

Christ in Colossians

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This writing points out some things Paul told the Colossians about Christ.

Christ Is Lord. Paul mentioned “the Lord Jesus Christ” (Colossians 1:2). As Lord, Christ is Master. Christ is not a lord among lords, but “Lord of lords” (1 Timothy 6:14-15).

Christ Is the Son of God. Paul spoke of God as “the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” and Christ as God’s “dear Son” (Colossians 1:3, 13). As the Son of God, Christ is divine in nature. The Father said of Jesus, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him” (Matthew 17:5).

Christ Is King. Colossians 1:13 records, “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.” There are four things necessary for a kingdom: (1) *A king.* Christ is “King of kings” (1 Timothy 6:14-15). (2) *Subjects.* Those “translated into the kingdom” are the subjects (Colossians 1:13). (3) *Territory.* “...all the world” is the territory of the kingdom (Mark 16:15). (4) *Law.* “...the law of Christ” is the law of the kingdom (Galatians 6:2). The kingdom of Christ is the church of Christ (Colossians 1:13, 22, 24).

Christ Is Our Redeemer. “In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins” (Colossians 1:14). Re-

demption, the forgiveness of sins, is made possible through the blood of Jesus Christ. Have you been redeemed by Christ?

Christ Is the Image of the Invisible God. “Who is the image of the invisible God...” (Colossians 1:15). God is invisible. “No man hath seen God at any time...” (John 1:18). “God is a Spirit...” (John 4:24). As the image of God, Christ is the likeness of God. Thus Christ could say, “...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father...” (John 14:9). As Christ is the image of God, the Christian is “conformed to the image of” Christ (Romans 8:29).

Christ Is the Firstborn of Every Creature. “...the firstborn of every creature” (Colossians 1:15). The firstborn among the Hebrews had distinctions, honor, and privilege. As the firstborn of every creature, Christ holds the most elevated position above all others in creation. The reason: “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist” (Colossians 1:16-17).

Christ Is the Agent of Creation. “For by him were all things created...” (Colossians 1:16). John declared, “All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that

was made” (John 1:13). Hebrews 1:2 says, “... by whom he made the worlds.” This knocks the props out from under the theory of the Jehovah’s Witnesses that Christ is a created being.

Christ Is Eternal. Paul said, “And he is before all things...” (Colossians 1:17). This affirms the preexistence of Christ. He was in the beginning with God (John 1:1). Jesus said, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am” (John 8:58).

Christ Is the Head of the Church. “And he is the head of the body, the church...” (Colossians 1:18). As there is but one body (the body, the church), there is but one head (the head, Christ). Christ has all authority (Matthew 28:18). Ephesians 1:22-23 states, “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”

Christ Is the Firstborn from the Dead. Colossians 1:18 reveals, “...who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead.” This is a reference to the resurrection of Christ from the dead. Christ is not the firstborn from the dead because He was the first who rose from the dead. There were others to be raised from the dead before the resurrection of Christ. Christ is the firstborn from the dead because He was the first who rose

from the dead to die no more. He is “become the firstfruits of them that slept” (1 Corinthians 15:20).

Christ Is the One in Whom All Fulness Dwells. “For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell” (Colossians 1:19). Again, “For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily” (Colossians 2:9). Fulness means all or completeness. Christ has all the attributes or completeness of deity. He is fully God.

Christ Is Our Reconciler. “And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked words, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel...” (Colossians 1:20-23). Aliens and enemies are made unblameable and unproveable through the blood of Christ in the body of Christ.

All of this shows that Christ is preeminent - “...that in all things he might have the preeminence” (Colossians 1:18) and “...ye are complete in him...” (Colossians 2:10).

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