

McGee says:

“After the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” The Greek word for “rudiments” is *stoicheion*, which means “that which is basic,” the ABC’s. Some people try to build their Christian living on some worldly system that seems so simple. Our base is not philosophy or a worldly system; our base is in Christ.

p. 350

Moule says:

Take care lest any one (for such persons there are, known to me, but not named) **be your spoiler**, your captor, leading you off as his helpless prey into the land of error, **by means of his empty delusion of a philosophy**, his alleged system and theory of truth and life, **according to**, on the line and scale of, the **tradition of men**, the teaching “handed on” in secrecy and mystery from one dreamer to another, and wholly human in its origin all the while; **according to the elements of the world**, the elementary lessons of rite and ordinance which the Gospel has superseded, and which now, if put into competition with the Gospel, are of “the world,” non-spiritual **and not according to Christ**.

pp. 141-42

Patrick & Lowth say:

And indeed this verse seems to be the key to, or the foundation of, all that follows in this chapter, ranking the discourse of the apostle under these two heads, viz. cautions against the seductions of the Jews, zealous for the observation of their rites and ceremonies; and against the seductions of heathens by their “vain philosophy,” dressed up by them anew, both as to its doctrines and morals, and set off with the most specious pretences, styled here . . . “enticing speech.”

p. 785

Phillips says:

The verb for “spoil” means “booty.” It occurs only here. The sentence could be rendered, “Look out lest anyone carry you off at booty” or “look out lest someone rob you.” The word is used in classical Greek as “carrying off a man’s daughter.” It is used of kidnapping. It is used of the plundering of a house and of the seduction of a young woman.

Such is the menace of false teaching. Those who persuade people to abandon truth for error are seducers and robbers. Paul begins by alerting the Colossians. They were to recognize that far from their gaining anything by following the cultists, they would be tragic losers. They would be giving up the truth as it is in Christ Jesus the Lord for a pack of lies. Let them remember Esau who traded his birthright, something of incredible worth, for a mess of pottage . . .

p. 114

Radmacher, Allen & House say:

This verse has been used at times to teach that Christians should not study or read **philosophy**. This is not Paul’s meaning. Paul himself was adept at philosophy, evidenced by his interaction with the Stoic and Epicurean philosophers in Athens (Acts 17:1-34). Paul was warning the believers not to be taken in by any philosophy that does not conform to a proper knowledge of Christ.

p. 1565

Radmacher, Allen & House say:

Paul’s strongest indictment against the heretics was that their teaching was **not according to Christ**, and thus they were not walking with Christ (vv. 6, 7).

p. 1565

Robertson says:

“Look out,” he says, “lest there shall be the one who leads you off as booty.” There is usually one person (man or woman) in such a defection who has gifts of leadership. The verb is a rare one, occurring only here and in late writers. Heliodorus uses it of carrying off a man’s daughter (kidnapping); Aristaenetus, of plundering a house; Nicetas, of seducing a maid. There was real danger that this man (or men) would make prey or spoil of the Colossians, like captives in war.
p. 77

Robertson says:

Take heed (blepete). Present active imperative second person plural of *blepō*, common verb for warning like our “look out,” “beware,” “see to it.” *Lest there shall be any one (mē tis estai)*.
p. 490

Robertson says:

Christ is the measure for all human knowledge since he is the Creator and the Sustainer of the universe.
p. 491

Simpson & Bruce say:

8 Having encouraged his readers to continue firmly anchored to Christ and to His teaching, Paul now warns them not to be shifted from this impregnable position by any plausible form of persuasion. Possibly he has one particular teacher in view when he says: “Take heed lest there shall be any one . . .”; at any rate, he warns them against any attempt to lead them astray by persuasive arguments.
p. 230

Sturz says:

Don't let anyone carry you away is an emphatic command, an effort to jolt them into consciousness of their dangerous position. Keep your eyes open and set a watch . . .

p. 72

Trentham says:

In Colossae there were men whose hearts were set on plundering the souls of men and undermining the Christian church by deliberately deluding her members. The Greek verb is very rare and graphic. It pictures false teachers as “men stealers” who entrap innocent souls into slavery. “See to it,” says Paul, “that no one makes a prey of you” (Col. 2:8, RSV). One of the most pathetic things of earth is to see a man whose very soul is taking refuge in a religion which is nothing more than a vain delusion.

p. 104

Wiersbe says:

“The greatest philosophy ever produced does not come within a thousand leagues of the fathomless profundity of our Lord’s statements, e.g., ‘Learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart.’”

Oswald Chambers

p. 784

Wuest says:

“Beware” is *blepete*, “Be constantly looking out, keep a watchful eye ever open.” Lightfoot says; “The form of the sentence is a measure of the imminence of the peril.” Expositors says; “The future indicative after *mē* (not) implies a more serious estimate of the danger than the subjunctive.” The Greek serious estimate of the danger than the subjunctive.” The Greek is, “Be ever on your guard lest there shall be anyone who spoils you.” “Spoil” is *sulagōgeō*, “to carry off booty, to carry off as a captive and slave.”

p. 199

(The Best of A. W. Tozer: Book 2 compiled by Warren W. Wiersbe) Camp Hill, PA: Wing Spread Publishers. Copyright– Zur Ltd., 1980, 2000.

“All that God is He has always been, and all that He has been and is He will ever be.” Nothing that God has ever said about Himself will be modified; nothing the inspired prophets and apostles have said about Him will be rescinded. His immutability guarantees this.
p. 15

God never changes moods or cools off in His affections or loses enthusiasm. His attitude toward sin is now the same as it was when He drove out the sinful man from the eastward garden, and His attitude toward the sinner the same as when He stretched forth His hands and cried, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).
p. 18

Deity indwelling men! That, I say, is Christianity, and no man has experienced rightly the power of Christian belief until he has known this for himself as a living reality. Everything else is preliminary to this. Incarnation, atonement, justification, regeneration; what are these but acts of God preparatory to the work of invading and the act of indwelling the redeemed human soul? Man who moved out of the heart of God by sin now moves back into the heart of God by redemption. God who moved out of the heart of man because of sin now enters again His ancient dwelling to drive out His enemies and once more make the place of His feet glorious.
p. 66

(A Year With Jesus: Daily Readings and Meditations by Eugene H. Peterson) San Francisco, CA: HarperCollins. Copyright– Eugene H. Peterson, 2006.

Will I ever, dear Jesus, get over the immature fantasies that dream of great signs and wonders? As if there were not enough of them provided already in both creation and salvation! Purge me from the leaven of sign-seeking so that I may live by faith and in adoration. Amen.
p. 148

One of my favorite songs of the Florida Boys is:

I'm Making Plans to See Jesus

Gregory A. Pollard
Holy Spirit Music / BMI

Each day I hear of someone who
Is planning far ahead.
A home they'll build,
A child they'll raise,
A job to pay the rent.
But I go down life's rough ole road
With one thing on my mind
I just want to see the Lord
I will when it's my time.

Chorus

I'm making plans to see Jesus
And oh, what a day that will be.
I'm making plans to see Jesus
Cause He's making plans for me.

I've lived a life all full of plans,
Some failed and some worked out.
And all my plans I've faced the same,
With hope, yet fear and doubt.
But there's one plan I know I've made
That's gonna be all right.
And that's to see my Jesus,
I might go home tonight.

Oh, I'm making plans to see Jesus
And oh, what a day that will be.
Yes, I'm making plans to see Jesus
Cause He's making plans for me.

Oh, I'm making plans to see Jesus
Cause He's making plans for me.
(Track #8)

(“Saved By Grace” by Florida Boys)