

SPOILED CHRISTIANS

Col 2:6-9

INTRODUCTION:

- A. "SPOIL" is used in several senses: Plunder; damage; pamper excessively; become corrupted or tainted.
- B. As a verb: to be ruined by tainting or contamination - can be applied to people or children.
- C. As a noun: Goods conquered in battle; (meaning in text) to take from a man that which is his valuable possession
- D. Other translations: "make prey of you".
- E. Christians may be captured by adversary & carried away as his possession

DISCUSSION:

I. HOW CAN CHRISTIANS BE SPOILED? Col 2:8

- A. Deceit: that which gives false impressions whether by appearance, statement or influence
 1. Lying Jhn 8:44
 2. Misused Scripture Gen 3; Matt 4:6; Psa 91:11,12
 3. False apostles Rev 2:2; 2Cor 11:13-15
 4. Riches Matt 13:22; 1Tim 6:17
- B. Philosophy after traditions of men: (Philosophy - the highest effort of the intellect. Traditions = the teachings of the Rabbis (teachers or masters) interpretations of the law)
 1. Satan used this in Christ's day Matt 15:3-9
 - a. Honor Father and Mother
 - b. Through traditions they released themselves by saying their possessions were a gift to God or "Corbin"
 2. Satan uses LIBERTY today - that man is entitled to his own ideas (situation ethics)
 3. Minimizes the divinity of Christ
 - a. Lived a long time ago - faraway
 - b. Question his miracles
 - c. Says teach His social concepts, ethics, morals, but not His doctrine
 4. Substitutes pageantry for worship -- priesthood for Gospel
- C. Rudiments: (elements or basic principles) of world
 1. Demas left because of worldly attractions 2Tim 4:10
 2. Many we know have left for same reason - have been spoiled by Satan
 3. Love not the world 1Jhn 2:15,16

II. HOW TO AVOID BEING SPOILED Col 2:6,7

- A. "As ye received Christ"
 1. Stop for examination 2Cor 13:5

2. Why did you receive him in the first place
 - a. Realize your weakness and sin
 - b. Convinced of His divinity of judgment and eternity
- B. "So walk in Him"
 1. With joy of your first obedience Rev 2:4,5
 2. Make progress in Him 1Tim 4:15; 2Pet 1:5-7
- C. "Rooted and built up in Him"
 1. Abide in the true vine Jhn 15:1-8
 2. Develop into full grown Christians Heb 5:14; 1Cor 14:20
- D. Established in the faith
 1. Faith firmly established and growing 2Thess 1:3
 2. Not easily moved or shaken 1Cor 15:58
- E. "Abounding therein with thanksgiving"
 1. Thankful for spiritual blessings Eph 1:3
 2. Thankful for material blessings Matt 6:25-33

CONCLUSION:

- A. Indeed we can become the spoil or "prey" of Satan - and thereby become "spoiled Christians"
- B. Satan uses many avenues to take us captive
- C. We need to stay on God's side - that is, faithful to Him.
- D. God doesn't need any spies in Satan's camp, He has told us very plainly how Satan works - so we can be on guard against him.