these things about you, we have continued praying for you. This is what we pray: that you will know fully what God wants; that with your knowledge you will also have great wisdom and understanding in spiritual things;

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

so that you may order your behavior worthily of the Lord with a view to pleasing Him in everything, in every work which is good constantly bearing fruit and increasing by means of the advanced and perfect experiential knowledge of God,

10 That you may walk (live and conduct yourselves) in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him and desiring to please Him in all things, bearing fruit in every good work and steadily growing and increasing in and by the knowledge of God [with fuller, deeper, and clearer insight, acquaintance, and recognition].

10 that this will help you live in a way that brings honor to the Lord and pleases him in every way; that your life will produce good works of every kind and that you will grow in your knowledge of God;

11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

by every enabling power being constantly strengthened in proportion to the manifested power of His glory, resulting in every patience and forbearance, with joy

11 [We pray] that you may be invigorated and strengthened with all power according to the might of His glory, [to exercise] every kind of endurance and patience (perseverance and forbearance) with joy,

11 that God will strengthen you with his own great power, so that you will be patient and not give up when troubles come. Then you will be happy

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12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:	constantly giving thanks to the Father who qualified you for the portion of the share of the inheritance of the saints in the sphere of the light;	12 Giving thanks to the Father, Who has qualified and made us fit to share the portion which is the inheritance of the saints (God's holy people) in the Light.	12 and give thanks to the Father. He has made you able to have what he has promised to give all his holy people, who live in the light.
13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:	who delivered us out of the tyrannical rule of the darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,	13 [The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,	13 God made us free from the power of darkness. And he brought us into the kingdom of his dear Son.
14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:	in whom we are having our liberation, procured by the payment of ransom, the putting away of our sins;	14 In Whom we have our redemption through His blood, [which means] the forgiveness of our sins.	14 The Son paid the price to make us free. In him we have forgiveness of our sins. Christ Is the Same as God
15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:	who is a derived reproduction and manifestation of absolute deity, the invisible deity, who [the Son] has priority to and sovereignty over all creation,	15 [Now] He is the exact likeness of the unseen God [the visible representation of the invisible]; He is the Firstborn of all creation.	15 No one can see God, but Jesus is exactly like God. Jesus rules over everything that has been made.
16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:	because in Him were created all things in the heavens and upon the earth, the visible things and the invisible ones, whether they are thrones or lordships or principalities or authorities. All things through Him as intermediate agent and with a view to Him stand created.	16 For it was in Him that all things were created, in heaven and on earth, things seen and things unseen, whether thrones, dominions, rulers, or authorities; all things were created and exist through Him [by His service, intervention] and in and for Him.	16 Through his power all things were made: things in heaven and on earth, seen and not seen—all spiritual rulers, lords, powers, and authorities. Everything was made through Christ and for Christ.

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17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

17-20 And He himself antedates all things, and all things in Him cohere.

17 And He Himself existed before all things, and in Him all things consist (cohere, are held together).
[Proverbs 8:22-31.]

17 He was there before anything was made. And all things continue because of him.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

And He himself is the Head of His Body, the Church. He is the originator [i.e., the creator], the firstborn out from among the dead, in order that He might become in all things himself the One who is pre-eminent,

18 He also is the Head of [His] body, the church; seeing He is the Beginning, the Firstborn from among the dead, so that He alone in everything and in every respect might occupy the chief place [stand first and be preeminent].

18 Christ is the head of the body, which is the church. He is the beginning of everything else. And he is the first among all who will be raised from death. So in everything he is most important.

19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

because in Him [God] was well pleased that all the fullness be permanently at home.

19 For it has pleased [the Father] that all the divine fullness (the sum total of the divine perfection, powers, and attributes) should dwell in Him permanently.

19 God was pleased for all of himself to live in Christ.

20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

And [God was well pleased] through His agency to reconcile all things to himself, having concluded peace through the blood of His Cross, through Him, whether the things upon the earth or the things in the heavens.

20 And God purposed that through (by the service, the intervention of) Him [the Son] all things should be completely reconciled back to Himself, whether on earth or in heaven, as through Him, [the Father] made peace by means of the blood of His cross.

20 And through Christ, God was happy to bring all things back to himself again—things on earth and things in heaven. God made peace by using the blood sacrifice of Christ on the cross.

