

WORD

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. **COLOSSIANS 1:15**

When the Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the Colossians, there were many false teachings about the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul strived to correct this by explaining to the church who Christ is. In this passage, Paul clearly explains that Jesus is preeminent over all creation. He is supreme and He deserves all our worship and reverence. Sadly, false teachings about Christ are still evident in our culture. But we look to Scripture to tell us the truth about Him. In this lesson, we will look at who Jesus is: God, Creator, head of the church, and Savior.

1 Jesus is God.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.
COLOSSIANS 1:15

Jesus shows us who God is because He is God Himself. As the firstborn of all creation, He holds the rights and privileges of being the Son of God. He is the second person of the Trinity. What did Simon Peter say about who Jesus is? (Matthew 16:16)

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2 Jesus is our Creator.

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.*
COLOSSIANS 1:16,17

Jesus is supreme over our lives, in terms of precedence, priority, and power. Not only do all things come into being by him but He holds them together. He sets things together and He is what makes things stand together. He manages every atom of the universe, in such a way that He continues to keep it from chaos and confusion. The universe has order because Jesus Christ is managing it out of His limitless power. How does the truth in Colossians 1:17 assure you of God's power and grace in your life?

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3 Jesus is the head of the church.

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. **COLOSSIANS 1:18**

The church belongs to Christ. He directs, sustains, and leads it. His resurrection is the first of all of God's people. What is the relationship of the head to the body? How should the body function in deference to the head?

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4 Jesus is our Savior.

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.*
COLOSSIANS 1:19,20

Though Jesus is our God, Lord, and Creator, He chose to become our Savior. Jesus, being fully God, also became fully man to save us from our sin. He reconciled us to the Father through His death, burial, and resurrection. How did the cross change the course of history forever? How has understanding Christ's sacrifice changed you?

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