

## ***“Christ: God in Flesh Appearing”***

### **The Cosmic Supremacy of Christ**

Col. 1:15-16 • pt. 7

#### INTRODUCTION

- an encounter at your door...
- Arian heresy: Jesus is *like* God, but doesn't share God's nature

“begotten” (Jn. 1:14)

“firstborn” (Col. 1:15)

- false teachers in Colossae
  - Jesus a ‘lesser’ spirit emanating from God
  - presupposition: philosophic dualism

#### *1. Jesus: the image of God* (1:15a)

- “image” — definition #1: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mt. 22:20; Rev. 13:14; Gen. 1:27; 1 Cor. 11:7
- “image” — definition #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
Col. 1:19; 2:9; Phil. 2:6; Tit. 2:13; 2 Pet. 1:1; Heb. 1:3  
Jn. 14:9; 10:30-33

#### *2. Jesus: the firstborn of creation* (1:15b)

- “firstborn” — definition #1: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lk. 2:7
- “firstborn” — definition #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. 25:31-34; Heb. 12:16; 1 Chr. 5:1-2  
Ex. 4:22; Jer. 31:9; Ps. 89:27

+ parallel with “firstborn from the dead”  
Col. 1:18; Rev. 1:5

+ “head” and “creator” of all things  
Col. 2:10; 1:16

#### WRAP-UP

- “only-begotten”  
Jn. 1:14
- Jesus not one who created every “other” thing  
Col. 1:16
- the “beginning of the creation of God”  
Rev. 3:14; 22:13