

Complete in Him
Part Four: Self-Made Christianity
Colossians 2:16-23
February 22, 2026

1. One version of self-made Christianity expects you to live by rules not required by Scripture (2:16-17)
 - Some people were teaching that Christians need to keep the Law of Moses.
 - Mandating unnecessary rules and regulations, even good ones, will draw us away from Christ.
 - Don't let anyone judge you by these unnecessary requirements.
2. Another version of self-made Christianity insists that you validate their personal experience over Scripture (2:18-19)
 - Four elements:
 - ✓ Pious but hypocritical self-denial.
 - ✓ Worship of spirits.
 - ✓ Unverifiable supernatural experiences.
 - ✓ A sinful mind that produces unjustified self-importance.
 - God-sourced sanctification comes from holding fast to Christ.
 - Submitting to their influence will disqualify you from pleasing God.
3. Don't let self-made Christianity hinder your sanctification (2:20-23)
 - We who are in Christ are dead to the influence of spiritual powers of the world.
 - This looks good on the outside but does nothing to help us overcome sinful desires.