

# THE PREEMINENCE OF CHRIST

Pastor Lucas Almeida—January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022—Central Baptist Church

Colossians 1:15-23

ESV

[15] He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. [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 and for him. [17] And 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, 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.

[21] And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, [22] he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, [23] if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

**MAIN POINT: JESUS IS LORD OF ALL!**

## 1) JESUS IS LORD OVER THE UNIVERSE

Jesus reflects who God is perfectly.

- **John 1:1**—*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
- **John 8:58**—*Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."*
- **Rev. 21:6a**—*"It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."*

So, what does Paul mean by firstborn?

- **Ps. 89:27**—*And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.*
- He has the inheritance rights as the firstborn of the eternal King of Heaven.

"There's not a square inch in the whole domain of human existence over which Christ, who is Lord over all, does not exclaim, 'Mine!'" —**A. Kuyper**

**Gen. 1:27**—*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

## 2) JESUS IS LORD OVER THE CHURCH

**Eph. 1:3**—*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places...*

Christian hope rests in the assurance of the resurrection of the dead.

**1 Cor. 15:20**, *"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."*

**1 Thess. 4:13-14**—*[13] But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.*

God is creator of all things and he is also redeemer of all things.

**Phil. 2:10**—*...at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth...*

**Rom. 8:19-21**—*[19] For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. [20] For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope [21] that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.*

## 3) JESUS IS LORD OVER YOU

Christians must always remember their condition prior to Christ.

Did you notice that Christ does the work of reconciliation but he also does the work of transformation?

Christians must recognize that genuine faith perseveres.

- **Jude 3**—*the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.*
- We persevere in our faith because God perseveres in his promises!