

# “Don’t Stay, Where You Don’t Belong”

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Sunday, July 1, 2018

Col. 1:12-13(NLT)- Always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. <sup>13</sup> For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.

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Col. 4:12(NIV)- Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.

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God chose to reveal to an insignificant church, with a non-recognizable leader, in a forgotten city-a message and secret that changed everything about life.

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1). The message:

Jesus Christ is supreme. He has no equal among the religious leaders of the world religions. Jesus is the Son of God, the way, the truth and the life.

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Col. 1:15-20(NLT)- Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, <sup>16</sup> for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.

<sup>18</sup> Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So, he is first in everything.

19 For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, <sup>20</sup> and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

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Creeping into the church of Colossae was the influence and doctrines from world religions. A teaching that Jesus Christ was just one of many and every religion has good things to help us get to God.

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Today many Christians have embraced the thought; that "every religion is equal~all religions lead us to a better life and eternal rewards". This belief eliminates the most important truth of Christianity~Jesus was and is divine, the only Son of God. If all religions are equal; then Christ is no different than Mohammad or Buddha.

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Christ is the visible image of the invisible God  
Christ existed before anything was created  
Christ is supreme over everything created

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Christ created everything and holds everything together  
Christ is the head of the church  
Christ made peace with God for humanity through his death on the cross

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John 14:6(NLT)- Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

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John 1:3-4(NIV)- Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life

was the light of all mankind.

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2). The Secret:

Col. 1:25~27(NLT)~ <sup>25</sup> God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his entire message to you. <sup>26</sup> This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people. <sup>27</sup> For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.

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The message is Jesus Christ is supreme, the divine Son of God.  
The secret is Jesus Christ the divine Son of God lives in you.

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Ezekiel 36:26~27(NIV)~ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

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Col. 1:12~13(NLT)~ Always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. <sup>13</sup> For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.

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Col. 1:12~13(KJV)~ Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:  
<sup>13</sup> Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

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Col. 1:13(KJV)~ who has delivered us from the power of darkness

and has translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.

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Col. 1:13-14(MSG)~<sup>13-14</sup> God rescued us from dead-end alleys and dark dungeons. He's set us up in the kingdom of the Son he loves so much, the Son who got us out of the pit we were in, got rid of the sins we were doomed to keep repeating.

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Matt. 13:24-30(NLT)~ Here is another story Jesus told: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a farmer who planted good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But that night as the workers slept, his enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat, then slipped away. <sup>26</sup> When the crop began to grow and produce grain, the weeds also grew. <sup>27</sup> "The farmer's workers went to him and said, 'Sir, the field where you planted that good seed is full of weeds! Where did they come from?' <sup>28</sup> "An enemy has done this!' the farmer exclaimed. "Should we pull out the weeds?" they asked. <sup>29</sup> "No,' he replied, 'you'll uproot the wheat if you do. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest. Then I will tell the harvesters to sort out the weeds, tie them into bundles, and burn them, and to put the wheat in the barn.'"

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Matt. 13:36(NLT)~ Then, leaving the crowds outside, Jesus went into the house. His disciples said, "Please explain to us the story of the weeds in the field."

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Matt. 13:37-43(NLT)~<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied, "The Son of Man is the farmer who plants the good seed. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed represents the people of the Kingdom. The weeds are the people who belong to the evil one. <sup>39</sup> The enemy who planted the weeds among the wheat is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world, and the harvesters are the angels. <sup>40</sup> "Just as the weeds are sorted out and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the world. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels,

and they will remove from his Kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. <sup>42</sup> And the angels will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father's Kingdom. Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand!

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Eph. 2:1-6(NIV)- As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. <sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.

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Col. 1:13(NLT) For he rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.

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The message is that Jesus Christ is supreme; the divine Son of God; the secret is that the supreme, divine Son of God lives in you.

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The supreme, divine Son of God-Jesus Christ who lives in us-has delivered/rescued us from the power of Satan and has transferred us from Satan's dominion into God's kingdom.

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• Don't Stay, Where You Don't Belong  
Children of God don't belong in a place of addiction.

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God's children don't belong in a prison bound by fear.  
Children of God don't belong in those dark caverns where  
condemnation and shame scream tormenting accusations at you.

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• Don't Stay Where You Don't Belong  
God's Children don't belong stuck in their painful past

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Children of God don't have to remain paralyzed by a failure or  
abuse-you don't belong in an emotional wheelchair the rest of your  
life.  
God's children have been delivered from the power of darkness and  
transferred into God's Kingdom!

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Jesus taught about three kingdoms;  
The Kingdom of Darkness  
The Kingdom of Heaven  
The Kingdom of God

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Luke 17:20-21 (NKJV)~ Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; <sup>21</sup> nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

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Rom. 14:17-18 (KJV)~ <sup>7</sup> for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. <sup>18</sup> **For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.**