

Your Faith in Christ, Part 2

Colossians 1:15-23 (NIV)

15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 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. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 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.

21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 22 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— 23 if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

- Supremacy of Christ. V.18 *18 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**.*
- Greek: πρωτεύων; to have the first place, to have preeminence, chief, first.
- Greek meaning: “might have” is not a conditional statement saying, “he maybe will achieve supremacy.” But, “that it will come into existence by his resurrection from the dead.”
- “Missions is not the ultimate goal of the Church. Worship is...Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. Worship...is the fuel and goal of missions.” --John Piper, Let the Nations Be Glad! The Supremacy of God in Missions
- Christ is first because he came to save us.

- Revelation 4:11 NIV “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”
- John 12:32 NIV And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” “Lifted up” Grk: to lift or raise up, to exalt, uplift

In order to represent, you need to know the One you represent. Represent!