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21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

21-23 And you who were at one time those who were in a settled state of alienation, and hostile with respect to your intents in the sphere of your works which were pernicious,

21 And although you at one time were estranged and alienated from Him and were of hostile attitude of mind in your wicked activities,

21 At one time you were separated from God. You were his enemies in your minds, because the evil you did was against him.

22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

yet now He reconciled in the body of His flesh through His death, in order that He might present you holy and without blemish and unchargeable before His searching and penetrating gaze;

22 Yet now has [Christ, the Messiah] reconciled [you to God] in the body of His flesh through death, in order to present you holy and faultless and irreproachable in His [the Father's] presence.

22 But now he has made you his friends again. He did this by the death Christ suffered while he was in his body. He did it so that he could present you to himself as people who are holy, blameless, and without anything that would make you guilty before him.

23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

assuming indeed that you are adhering to the Faith, having been placed upon a foundation with the present result that you are on that foundation, firmly established, and that you are not being shifted away from your hope held out by the good news which you heard, that good news which was proclaimed in all creation which is under heaven, of which, I, Paul, became one who ministers.

23 [And this He will do] provided that you continue to stay with and in the faith [in Christ], well-grounded and settled and steadfast, not shifting or moving away from the hope [which rests on and is inspired by] the glad tidings (the Gospel), which you heard and which has been preached [as being designed for and offered without restrictions] to every person under heaven, and of which [Gospel] I, Paul, became a minister.

23 And that is what will happen if you continue to believe in the Good News you heard. You must remain strong and sure in your faith. You must not let anything cause you to give up the hope that became yours when you heard the Good News. That same Good News has been told to everyone on earth, and that's the work that I, Paul, was given to do.

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24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

24-29 I now am rejoicing in my sufferings on your behalf, and on my part am filling up the things lacking of the afflictions of the Christ in my flesh for the sake of His Body which is the Church,

24 [Even] now I rejoice in the midst of my sufferings on your behalf. And in my own person I am making up whatever is still lacking and remains to be completed [on our part] of Christ's afflictions, for the sake of His body, which is the church.

24 I am happy in my sufferings for you. There is much that Christ must still suffer. And I gladly accept my part of those sufferings in my body for the good of his body, the church. I am accepting my part of what must be suffered. I accept these sufferings in my body.

25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

of which I became a servant according to the stewardship of God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,

25 In it I became a minister in accordance with the divine stewardship which was entrusted to me for you [as its object and for your benefit], to make the Word of God fully known [among you] —

25 I became a servant of the church because God gave me a special work to do. This work helps you. My work is to tell the complete message of God.

26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

the mystery which has been kept hidden from the ages and from the generations, but now was made known to His saints,

26 The mystery of which was hidden for ages and generations [from angels and men], but is now revealed to His holy people (the saints),

26 This message is the secret truth that was hidden since the beginning of time. It was hidden from everyone for ages, but now it has been made known to God's holy people.

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

to whom God desired to make known in an experiential way what is the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of the glory,

27 To whom God was pleased to make known how great for the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ within and among you, the Hope of [realizing the] glory.

27 God decided to let his people know just how rich and glorious that truth is. That secret truth, which is for all people, is that Christ lives among you. He is our only hope for glory.

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28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

whom we are constantly announcing, admonishing every man and instructing every man in every wisdom in order that we may present every man spiritually mature in Christ Jesus,

28 Him we preach and proclaim, warning and admonishing everyone and instructing everyone in all wisdom (comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God), that we may present every person mature (full-grown, fully initiated, complete, and perfect) in Christ (the Anointed One).

28 So we continue to tell people about Christ. We use all wisdom to counsel every person and teach every person. We are trying to bring everyone before God as people who have grown to be spiritually mature in Christ.

29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

to which end also I am constantly laboring to the point of exhaustion, engaging in a contest in which I am controlled by His energy which operates in me in power.

29 For this I labor [unto weariness], striving with all the superhuman energy which He so mightily enkindles and works within me.

