

Colossians 1:15-29 **Supreme Preeminence of Christ**

Christ the image of the invisible God – Firstborn over all Creation

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

It Pleased the Father to reconcile all things to Himself by Christ through the blood of His Cross

19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled 22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight-- 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Paul rejoices in his suffering

24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church, 25 of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,

The Mystery of the Gospel hidden from the ages – Christ in you the hope of glory

26 the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. 27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Purpose of our ministry

28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. 29 To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Christ the image of the invisible God – Firstborn over all Creation [Colossians 1:15-18, John 1:1-2]

- ✚ Jesus Christ is the visible image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
- ✧ As the visible image of the invisible God, Jesus fully represents God the Father in every sense.
- ✧ As in the family, the firstborn has the position of Preeminence over all his brothers and sisters, so Jesus has the Preeminence over all creation.
- ✧ All things in Heaven and on Earth were created by and through Jesus Christ God the Word. [Colossians 1:15-18, John 1:1-2, Ephesians 3:9, Revelation 4:11, 10:6]
- ✧ All things were created for Jesus Christ God the Word.
- ✧ The things created by Jesus include everything visible and invisible, thrones, dominions, principalities, and Powers.
- ✧ Christ Jesus as God the Word existed before all things were created, and in Him all things consist (exist and continue).
- ✧ Jesus is the head of the body, the Church.

- ✧ Jesus is the beginning of all things. [[Colossians 1:17](#), [Revelation 1:8, 11, 17-18, 2:8, 4:11, 21:6, 22:13](#)]
- ✧ Jesus is the firstborn from the dead.
- ✧ Jesus is first in all things **that He may have the preeminence over all things.**

It Pleased the Father to reconcile all things to Himself by Christ through the blood of His Cross
 [[Colossians 1:19-23](#)]

- ✧ God the Father was pleased to make all the fullness of the Godhead to dwell in Christ Jesus.
 - ✧ God's plan was to reconcile all things in Heaven and on Earth to Himself by the blood of Christ shed on the cross.
 - ✧ This was the fulfillment of the concept of atonement by sacrificial blood. [[Leviticus 17:11](#), [Hebrews 9:22](#), [Romans 3:21-26, 5:6-11, 1 John 4:9-10](#)]
 - ✧ In so doing, Gentiles who were once considered alienated and enemies in their minds as evidenced by wicked works, God has reconciled to Himself through the death of Jesus, to present them as holy, blameless, and above reproach in His sight.
 - ✧ The reconciliation is conditioned on continued faith, grounded and steadfast to the end.
 - ✧ Believers must avoid being moved away from the hope of the Gospel they heard which was preached to every creature under heaven.
 - ✧ Paul became a minister of that Gospel of hope through faith.

Paul rejoices in his suffering [[Colossians 1:24-25](#)]

- ✧ I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church.
 - ✧ Paul became a minister according to the stewardship he received from God.
 - ✧ The stewardship was given to Paul for the Gentiles to fulfill the Word of God.

The Mystery of the Gospel hidden from the ages – Christ in you the hope of glory [[Colossians 1:26-27](#)]

- ✧ The Mystery of the Gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ by faith for the Gentiles as well as for the Jews has been hidden from ages and from generations. [[Colossians 1:26](#), [Romans 11:11-28, 16:25](#), [Ephesians 1:3-14, 3:1-11, 1 Timothy 3:16](#)]
 - ✧ But now has been revealed to His saints.
 - ✧ To the Saints God willed to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles.
 - ✧ That Mystery is: "Christ in you, the hope of Glory."

Purpose of our ministry [[Colossians 1:28-29](#)]

- ✧ We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom.
 - ✧ Our goal is that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.
 - ✧ To this end I also labor, striving according to the working of the Holy Spirit Who works in me mightily. [[Colossians 1:29](#), [Acts 1:8, 4:31, 9:17](#), [Romans 5:5, 1 Corinthians 2:13](#)]