

**Counterfeit Spirituality**  
**Colossians 2:16-19**  
**Pastor Conley**

Review:

It is our human tendency to add to the simple gospel of Christ. We like to be able to measure our spirituality and the easiest way for us to do this is to establish man-made outwardly observable standards. These standards often begin to take the place of the simple gospel and we begin to hold them as equally important to the truth of Scripture. This passage teaches that these things are but a “shadow” and that Christ is the substance.

Outline Review:

Counterfeit Spirituality is displayed in:

- I. Ceremonialism
- II. Mysticism

Application:

1. What were the two areas in the passage that people evaluated their spirituality based on ceremonialism? (Hint: They both started with “d.”)
2. Explain Pastor Conley’s statement, “The more attention people give to minor/extra-biblical things, the less attention they can give to the important things in Scripture.”
3. What are some areas in which we are tempted to set up extra-biblical standards? Does this mean we should get rid of all standards and rules? What are the dangers of having lots of standards?
4. Why is it easy to establish standards? Why do we feel good about keeping them? Is it easier to keep standards or cultivate an intimate personal relationship with Christ?