

# Colossians 2:16-17 **Let No Man Judge**

## 1. The acknowledgement of the mystery (Review)

- a. The acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ... (Gal 2:2)
- b. Your identification with Christ:
  - i. You are saved by the preaching of the cross, the power of God. (Col 1:14, 20-22, 1 Cor 1:18)
  - ii. You are baptized into Christ death, and raised with Him in life (Col 2:12, Rom 6:3-4)
  - iii. Your body of the sins of the flesh is cut off (Col 2:11, Rom 6:6)
  - iv. You are forgiven all trespasses (Col 2:13)
  - v. You are Complete in Christ (Col 2:10)
- c. Gentiles (indeed all "heathen") can be saved by this mystery: Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Col 1:27, Rom 3:22)

## 2. Meat, drink, and days • Colossians 2:16

- a. Let no man judge you therefore → based on your position **in Christ**
- b. Meat and drink: The law defined clean and unclean, a diet supplied by the law of Moses. (Acts 10:14, Lev 11:7-8)
- c. Holydays, New Moon, Sabbaths: The law required observance of days, months, and years. (Lev 25:8, Ex 20:8, 1 Chron 23:31)
- d. You are not under the law because you are in the body of Christ. (Rom 7:4)
- e. Therefore no man ought to judge your position in Christ and your liberty.
- f. Some spied out this liberty, that they might bring others back to bondage. (Gal 2:4)
- g. The law was a schoolmaster, it teaches a specific lesson. (Gal 4:21, 3:10, 3:24-25)
- h. The weaker brother should not be judging those with liberty in Christ. (Gal 4:10, Rom 14:3)

## 3. Shadows of things to come and the body • Colossians 2:17

- a. Things to come are not things now.
- b. Shadows of heavenly things (Heb 8:4-5)
- c. The law has a shadow of good things to come in the kingdom (Heb 10:1)
- d. Israel's kingdom promises have not been fulfilled, but will be. New Testament fulfillment requires a "kingdom come". (Heb 13:14, Rev 21:10)
- e. A shadow of things to come: a future fulfillment of Israel's New Covenant.
- f. But the body is of Christ: What is happening right now, the church, the body of Christ, a new creature, in which we are complete.