

Christ Is LORD of All

Colossians 1:15-23

Intro: The Apostle Paul counters the false teachers in Colossae by presenting Jesus Christ as preeminent over all creation and the church. He is the LORD of All!

I. Christ's Position With the Father 1:15

A. Christ is "the image of the invisible God" (v. 15a)

1. The image or manifestation of God
2. The revelation as God (Heb. 1:1-3; John 14:8-11)

B. Christ is "the firstborn of all creation" (v. 15b)

1. Priority in time: *a firstborn child* (Luke 2:7)
2. Priority in rank: *one who is preeminent in rank or honor* (Ps. 89:27)



II. Christ's Preeminence In Creation 1:16-17

- A. Christ as the Agent of creation (v. 16; John 1:3; Heb. 1:2)
- B. Christ as the goal of creation (v. 16)
- C. Christ as the Sustainer of creation (v. 17)

III. Christ's Preeminence Over the Church 1:18-23

- A. He is head of the body, the church (v. 18a)
- B. He is firstborn from the dead (v. 18b)
- C. He is divine: His union of deity and humanity (v. 19; 2:9; John 1:14)
- D. He provides reconciliation (vv. 20-23)
 1. Christ's reconciliation of all things to Himself (vv. 20-22)
 2. Christians are exhorted to faith in the gospel (v. 23)

Points to Ponder:

"For in Him, Christ, all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form."
Colossians 2:9