

# ROBUST

CHRISTIAN  
DISCIPLESHIP



**GCF Sermon Series  
on the Letter to the Colossians**



OF BROKEN CISTERNS  
AND THE SPRING OF

*Living Water*

COLOSSIANS 2:8-15

**The curse of sinful man is that unless God intervenes in our lives, we would prefer to embrace “broken cistern” philosophies that hold no water, rather than come under the all sufficiency of The Spring of Living Water, our preeminent Lord Jesus Christ, with whom there is the full quenching and satisfaction of our thirst for God.**



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

***Jeremiah 2:13 -- My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

(What is right and wrong?)

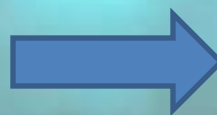
Morality



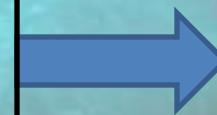
Divine

(Where did we come from?)

Origins



Existence



Destiny

(Where are we going?)

Human



Meaning

(What is our purpose?)



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

## a. It's Harmful

*See to it that no one takes you captive...*



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

## b. It's Hollow

*...through hollow and deceptive philosophy...*



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

## b. It's Hollow

***Ephesians 5:6 -- Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.***



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

## b. It's Hollow

***Colossians 2:23 -- Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.***



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

## b. It's Hollow

**1 Timothy 6:20-21 -- <sup>20</sup>*Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, <sup>21</sup>which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith. Grace be with you.***



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

c. It's Heathen

*...which depends on human tradition and  
the basic principles of this world...*



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

c. It's Heathen

***Galatians 4:3 -- So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world.***



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

## c. It's Heathen

***Hebrews 5:12 -- In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!***



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

(Relativism?)

Morality

Humanistic

Origins

(Evolution?)

Existence

Destiny

(Annihilism?)

Philosophy

Meaning

(Hedonism?)



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# 1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8

d. It's Heretical

*...rather than on Christ*



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

# **1. THE FOOLISHNESS OF HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY, v. 8**

## **d. It's Heretical**

**v.16-17: Legalism. Salvation = Christ + rituals and sacraments.**

**v.18-19: Mysticism: Salvation = Christ + mystical experiences.**

**v. 20-21 Asceticism. Salvation = Christ + material deprivation.**



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

### **a. Complete in His authority, v. 9,10**

***<sup>9</sup>For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup>and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.***

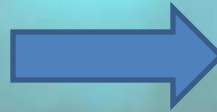


Col. 1:22

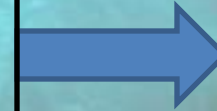
Morality



Origins



**Christ**



Destiny

Col. 1:15,16

Col. 1:19

Col. 1:27



Meaning

Col. 1:28,29



OF BROKEN CISTERNs AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

### **b. Complete in our transformation, v. 11**

***<sup>11</sup>In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ,***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

**b. Complete in our transformation, v. 11**

***Romans 7:22-23 -- <sup>22</sup>For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup>but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

**b. Complete in our transformation, v. 11**

**1 John 3:2 -- *...But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

### **c. Complete in our regeneration, v. 12, 13a**

***<sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.***

***<sup>13</sup>When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ.***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

**c. Complete in our regeneration, v. 12, 13a**

***“...through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5)***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

### **d. Complete in our justification, v. 13b,14**

*He forgave us all our sins, <sup>14</sup>having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross*



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

### **d. Complete in our justification, v. 13b,14**

***Romans 6:9-10 says -- <sup>9</sup>For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.***

***<sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## 2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15

### e. Complete in His victory, v. 15

*<sup>15</sup>And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross*



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER

## **2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15**

**e. Complete in His victory, v. 15**

***Genesis 3:15 says -- And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel***



**OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER**

## 2. THE FULLNESS OF BEING IN CHRIST, v. 9-15

### e. Complete in His victory, v. 15

**Hebrews 2:14-15 says -- <sup>14</sup>Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil-- <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.**



OF BROKEN CISTERNS AND THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER