

"How the Gospel Keeps Us from Being Deceived"

Colossians 2:1-5 Message Series: "The Gospel Changes Everything" Troy Dobbs, Senior Pastor Sunday, January 15, 2017

Colossians 2:1-5

¹ For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, ² that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. ⁵ For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.

Paul makes plain four characteristics of Christian maturity:

- 1. Mature Christians <u>encourage</u> people through difficult times. (v 2)
- 2. Mature Christians <u>love</u> well. (v 2a)
- 3. Mature Christians are growing in **knowledge** and **understanding**. (vv 2-3)
- 4. Mature Christians aren't easily **deceived**. (v 4)

Resources available online:

- Study Guides to help you grow deeper in today's teaching. Visit grace.church/smallgroups and click the Small Group Study Guides banner.
- Audio and video recordings of this message and an outline (with answers) posted later today at grace.church/sermons. (Order CDs in the Grace Café.)
- iTunes links of songs played during the contemporary service at grace.church/songlist

