

COLOSSIANS

CHRIST IS ALL WE NEED

WEEK OF 09/07/25

JESUS IS SUPREME

COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

Silence (1-2 minutes)

Sit silently for a minute as a way to center your heart and invite the Holy Spirit to help you listen to and receive God's Word.

Opening Prayer (2-3 minutes)

Read: Colossians 1:15-20

Devotional (30- 45 minutes)

Paul wrote these words to the least significant city of all the cities where Paul wrote. Yet, the last shall be first! Colossae receives the richest, most succinct word about who Jesus is and what He's done. Notice how the word "all" is repeated eight times. Paul also uses the word "and" seven times as if to make sure that he does not omit anything about who Jesus is and what He's done. Given the lyrical flow and style of these verses, some scholars say that our passage make up an early Christian hymn. If so, the hymn would have undoubtedly been called "Jesus is Supreme."

1. Consider a few of your favorite worship songs. What are their titles and how do they remind you of who Jesus is and what He has done?

Colossians 1:15-17 – Jesus is Supreme over Creation | In these verses, Paul argues that since Jesus Christ has sufficient supremacy to powerfully create and sustain the universe, He has the sufficient supremacy, also, to sustain you and me. These verses are theologically rich. Paul's reference to the "image of the invisible God" has a twofold meaning. First, it's a commentary on the inability of humans to fully see God (see Exod. 33:20, 1 Tim. 6:16). Second, it's a description that Jesus is the exact display of God the Father (Heb. 1:3). Paul's argument moves towards the "bullseye" of the passage in verse 17. Jesus is before all things and in Him all things hold together. Simply stated, He is in control. The One who is supreme over creation can and will sustain you.

2. What are some concerns and fears that you have about the world for which it's hard to believe Christ is supreme?

3. Paul's argument is straightforward. Jesus holds all things together (v. 17). Think about a time when Jesus held you together when everything inside of you felt like it was about to unravel. How did Jesus show up?
4. The power Jesus used to create all things will sustain you. How does a Christian access the power of Christ? How do we grow in our trust?

Colossians 1:18-20 – Jesus is Supreme over New Creation | According to Paul, the New Creation has already begun. Every time we gather for worship and come together as Christ's church, we display the newness of the New Heavens and the New Earth in the here and now. This is, ultimately, because of the reconciling work of Christ. When the New Testament speaks of reconciliation, it is something God initiates (see Romans 5:8). Even more remarkable is that reconciliation is not by human restitutions. Humans don't reimburse God for sins' damages. Instead, His blood from the cross settles our sin-debts. Here we find our Big Idea. When we turn to Christ in faith... ***Christ's supremacy becomes our sufficiency!*** Things are going to end well, and we have nothing to fear!

5. What happens when churches no longer count Jesus as the "head of the body" (v. 18)? How can we as the body of Christ ensure this never happens?
6. The word "reconciliation" means to put someone into right relationship with God. When were you first reconciled to God?
7. Some note that when early Christians sang this hymn, they sang it not to Christ but about Christ to one another. Who is one person with whom you might share about Jesus this week? Who in your life needs to be reminded of who Jesus is and what He has done?

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for being the image of the invisible God. Thank you that you are before all things and that in you all things hold together. We confess that when hardships come our way, we easily lose sight of your supremacy. Help us to remember at all times who you are and what you have done. Thank you for reconciling us to yourself by the blood of Your Son. Your grace is perfectly sufficient. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Share Prayer Requests (10-15 minutes)