

## **“Don’t Get Played”**

Colossians 2:16-23

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***Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup> These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup> Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, <sup>19</sup> puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup> and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.***

***<sup>20</sup> If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— <sup>21</sup> “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” <sup>22</sup> (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings? <sup>23</sup> These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.***

### **Colossians 2:16-23 English Standard Version**

**Deception #1:** My obedience makes me a better Christ follower.

The trap of legalism is that it puts the focus on my performance rather than Christ’s faithfulness.

**Deception #2:** My religious experiences make me a better Christ follower.

The trap of these false experiences is that they make my experience a greater authority than Christ.

**Deception #3:** My self made religion makes me a better Christ follower.

The trap of self made religion is that it modifies behavior not transforms the heart.

**Take Home Truth:** Don’t be deceived into “me centered” religion but receive the sufficient work of Christ.