SERIES: BE COMPLETE

LESSON 5 – SAINTS ALIVE AND ALERT (Col.2:4-15)

INTRODUCTION: Knowing that there were enemies already attacking the church in Colossae, Paul offered instructions and encouragement. If they would listen to him, the Colossians would overcome their enemies.

I. KEEP MAKING ***SPIRITUAL*** PROGRESS (Col.2:4-7)

A. The *NEED* for progress (2:4)

1. It is important that we continue to grow.

B. The *NATURE* of Progress (2:5-7)

1. The Army (v.5)

2. The Pilgrim (v.6)

3. The Tree (v.7a)

4. The Building (v.7b)

5. The School (v.7c)

6. The River (v.7d)

II. WATCH OUT FOR SPIRITUAL ***PERILS*** (Col. 2:8-10)

A. How is it possible for False Teachers to captivate people?

1. They are ignorant of the truths of the Word of God.

a. This ***PHILOSOPHY*** of the false teachers is "hollow and deceptive" (v.8)

(1) The important thing about any teaching is its origin.

b. This false teaching involved the ***RUDIMENTS*** of the world.

B. Paul gave the true and lasting remedy to all false teaching. (Col.2:9-10)

1. All *FULLNESS* is in Christ. Why then would you need anything else. (v.9)

a. Jesus Christ is the fullness of God, and that fullness dwells continually and permanently in Him "bodily".

2. Every believer *SHARES* that

fulness.

a. You are complete in Him (v.10)

Note: The fundamental test of any religious teaching is, "where does it put Jesus Christ - His Person and His work?"

III. Draw upon your Spiritual *PROVISION* (Col. 2:11-15)

A. Gnostic legalism said that the Jewish law would help the believers become more spiritual.

1. Paul made it clear that the Christian is not subject in any way to the Old Testament *LEGAL SYSTEM.*

We are:

(1) Circumcised in Him (2:11)
(2) Alive in Him (2:12-13)
(3) Free from the Law in Him (2:14)
(4) Victorious in Him (2:15)

CONCLUSION: What a wonderful position and provision we have in Christ. Are we living up to it in faith?