



Rabbit Trails & Fox Dens

Colossians 2:8-19

Ever felt intimidated?

Paul has presented Jesus as preeminent... #1 over everything else in my life (1:17-19; 2:3). Because of that, he reaches out to these Christians with heartfelt advice (2:6-7):

- ▶ Receive Jesus Christ as Lord
- ▶ Walk in Him – which will result in a life that is firmly planted, progressively developed, progressively stabilized, and progressively vibrant.

Why such advice? Because, (2:9-10a):

- ▶ His is everything, and
- ▶ You find all life's fulfillment in Him.

B.L.U.F. (bottom line up front) – *Don't chase rabbits. They end in the fox's den!*

- ▶ "Beware, lest any man...let no man...let no man...." v. 8, 16, 18
- ▶ Each involves a warning and a potent truth.

Don't chase these rabbits:

1. Don't Be Intimidated by Human Philosophy v. 8-15

Warning: Beware those who will take you captive with human philosophy!

Potent truth: It's all about Jesus! v. 9-15

2. Don't Be Intimidated by Human Achievement v. 16-17

Warning: Don't re-establish law as a means of relationship!

Potent truth: The law is merely a shadow; the reality is Jesus! v. 17

3. Don't Be Intimidated by Human Mysticism v. 18-19

Warning: Don't let anyone take away your achievement by requiring you to have their experience!

Potent Truth: Jesus is the enabler of growth! v. 19

"If ye be dead...if ye be risen...." 2:20 & 3:1

Question 2:20-23

Instruction 3:1-4

Don't Chase Rabbits!