

**Beware of Grace-Robbers!**  
**Colossians 2:14-23**  
**Life Overflowing! A Study of Colossians—Part 11**  
**April 28, 2024**

“...<sup>14</sup>having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. <sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. <sup>17</sup>These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions. <sup>19</sup>He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow. <sup>20</sup>Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: <sup>21</sup>“Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!”? <sup>22</sup>These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. <sup>23</sup>Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.” --Colossians 2:14-23

Legalism is the attitude that I can establish or improve my standing before God by my \_\_\_\_\_.

In this passage, we are introduced to three insidious grace-robbers:

**GRACE-ROBBER #1:** You \_\_\_\_\_ to be saved! (14-17)

**Legalistic Lie:** For salvation, God does \_\_\_\_\_ and I do \_\_\_\_\_!

“Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved!”--Acts 16:31

**Grace-full Truth:** God has already done \_\_\_\_\_ for my salvation!

“He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.”--1 John 2:2

“all our righteous acts are like filthy rags.”--Isaiah 64:6

“They are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.”  
--Romans 10:2-4

**GRACE-ROBBER #2:** You shoulda had the \_\_\_\_\_ I had! (18-19)

**Legalistic Lie:** Everyone’s spiritual experience must be \_\_\_\_\_.

**Grace-full Truth:** God delights in infinite \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_!

“All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people. The variety is wonderful!”--1 Corinthians 12:6 (The Message)

**GRACE-ROBBER #3:** You oughta \_\_\_\_\_! (20-23)

**Legalistic Lie:** If I \_\_\_\_\_ God, I’ll \_\_\_\_\_ more of His love!

**Grace-full Truth:** I want to \_\_\_\_\_ God because I am \_\_\_\_\_!

Jesus said, “Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.”--John 14:21

“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.”--Romans 14:17

**A definition of grace:**

Grace is...\_\_\_\_\_.

“The Word became flesh...full of grace and truth.”--John 1:14