

THE REVOJUTION

CHRIST ENTHRONED. HUMAN EXISTENCE REDEFINED.

Sunday 24th June 2018

Allan Demond

Col 2:6-8, 16-23 & 3:1-4

Revolution: Religion & Rules Redefined

In continuing our study through the book of Colossians, Allan described how the early church was struggling to create structure and order, but strayed towards new rituals and religious practices. In this week's message, Allan encouraged us not to do away with 'rules' but to build rules for our lives that flow out of a true relationship with Jesus.

Pause for a moment as a group.

What does the term 'religious' mean to you?

How might it be seen amongst the broader community?

Is it a positive term, or a negative one?

Read Colossians 2:6-8, 16-23 & 3:1-4

The coming of Jesus opened up entirely new ways of living for Jews and Gentiles alike. Whereas the Torah was a more prescriptive path to redemption, Jesus' own death and resurrection offered us a redemption anchored in relationship with him.

What 'rules' have you tried to live by as a follower of Christ?

How did you develop these rules? From others?

Allan suggested that the importance of rules is not in keeping them, but in how they reflect a deeper relationship with God.

Think about your childhood, or perhaps your own family. What rules did you have in your household?

How did they reflect the relationship you had with your parents, or with your children?

What did it mean to you or your parents when rules were broken?

What did it mean when they were kept?



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In the reading, Paul warns the Colossians not to become 'disconnected' from the 'head' of the body (Christ) and be led astray by cultural practices around them.

Do you see culture leading Christians astray?

Are there examples you can think of? How should we as believers respond?

Colossians 3:1-2: If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Allan encouraged us to spend our 'best energy' on growing our relationship with Jesus, and to build a lifestyle out of this.

How are you spending your 'best energy' on growing your relationship with Christ?

Are there times where you're spending your 'best energy' on other things?

How could you divert more of your 'best energy' towards Christ?

As you finish the study, try to make note of one thing you will do this week to learn more about Christ and come closer in relationship to him.

