

Who Jesus *REALLY* Is

The book of Colossians was written to Christians who were in danger of being deceived about their faith in Jesus Christ (Col. 2:4, 8). Paul wrote to remind them to, “Hold fast to the Head” (Col. 2:19) because some were evidently teaching that obedient faith in Jesus Christ was not enough to save. Colossians 1:13-20 lists an astounding array of facts about the identity of Jesus. In response to those who deny His sufficiency, every Christian needs to absorb and appreciate just who Jesus *REALLY* is.

The Son of God’s love (v.13) – Jesus enjoys God’s love and approval: “This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased” (Matt. 3:17).

The One in Whom we have redemption (v.14) – Only Jesus can redeem us, because only the blood of Jesus can forgive our sins (Rom. 3:25-26).

The image of the unseen God (v.15) – The word, “image” deals with the function of Jesus. His mission was to reveal God to us (John 1:18; Heb. 1:3).

The firstborn over all creation (v.15) – This expression echoes Psalm 89:27: “I will make him My firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.” “Firstborn” does not mean Jesus is created, but rather that He is supreme over all creation.

The Creator of all things (v.16) – Scripture states that Jesus created literally everything from angels to spirits to people to animals to inanimate objects.

The One who holds all things together (v.17) – It is the will of Jesus Himself that holds the universe and the atoms that comprise it together.

The head of the body, the church (v.18) – “Head of the body” stresses both the authority of Christ among His people as well as the connection of Christ to His people. A body detached from its head is useless and lifeless (cf. Col. 2:19).

The firstborn from the dead (v.18) – The resurrection of Jesus guarantees that all of us will one day be raised as well. He is the, “firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Cor. 15:20, 23).

Preeminent in all things (v.18) – There is no realm or sphere where Jesus *EVER* takes a back seat to another. He is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords (Rev. 19:16).

The One in whom the fullness of God dwells (v.19) – In His nature, Christ has always possessed the fullness of God (Col. 2:9). There was never a time where He was less than fully God.

The One God used to reconcile all things to Himself (v.20) – Only through Jesus could God deal with the problem of sin without becoming unjust. Through Christ, we have received reconciliation to Him (2 Cor. 5:18).

The One who died for us (v.20) – How humbling to remember that while we were rebellious, alienated and enemies of God, Jesus died for us (cf. Rom. 5:6-11).

May it be that more people come to see and appreciate the greatness of Jesus Christ.

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