

# Your Faith in Christ, Part 3

Colossians 1:15-23 (NIV)

- Firstborn. 15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead...
  - Biblical concept: The term firstborn therefore has two main meanings. The first is more literal, referring to the fact that this son is the first son to be born of his father. The second meaning refers to the rights and authority of a person, because they are the firstborn.
    - When the Bible says Jesus is the “firstborn,” it speaks of his authority. God’s children are to listen to and follow what Jesus says because he has authority to speak.
  - Grk.: first-born. Can mean eldest. 4416 prōtōtokos (from [4413](#) /prōtos, "first, pre-eminent" and [5088](#) /tiktō, "bring forth") – properly, first in time (Mt 1:25; Lk 2:7); hence, pre-eminent (Col 1:15; Rev 1:5).
  - Firstborn over. The authority of Christ is the real deal.
  - Firstborn from.
    - It is best to have a guide that has been where you want to go.
    - Christ is the F. from the dead. He died but came back from among those who have died. He now lives. The authority for life, death, and resurrection is Jesus. He did it all first.