

## The 16th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 24, 2017

### “The Supremacy of Christ ~ Jesus in First Place”

#### Colossians 1:15-23

Virus of practicality = Instead of calling people to faith, repentance, and \_\_\_\_\_ to the supremacy of Christ, we tell them what Jesus can \_\_\_\_\_ for them.

It's not enough to accept Jesus as our \_\_\_\_\_, if we don't also accept Him as \_\_\_\_\_—if we don't give Him complete \_\_\_\_\_ to and \_\_\_\_\_ over every area of our lives. We can't just add Jesus to our lives; we need to \_\_\_\_\_ Him with our lives, through our \_\_\_\_\_.

#### THE FALSE TEACHING IN COLOSSAE

- Jesus was important, but not \_\_\_\_\_. He was prominent to them, but not \_\_\_\_\_.
- God didn't \_\_\_\_\_ the world because in their view matter was \_\_\_\_\_ and God cannot create evil.
- Jesus wasn't the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, but rather one of many intermediaries between God and people.
- They denied the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ for salvation.

#### THREE IMPORTANT STATEMENTS ABOUT JESUS

#1. **Jesus is supreme over \_\_\_\_\_.**

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.” (Col 1:15-17)

#### FOUR TRUTHS ABOUT JESUS

- **Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_.**

Jesus isn't just a \_\_\_\_\_ of God; He is God!

Image = *eikon* =

Jesus is the precise \_\_\_\_\_ of God—He both represents and \_\_\_\_\_ God to the world.

“No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known.” (John 1:18)  
made him known =

“Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” (John 14:9)

“The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being...” (Hebrews 1:3)

- **Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.**

Firstborn = *prototokos* =

Arian Hersey = Jesus was merely another \_\_\_\_\_ being who existed before the rest of creation and who is far greater than the rest of creation, but not \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

Firstborn = *prototokos* also =

This refers to Jesus' place of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and not to suggest some kind of a birth order.

- **Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of all things.**

Jesus isn't a mere \_\_\_\_\_—He's the creator of all things—those things that we can see and those things we can't see.

Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the creation of everything.

“All things came into being through him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.” (John 1:3)

Paul argues that all the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of both the visible and invisible world are under the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ because He created them.

Paul also refutes the false teaching that Christ was one of many \_\_\_\_\_.  
Jesus has no \_\_\_\_\_.

- **Jesus holds all things \_\_\_\_\_.**

Hold together = *synistemi* =

Christ is the \_\_\_\_\_—the super glue or duct tape—that keeps it all together.

Hebrews 1:3 says that Jesus holds everything together by His powerful \_\_\_\_\_ and if He were to remove His sustaining power, everything would dissolve into \_\_\_\_\_.

## #2. Jesus is supreme over His \_\_\_\_\_ creation.

“And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him.” (Colossians 1:18-19)

In calling Jesus the head, Paul’s saying that He’s the \_\_\_\_\_; the one in charge!

If Jesus Christ isn’t \_\_\_\_\_ in a church, then there is no church.

beginning =

The church isn’t a \_\_\_\_\_ invention, it’s the creation of \_\_\_\_\_.

“...I will build my church.” (Matthew 16:18)

firstborn from among the dead = As the Supreme One, His resurrection is the \_\_\_\_\_ that we too will \_\_\_\_\_ again

all His fullness = A term used by the false teachers that meant the ‘\_\_\_\_\_ total of all the divine power and attributes.’

“From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another.” (John 1:16)

## #3. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ for salvation.

Paul concludes this section by reminding the Colossians of the \_\_\_\_\_ message, and describing the work of Jesus in \_\_\_\_\_ lost people to Himself

“And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.” (Col 1:20)

Reconciliation = The \_\_\_\_\_ of friendship and fellowship after \_\_\_\_\_; to change thoroughly from one position to another.”

Reconciliation happens when someone or something is completely \_\_\_\_\_ and adjusted so that a relationship of \_\_\_\_\_ can begin with the one with whom estrangement had taken place.

### FOUR ELEMENTS OF OUR RECONCILIATION

- The \_\_\_\_\_ is to reconcile people to Himself.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ is all things.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ is peace.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ is through His blood, shed on the cross.

“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour.” (Colossians 1:21)

### 3 THINGS ABOUT OUR CONDITION BEFORE PEACE WITH GOD

- **We were \_\_\_\_\_ from God.**

alienate =

- **We were \_\_\_\_\_ to God.**

“The mind of sinful man is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so.” (Romans 8:7)

- **Our behaviour was \_\_\_\_\_.**

Wrong \_\_\_\_\_ always leads to wrong \_\_\_\_\_.

“But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.” (Colossians 1:22)

The false teachers in Colossae denied that Jesus had a real \_\_\_\_\_ body. However, the NT makes it abundantly clear that Jesus was both God and \_\_\_\_\_

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you are healed.” (1 Peter 2:24)

### 3 SPIRITUAL BENEFITS OF OUR RECONCILIATION

- **We are \_\_\_\_\_ in God’s sight.**

- **We are without \_\_\_\_\_.**

- **We are free from \_\_\_\_\_.**

“Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honour at God’s right hand, pleading for us.” (Romans 8:34)

†

**Does Jesus truly have first place in everything?**

**Does He have first place in your life?**

**Does He have first place in this church?**