

## **Gary Allen Hencke DD – Men in Christ**

### Colossians 2:1-10

*I want you to know how strenuous my exertions for you are, and the Laodiceans, and all who have not seen me personally. I want their hearts to be encouraged and they themselves united in love, so that they may come to the wealth of the understanding in knowing the “Mystery of God”: Christ himself. In him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden. I tell you this to keep you from anyone’s persuasive arguments. For though I am absent from you in body, yet I am with you in spirit, and am delighted to see your unity, and steadfastness faith in Christ. So, since you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, daily walk in him - be grounded in him - be built up in him, firmly settled in the faith as you were taught, while you overflow in gratitude. Do not allow yourself to be captivated by philosophy and empty deceiving man-made traditions, deceitfully in accord with the physical world’s crude notions, and not according to Christ. For it is in him the whole fullness of God is embodied - and in him you have come to completion. He is Lord over all rulers and authorities.*

1. This teaching is the core of Christian faith.
2. The message is profound.
3. The truth is extremely simple.
4. Can I say I really embrace this?
  - a. Does my church?
  - b. Does my living? Are my values here?
  - c. How are we to take this?

**Ἐμοὶ γὰρ τὸ ζῆν Χριστὸς**

<sup>ESV</sup> Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, .

<sup>NEB</sup> Philippians 1:21 For to me Christ is life