

January 6, 2018
Colossians 2:16-23

Freedom in Christ

Ephesians 2:8-9

1. The believer is free from man-made religious rules
Colossians 2:16-17

Let no man judge you

These are a shadow of things to come, the reality is found in Christ

2. The believer is free from oriental mysticism
Colossians 2:18-23

Job 9:32-35

1 Timothy 2:5

Hebrews 4:14-16

1 John 2:1-2

Revelation 19:9-10a

Concluding statements

1. We must always remember that salvation is by grace through faith and not of works (Ephesians 2:8-9).
2. The believer is free from man-made religious rules which only enslave (Col. 2:16-17).
3. The Old Testament religious observances pointed to Jesus Christ (Col. 2:17).
4. Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and humans (1 Tim. 2:5).
5. Only God is to receive our worship (Rev. 19:9-10).
6. All religious teachings must be evaluated by the Word of God.

Questions for discussion

1. How do the following verses encourage you in your Christian life? 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 John 2:1-2
2. What are some of today's man-made religious rituals? What dangers do they present to you as a believer?
3. What does Ephesians 2:8-9 mean to you as a believer? How might you use these verses in sharing the message of salvation?
4. Discuss what your life would be like if you lived under the Old Testament Mosaic Law? How thankful are you that you are not under this system?