

ANSWERS FOR FALSEHOOD

Colossians 2:16-23

INTRODUCTION: A woman who had lived a very sinful life visited her former pastor. She had joined the church as a little girl. She was overwhelmed by remorse and feared for her destiny after death. Her former pastor's advice was for her to not worry, because a God who loves would not send anyone to a place like hell.

Leaving her former pastor's office, she began to reason: "If the Bible says there is a hell, but there is no hell, then there probably isn't a heaven either. If there is no heaven and there is no hell, then salvation must be death." She went home and took an overdose of sleep-inducing medicine in an attempt to die. She was discovered and was given treatment in time to save her life. The next Sunday she became a Christian.

I. WARNING AGAINST LEGALISM

1. The O.T. laws and feasts were given to point us to Christ.
2. Legalism is the attempt to perfect the flesh (old nature) by keeping man made rules and regulations or the teachings of Moses.
3. In Christ the law of God has been fulfilled completely.
Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.
4. Christians now live by the "law of Christ" or the "law of the Spirit."
(Gal. 6:2; Rom. 8:2-4)

II. WORSHIP OF ANGELS**A. AN INTERESTING SURVEY.**

1. 3 out of 4 adults believe in angels.
2. 52% of those who profess being born again deny the existence of Satan.
3. 55% of those who profess being born again also reject the existence of the Holy Spirit.

B. THE TRUTH ABOUT FALSE TEACHERS.

1. The false teachers worshipped angels.
2. They were puffed up in their fleshly minds.
3. The false teachers practice a false humility.
4. They had lost connection with the Head.
5. Jesus is the only mediator between God and man.
For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man, Christ Jesus. (1 Tim. 2:5)
6. The worship of angels is forbidden in Scripture.

III. WORTHLESSNESS OF ASCETICISM**A. DEFINITION AND PRACTICE OF ASCETICISM.**

1. Asceticism is rigid self-discipline or self-denial in an attempt to promote spirituality.
2. In the third and fourth centuries people would starve themselves until they would waste away. To bathe or otherwise care for the body was thought of as sinful. It was uncommon for one to so neglect his body that it became a breeding place for lice. One writer wrote of lice dropping from people as they walked, a condition looked upon as a sign of special holiness.

B. WILL-WORSHIP SPEAKS OF A SELF-IMPOSED WORSHIP.

