

by Teachers of *man's* appointment, but who were never ordained to teach, by the Holy Spirit.

LASTLY—Remember those words of warning in *Colossians* ii. 7, 8, "Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ". See also the teaching in *verses* 21-23, where we are warned not to touch, taste or handle things which are to perish with the using, after the commandments and doctrines of men, to the satisfying of the flesh, and which things have indeed a *show of wisdom* in will-worship, and humility, not even sparing the body, but there is no honour in it. This is the style of the religion of the world Christianity now: a worship set up according to the will of man, but entirely opposite to the commands of God; a worship to please the senses of sight—in buildings, processions, vestments, etc.; of hearing—in music of choirs and choristers, in anthems to be listened to, but not to be joined in; of smelling—in the perfumes of incense; the doing of penance, afflicting the body, exciting much emotional feeling, so quieting a bad conscience with God for the time being and "*only to the satisfying of the flesh*", but wholly opposed to the worship of God in spirit and in truth: such a religious worship is one that truly *perishes in the using*.

Again in *Ephesians* iv. 14, "That we be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive".

Finally in *Isaiah* viii. 20, "To the Law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them".

F. B.

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