

## RULES THAT HAVE OUTLIVED THEIR USEFULNESS (vv. 20-23)

1. What does Paul tell us about the rules and regulations the false teachers were trying to impose on the believers at Colossae?
2. What is the most damning indictment Paul makes of these rules and regulations?
3. How do we play into the hands of “the elemental spiritual forces of this world” by clinging to rules and regulations that have outlived their usefulness?
4. How is the fact that we “died with Christ” an antidote to a life of rule-keeping?
5. Paul tells us “That the law is good if one uses it properly (1 Timothy 1:8).” How would you describe the proper place of the Law in the life of a believer?
6. If the “Rules and Regulations” lack any value in restraining “sensual indulgence” how does one pursue “the righteous life that God desires”?

360 DISCUSSION GUIDE 02.28.16

## OUT OF THE SHADOWS | COLOSSIANS 2 : 16-23



Paul's chief concern in his brief letter to the Colossians is that no one take the believers in Colossae captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy that depends on the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. In verses 16-23 Paul pulls back the curtain to reveal the character and motives of those who were trying to take the Colossians captive, and tells us that their teaching was merely a shadow of the reality found in Christ.

## TEACHERS WHO HAVE LOST ALL CONNECTION (vv. 16-19)

1. How does Paul describe the false teachers in these verses?
2. What threat did they pose to the believers in Colossae?
3. How are Old Testament rituals and regulations a shadow of the reality that is found in Christ?
4. What do you think it means to lose connection to the head?
5. What are some ways we lose connection to the head?
6. What are the consequences of losing connection to the head?
7. How do we maintain connection with the head?