



Beware of Lies That Leave You Empty

Colossians 2:8-10

October 26, 2025

BIG IDEA

Paul warns believers to stay alert to the lies of the enemy. Satan's deception may sound spiritual, but it always leads to emptiness. His goal is to capture hearts, twist beliefs, and replace truth with false promises. Just as Esau traded his birthright for a bowl of stew, as recorded in the book of Genesis, many today exchange eternal joy for temporary satisfaction. But Christ offers fullness—real life, meaning, and strength that can't be found anywhere else. In him, we lack nothing. Every need is met, every truth revealed, and every longing satisfied. The only way to avoid being left empty is to stay rooted in the One who fills us completely—Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Colossians 2:8-10 (ESV)

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

MAIN THEME

The Colossian church was surrounded by voices claiming to offer a "better" or "deeper" spirituality. Paul confronts these lies head-on. He tells believers to guard their hearts because false teaching doesn't just mislead—it enslaves. Behind every deception is a spiritual battle for the soul. The danger is subtle: when we replace Christ with tradition, human wisdom, or cultural philosophies, we begin to live empty lives. But Paul reminds us that fullness is not found in what we do—it's found in who we belong to. Christ is the fullness of God in human form, and those who belong to him are complete. Everything the world promises but fails to deliver—peace, purpose, love, truth—is already found in him. To walk in truth is to live filled, not empty.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Be Careful What You Believe



Colossians 2:8; John 8:44

- What are some lies or false teachings that seem attractive in today's culture?
- How can even "Christian-sounding" ideas lead us away from truth?
- What practical steps can help you guard your mind and heart from deception?

2. Don't Trade the Eternal for the Temporary

Genesis 25:29–34; Matthew 7:15

- How does Esau's decision illustrate the danger of believing Satan's lies?
- What "bowl of stew" might tempt you to compromise your faith today?
- Why is Satan's deception always rooted in immediate satisfaction but long-term emptiness?

3. The Lies You Tolerate Today Will Dominate You Tomorrow

Colossians 2:8b; Romans 12:2

- What are some traditions or philosophies that sound good but are "not according to Christ"?
- Why is human wisdom unreliable when it comes to spiritual truth?
- How can you renew your mind daily to stay grounded in God's Word?

4. Christ Alone Fills the Empty Heart

Colossians 2:9–10; John 10:10

- What does it mean that "in Christ all the fullness of deity dwells"?
- How does knowing you are "filled in him" give you confidence and peace?
- Where do you need to rely more fully on Christ's sufficiency instead of your own effort?

PRAY

Lord Jesus, you are the truth that exposes every lie. Protect my heart from the enemy's deception and the world's empty promises. Teach me to discern truth from falsehood and to anchor my soul in you alone. Fill every part of me with your presence, so that I will not settle for what is temporary or hollow. Thank you for being the fullness of God and for filling my life with your grace, strength, and joy. Help me to stay close to you and to live in the freedom of your truth. Amen.



DIG DEEPER

For further study this week:

- John 8:44 — Satan, the father of lies
- Matthew 7:15–20 — Beware of false prophets
- Romans 12:2 — Be transformed by renewing your mind
- 2 Corinthians 11:3–4 — Guard against deception
- Ephesians 6:10–18 — Standing firm against the schemes of the devil

NEXT WEEK'S BIG IDEA

“One Heart. One Mission; A Quest for Unity in the Body of Christ.”
A series in Titus 3, throughout the month of November.

