

SERMON OUTLINE Colossians 2:8-10

The Consequences of Ideas

THE IDEAS

Philosophy

Empty Deceit

Human Tradition

Elemental Spirits of the World

THE CONSEQUENCES

THE ALTERNATIVE

See to it that No One Takes You Captive with Bad Ideas

See to it that You Are Captivated by Good Ideas

1. In Him Dwells the Whole Fullness of Deity (bodily)

2. He Is the Head of All Rule and Authority

3. You Have Been Filled in Him

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this sermon is that all ideas have consequences. What we believe determines how we act. False beliefs take us captive. True beliefs, which are always rooted in Jesus, set us free. The main takeaway is to see that no one takes us captive with false beliefs and to seek the freedom that is found only in the Truth of Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What's the worst idea you've ever heard of? What were the consequences of believing that idea?
3. What's the worst idea you've ever been taken captive to? What were the consequences of your captivity?
4. Have you ever been guilty of minimizing the potential consequences of ideas?
5. What are some of the main philosophies that are shaping your life? Are any rooted merely in human tradition? Have any proven to be empty and deceptive?
6. Were any of the more "acceptable" sins or philosophies named in the sermon particularly convicting to you?
7. Is it easy or hard for you to, at the same time, remember the gospel and heed the severe warnings of Scripture?
8. Are you doing a good job of guarding against being taken captive by bad ideas? How are you doing so? How could you do better?
9. Which of the three good ideas named by Paul in 2:9-10 are most dominant in your head/heart? How did they become so?
10. Is it as easy for you to see that the consequences of the ideas of Jesus are far better than those of mere human tradition?
11. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

12. Examine yourself for captivity to bad ideas. Write them down. Replace them with the truth of Christ.
13. Read Francis Schaeffer's "[How Should We Then Live?](#)". Or watch R.C. Sproul's "[The Consequences of Ideas](#)".
14. Help someone in your life recognize the bad ideas that have taken them captive. Do so in prayer and with gentleness.
15. Be in continual prayer, give yourself to being a functioning member of Grace, and take in God's Word.
16. Pray, meditate on, and memorize Paul's description of Jesus in Colossians 2:9b-10.
17. Share the gospel with someone who is not yet hoping in it.
18. Ask someone to tell you one thing they got from this sermon and one way to pray for them in light of it.
19. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

PRAYER POINTS

20. Adoration. Praise God that He is Wisdom, Truth, sovereign, and eternal. Praise God for being merciful and gracious. Praise God for being triune. Praise God that He is fullness. Praise God that He is head of all rule and authority.
21. Confession. Confess any ways you've allowed yourself to be taken captive to bad ideas. Confess any ways you've cared more about human tradition and worldly wisdom than Christ. Confess ways you've chosen the empty and deceiving philosophies of the world over Jesus, in whom the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.
22. Thanksgiving. Thank God for taking you captive to Christ. Thank God for rescuing you from captivity to the bad ideas that were your condemnation. Thank God for a church full of people who are eager to help you defend against captivity to bad ideas. Thank God for making you His son or daughter instead of His enemy.
23. Supplication. Ask God to make plain the bad ideas we're still believing as a church. Ask God to fill us with love for the good news of Jesus. Ask God to help us not be taken captive by philosophy and empty deceit.