

Colossians 2:16–17, 20-23 (NLT)

¹⁶ So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths.

¹⁷ For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ Himself is that reality.

²⁰ You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as,

21 “Don’t handle! Don’t taste! Don’t touch!”?

22 Such rules are mere human teachings
about things that deteriorate as we
use them.

²³ These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires.

Christ is the REALITY

Colossians 2:16-23



LEGALISM... PTW

- is **JOYLESS**
- demands **UNIFORMITY**
- produces **SURFACE** Faith
- results in a **SHALLOW** self-righteousness

¹⁸ Let no one condemn you by **delighting in ascetic practices** and the **worship of angels, claiming access to a visionary realm.**

Such people are **inflated** by **empty notions** of their unspiritual mind. CSB

True spirituality does not come by compliance
with Laws which are **only a Shadow** but by
Connection with the REALITY
who is Christ. BKC

18 Don't let anyone **condemn** you by insisting on **pious self-denial** or the **worship of angels**, saying they have had visions about these things. Their **sinful minds** have made them **proud**,... (NLT)

¹⁹ and they are **NOT** connected to **Christ**,
the **Head** of the **body**. For **He** holds
the **whole Body** together with its joints
and ligaments, and **IT** grows **AS God**
Nourishes IT. (NLT)

Hebrews 12:2-3 (NIV)

Let us **fix our eyes on Jesus**, the **author** and **perfecter** of our **faith**, who for the joy set before Him **endured the cross**, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

³ **Consider Him** who endured such opposition from sinful men, **SO THAT** you will not grow **Weary and Lose Heart.**

²³ These **Rules** may seem wise because they require **strong devotion**, **pious self-denial**, and **severe bodily discipline**. But they provide **NO HELP** in conquering a person's evil desires.

(NLT)

LICENSE

LEGALISM

GRACE



Legalism - Rigid Rules and Restrictions

License - I will DO what I choose

GRACE - I choose Obedience

Isaiah 29:13 (NIV)

¹³ The Lord says: “These people come **near to Me** with their mouth and **honor Me** with their lips, **but their hearts are FAR from Me.**

Their **worship of ME** is made up only of **RULES** taught by men.

Romans 6:1 (NIV)

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on
sinning **SO THAT**
GRACE may increase?

6:1 Now what is our response to be?
Shall we sin to our heart's content and
see how far we can **exploit** the **GRACE**
of **God**? What a ghastly thought! (JBP)

1 Corinthians 6:12, 19-20 (NLT)

¹² You say, “**I am allowed to do anything**”
but **NOT** everything is **Good** for you.

And even though “I am allowed to
do anything,” I must **NOT** become a
SLAVE to anything...

¹⁹ Don't you realize that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit**, who lives in you and was given to you by God? **You do not belong to yourself,** ²⁰ for **God bought you with a high price.** So you must honor God with your body.

²³ Although these have a reputation for wisdom by promoting **self-made religion**, **false humility**, and **severe treatment of the body**, they are **NOT** of any **VALUE** in **curbing self-indulgence**. (CSV)

23 ...they **LACK** any **VALUE** in
Restraining Sensual Indulgence. (NIV)