

## Beware Of Philosophy And...

### I. Introduction:

A. The word of God warns us that there are those that seek to spoil [carry off captive; Strong's # 4812] us (**Matthew 23:15**, **Acts 5:36-37**, **Acts 20:28-31**, **Galatians 2:11-13**, **I Timothy 1:19-20**, and **Hebrews 13:9**).

1. Some are sneaky (**Jude 1:4**).
2. Some are not sneaky (**Acts 15:1-5**; **15:24**).

B. Don't give them place [don't yield to them] (**Galatians 2:1-5**).

1. Think about the instructions to depart from and avoid such persons (**Psalms 37:27**, **Proverbs 12:11**, and **Romans 16:17-18**).
2. In fact, the right idea is to stop their mouths (**Titus 1:10-14**).

### II. Body: **Colossians 2:4-8**

A. Think about the word "BEWARE" [behold, perceive, look on, take heed] (**Mark 4:24**, **Mark 8:15**, and **Mark 13:1-5**).

1. Can we see the threats of being led astray by being proper fruit inspectors (**Matthew 7:15-20**)?
2. Do we have the awareness and readiness of mind for what it takes to look out and see (**II Peter 3:17**)?
3. An awareness that all who would spoil us are not hidden, but the serious threats know better than to lay a trap where it can be seen (cf. **Proverbs 1:17**).

B. Think about the word philosophy [φιλοσοφία]. The Greek word means: "Jewish sophistry: — philosophy. Love of wisdom; used either of zeal for or skill in any art or science, any branch of knowledge. Used once in the NT of the theology, or rather theosophy, of certain Jewish Christian ascetics, which busied itself with refined and speculative enquiries into the nature and classes of angels, into the ritual of the Mosaic law and the regulations of Jewish tradition respecting practical life" (Strong's # 5385). Only used this one time in the NT.

1. Precisely: **Mark 12:18-27** and **Acts 23:1-10**
2. In general: **Acts 17:16-21**, **Romans 1:18-22**, **I Corinthians 3:18-19**, and **I Timothy 6:20**
3. How many get caught up in trivial discussions and inquires (**I Timothy 1:3-7** and **I Timothy 4:7**)?

C. Then you have to consider the traditions of men (**Colossians 2:18-23**).

1. The word "tradition" is not the problem in itself (**II Thessalonians 2:15**).
2. The problem is when traditions originate with man and make the word of God of no effect (**Mark 7:1-13**).
3. We have to know the difference between the traditions of our Father and our fathers (**Galatians 1:13-14**).

D. Rather than feeling the pressure of thinking we need to know how to answer every doctrine, just understand how to test (**I Thessalonians 5:21**).

1. Are they “speaking as the oracles [words; utterances] of God” (**I Peter 4:11**)?
2. Is it of men or of God (**Galatians 1:10**)?
3. When you consider the word of God properly and use good reasoning skills, it is truth that you’re hearing (**Galatians 5:1-11**)?
4. If it is not of faith (**Romans 10:17; 14:23**), trash it!

III. Conclusion: But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness (**II Timothy 2:8-18**).