29 To do this, I work and struggle using the great strength that Christ gives me. That strength is working in my life.

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Colossians 2:1-19
(King James Version)
1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

Colossians 2:1-19
(Wuest's Expanded Translation)
1-3 For I desire you to know how great a conflict I am having in your behalf and in behalf of those in Laodicea, and as many as have not seen my face in the flesh,

Colossians 2:1-19 **(The Amplified Version)**
1 FOR I want you to know how great is my solicitude for you [how severe an inward struggle I am engaged in for you] and for those [believers] at Laodicea, and for all who [like yourselves] have never seen my face and known me personally.

Colossians 2:1-10
(Easy-to-Read Bible)
2 I want you to know that I am trying very hard to help you. And I am trying to help those in Laodicea and others who have never seen me.

2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

in order that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in the sphere of love and resulting in all the wealth of the full assurance of the understanding, resulting in an advanced and perfect experiential knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ,

2 [For my concern is] that their hearts may be braced (comforted, cheered, and encouraged) as they are knit together in love, that they may come to have all the abounding wealth and blessings of assured conviction of understanding, and that they may become progressively more intimately acquainted with and may know more definitely and accurately and thoroughly that mystic secret of God, [which is] Christ (the Anointed One).

2 I want them to be strengthened and joined together with love and to have the full confidence that comes from understanding. I want them to know completely the secret truth that God has made known. That truth is Christ himself.

3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

in whom are all the hidden treasures of the wisdom and knowledge.

3 In Him all the treasures of [divine] wisdom (comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God) and [all the riches of spiritual] knowledge and enlightenment are stored up and lie hidden.

3 In him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are kept safe.

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4 And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.

4-12 This I am saying in order that no one may be leading you astray by false reasoning in the sphere of specious discourse.

4 I say this in order that no one may mislead and delude you by plausible and persuasive and attractive arguments and beguiling speech.

4 I tell you this so that no one can fool you by telling you ideas that seem good, but are false.

5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

For if, as is the case, I am in fact absent in my flesh, yet I am with you in my spirit, rejoicing and beholding your orderly array and the solid front of your faith in Christ.

5 For though I am away from you in body, yet I am with you in spirit, delighted at the sight of your [standing shoulder to shoulder in such] orderly array and the firmness and the solid front and steadfastness of your faith in Christ [that leaning of the entire human personality on Him in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness].

5 Even though I am far away, my thoughts are always with you. I am happy to see your good lives and your strong faith in Christ. Continue to Live in Christ

6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

In the same manner, therefore, as you received the Christ, Jesus, the Lord, in Him be constantly ordering your behavior,

6 As you have therefore received Christ, [even] Jesus the Lord, [so] walk (regulate your lives and conduct yourselves) in union with and conformity to Him.

6 You accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, so continue to live following him.

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7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

having been rooted with the present result that you are firmly established, and constantly being built up in Him and constantly being established with reference to the Faith, even as you were instructed, abounding in it in the sphere of thanksgiving.

7 Have the roots [of your being] firmly and deeply planted [in Him, fixed and founded in Him], being continually built up in Him, becoming increasingly more confirmed and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and abounding and overflowing in it with thanksgiving.

7 You must depend on Christ only, drawing life and strength from him. Just as you were taught the truth, continue to grow stronger in your understanding of it. And never stop giving thanks to God.

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Be ever on your guard lest there shall be someone who leads you astray through his philosophy, even futile deceit, which is according to the tradition of men, according to the rudimentary teachings of the world, and not according to Christ,

8 See to it that no one carries you off as spoil or makes you yourselves captive by his so-called philosophy and intellectualism and vain deceit (idle fancies and plain nonsense), following human tradition (men's ideas of the material rather than the spiritual world), just crude notions following the rudimentary and elemental teachings of the universe and disregarding [the teachings of] Christ (the Messiah).

8 Be sure you are not led away by the teaching of those who have nothing worth saying and only plan to deceive you. That teaching is not from Christ. It is only human tradition and comes from the powers that influence this world.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

because in Him there is continuously and permanently at home all the fullness of absolute deity in bodily fashion.

9 For in Him the whole fullness of Deity (the Godhead) continues to dwell in bodily form [giving complete expression of the divine nature].

9 I say this because all of God lives in Christ fully, even in his life on earth.

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10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

And you are in Him, having been completely filled full with the present result that you are in a state of fullness,

10 And you are in Him, made full and having come to fullness of life [in Christ you too are filled with the Godhead — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — and reach full spiritual stature]. And He is the Head of all rule and authority [of every angelic principality and power].

