

He Gives Us A New Standing  
Study Questions  
July 10, 2016  
Colossians 2:8-23

**ICE BREAKER**

**Discuss:**

How many philosophers can you name?

**LESSON REVIEW**

**Read Colossians 2:8-23.**

In this passage, Paul warns the Christians at Colossae not to buy into the “hollow and deceptive” philosophies of the culture around them. These included angel worship, adherence to Mosaic law, and nascent secular philosophies of Greece.

**Discuss:**

What hollow and deceptive beliefs are commonly held in our day?

What would Paul object to if he was writing this letter to SFC?

Andy outlined four parachutes.

Acting Smart - the parachute of intellectualism (8)

Doing Good - the parachute of legalism (16-17, 20-23)

Going Deep - the parachute of mysticism (18-19)

Being Forgiven - the parachute of faith (9-15)

**Discuss:**

Which of these do you see at work in the church?

Which of these do you see at work in our culture?

In verse 8 of this passage, Paul warns the Colossians not to be “taken captive” by these philosophies. These are not benign ideas to be taken on and off like changing socks. Once adopted, these philosophies take captive their adherents and refuse to let them go. Such is the nature of idols.

But Jesus came to relieve the oppressed and set captives free. And Paul says in this passage that the Christian answer to hollow philosophies is not another philosophy, but a person. We don't just have a worldview, we have a savior.

**Discuss:**

Have you used any or all of these parachutes?

When you encounter hollow or deceptive philosophies in others, which parachute do you answer with? Or do you answer at all?

**APPLICATION**

**Discuss:**

What parachutes are most dangerous in your life?