

What Child is This?

Colossians 1:15-20

Jason Finley, Discipleship Pastor

Lord's Day, December 23, 2018

“What Child Is This?” by William Chatterton Dix, 1865

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?

Consider the supernatural means and the cosmic announcement of Jesus's birth: Matt 1:20-25, 2:2-6, Luke 2:8-14

Behold the child born Christ the Lord.

1. LORD OF CREATION (vv. 15-17)

a. Sovereign over Creation (v. 15)

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Hebrews 1:2-3 ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Psalms 89:27: And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

Titus 2:13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

b. Agent of Creation (v. 16a)

16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him

Colossians 2:15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over

this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

c. Goal of Creation (v. 16b)

all things were created through him and for him.

d. Sustainer of Creation (v. 17)

17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

2. LORD OF PEACE (vv. 18-20)

a. Forms a community of peace: the church (v. 18a)

18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

b. Paid the price for peace: the cross (v. 18b - 20)

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

“What Child Is This?” by William Chatterton Dix, 1865

chorus This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Benediction

The Nicene Creed AD 381

And we believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten from the Father before all time; Light, from Light, true God from true God; begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father, through Whom all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made a man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried, and rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; His kingdom shall have no end.