10 And because you belong to Christ you are complete, having everything you need. Christ is ruler over every other power and authority.

11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

in Him who is the Head of every principality and authority, in whom you were circumcised by a circumcision not effected by hand, in the putting off and away from yourselves the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ,

11 In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, but in a [spiritual] circumcision [performed by] Christ by stripping off the body of the flesh (the whole corrupt, carnal nature with its passions and lusts).

11 In Christ you had a different kind of circumcision, one that was not done by human hands. That is, you were made free from the power of your sinful self. That is the kind of circumcision Christ does.

12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

having been entombed with Him in the placing into [Christ by the Holy Spirit], in which act of placing into [Christ] you were also raised with Him through your faith in the effectual working energy of the God who raised Him out from among the dead.

12 [Thus you were circumcised when] you were buried with Him in [your] baptism, in which you were also raised with Him [to a new life] through [your] faith in the working of God [as displayed] when He raised Him up from the dead.

12 When you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and you were raised up with him because of your faith in God's power. God's power was shown when he raised Christ from death.

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

13-17 And you being dead with reference to your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He gave life together with Him, having in grace forgiven you all your trespasses,

13 And you who were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh (your sensuality, your sinful carnal nature), [God] brought to life together with [Christ], having [freely] forgiven us all our transgressions,

13 You were spiritually dead because of your sins and because you were not free from the power of your sinful self. But God gave you new life together with Christ. He forgave all our sins.

14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

having obliterated the hand-written document consisting of ordinances, the one [which was] against us, which was directly opposed to us, and He removed it out of the midst with the result that it is no longer there, having nailed it to the Cross;

14 Having cancelled and blotted out and wiped away the handwriting of the note (bond) with its legal decrees and demands which was in force and stood against us (hostile to us). This [note with its regulations, decrees, and demands] He set aside and cleared completely out of our way by nailing it to [His] cross.

14 Because we broke God's laws, we owed a debt—a debt that listed all the rules we failed to follow. But God forgave us of that debt. He took it away and nailed it to the cross.

15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

having stripped off and away from himself the principalities and authorities, He boldly made an example of them, leading them in a triumphal procession in it.

15 [God] disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross].

15 He defeated the rulers and powers of the spiritual world. With the cross he won the victory over them and led them away, as defeated and powerless prisoners, for the whole world to see.

16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:

Stop therefore allowing anyone to be sitting in judgment upon you in eating or drinking or in the matter of a feast day or a new moon, or a Sabbath day,

16 Therefore let no one sit in judgment on you in matters of food and drink, or with regard to a feast day or a New Moon or a Sabbath.

16 So don't let anyone make rules for you about eating and drinking or about Jewish customs (festivals, New Moon celebrations, or Sabbath days).

17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

which things are a shadow of those things about to come. But the body belongs to Christ.

17 Such [things] are only the shadow of things that are to come, and they have only a symbolic value. But the reality (the substance, the solid fact of what is foreshadowed, the body of it) belongs to Christ.

17 In the past these things were like a shadow that showed what was coming. But the new things that were coming are found in Christ.

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18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

18-19 Let no one as a judge declare you unworthy of a reward, taking delight in a self-imposed humility and worship of the angels, scrutinizing minutely the things he has seen, being futilely puffed up by the mind of the flesh,

18 Let no one defraud you by acting as an umpire and declaring you unworthy and disqualifying you for the prize, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, taking his stand on visions [he claims] he has seen, vainly puffed up by his sensuous notions and inflated by his unspiritual thoughts and fleshly conceit,

18 Some people enjoy acting as if they are humble and love to worship angels. They always talk about the visions they have seen. Don't listen to them when they say you are wrong because you don't do these things. It is so foolish for them to feel such pride, because it is all based on their own human ideas.

19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

and not holding fast the Head, out from whom all the body, through the instrumentality of the joints and ligaments being constantly supplied with nourishment and being constantly compacted together, increases with the increase wrought by God.

19 And not holding fast to the Head, from Whom the entire body, supplied and knit together by means of its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

19 They don't keep themselves under the control of the head. Christ is the head, and the whole body depends on him. Because of Christ all the parts of the body care for each other and help each other. So the body is made stronger and held together as God causes it to grow.