“The High Status and Full Significance of Christ”

Colossians 1:15-18 Sunday October 8, 2023

## INTRODUCTION READ Colossians 1:1-29

“dumb mouths and cold hearts . . .” Charles Spurgeon

Jesus not merely an important person in being a great prophet, teacher, or leader, but He is superior to all others & supreme in all things & sufficient for all matters

The most dangerous part of the Colossian heresy was its dethroning of the person of Jesus Christ—Colossians 1:18

Sufficiency of The Person and Work of Christ For All Explained Chapter One Supremacy Over All He Is Lord of Creation and Lord of the Church

Putting Jesus in His Place

Jesus Christ Deserves First Place in Everything Because of Who He Is and What He Does so that He would have His place our life as Christians and in the life of the church “He Is . . .”

1. HE IS---The Personal Image of the Invisible God 1:15-16

His Place of Preeminence Stated Because He is God “I Am . . . He Is . . .”

1. His Is God In His Person v. 15a [Is God in Visible Form]

“[He] Who is the image of the invisible God,

the firstborn of all creation.”

"He is the perfect image, the visible representation, of the unseen God"

Cf. John 1:18; John 14:7-10; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Hebrews 1:3

1. He Is Heir To All Creation In His Position v. 15b

[Is God in Personal Rank]

* one of pre-eminent rank superior to all others As One of Highest Rank
* does not mean “firstborn among all created things” or “created first” cf. 1:16

1. He Is Creator of All Things by His Power v. 16

His Place of Preeminence Supported Because He Is The Creator “I Am/He Is”

“For in Him all things were created . . .” John 1:3; 1 Corinthians 8:6

“ . . . *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible . . .”

“everything within that totality, however it be subdivided—both “in the heavens” and “on the earth, the visible and invisible”

whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—

Colossians 2:15; Ephesians 1:20-21; 3:10

all things have been created through Him and for Him

“men talk of creation without being compelled to mention the Creator”Spurgeon

1. HE IS---The Personal Sustainer All Things As Almighty God 1:17

And He is before all things, [PAI]

And in Him all things hold together. [PfAI]

“man does not like to think of his God . . .” Spurgeon

1. HE IS---The Personal Lord of His Church 1:17

His Place of Preeminence Substantiated Because He Is Lord of the Church

And He is the head of the body, the church; life . . . direction . . . decision

Cf. Ephesians 1:22-23

Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,

“ . . . so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.”

“so that He alone in everything and in every respect might occupy the chief place [stand first and be preeminent].” (Amplified)

“that He might become in all things Himself the One who is pre-eminent” Wuest

“that in everything He might be preeminent” ESV  NKJV

“so that He Himself might have first place in everything” NIV

CONCLUSION “He Is . . . His Place of Pre-eminence . . .”

* How we ought to worship Him for His Glory, Majesty, & Supremacy
* Let us proclaim and declare who the Lord Jesus really is for all to hear and know
* What service, obedience, place, and reverence He must have Because He Is
* He Himself Deserves First Place in Everything