

# The Exalted Christ and You

Colossians 1:15-23

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
  - Image of God

# Colossians 1:15

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

# Hebrews 1:1-4

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. 3 And **He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature**, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
  - Image of God
  - Firstborn of all creation

# Jeremiah 31:9

“...I am a father to Israel, And Ephraim is My firstborn.”

## Psalms 89:20-27

20 "I have found David My servant; With My holy oil I have anointed him, ... 27 I also shall make him My firstborn, The highest of the kings of the earth.

# Hebrews 1:1-4

2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He **appointed heir of all things**, through whom also He made the world. 3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
  - Image of God
  - Firstborn of all creation
  - Created all things

# Colossians 1:16

**16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.**

# John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 **All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.** 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

# Colossians 1:16

16 For **by Him** all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created **through Him and for Him.**

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
  - Image of God
  - Firstborn of all creation
  - Created all things
  - They depend on Him

# Colossians 1:17

He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

# Hebrews 1:1-4

2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. 3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and **upholds all things by the word of His power.** When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
  - Image of God
  - Firstborn of all creation
  - Created all things
  - They depend on Him

## Matthew 6:31-33

"Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' 32 "For the Gentiles eagerly seek **all these things**; for your heavenly Father knows that you need **all these things**. 33 "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and **all these things** will be added to you.

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation
  - Head of the body

# Colossians 1:18

**He is also head of the body, the church;**  
and He is the beginning, the firstborn from  
the dead, so that He Himself will come to  
have first place in everything.

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation
  - Head of the body
  - The beginning

# Colossians 1:18

He is also head of the body, the church; and **He is the beginning**, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

## Hebrews 5:9

And having been made perfect, He became  
to all those who obey Him the source of  
eternal salvation,

## Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, ... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on **Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith**, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation
  - Head of the body
  - The beginning
  - Firstborn from the dead

# Colossians 1:18

He is also head of the body, the church; and  
He is the beginning, **the firstborn from  
the dead**, so that He Himself will come to  
have first place in everything.

# Romans 14:9

For to this end Christ died and lived again,  
that He might be Lord both of the dead  
and of the living.

## 2 Corinthians 5:15

and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

# Colossians 1:18

He is also head of the body, the church; and  
He is the beginning, the firstborn from the  
dead, so that He Himself will come to have  
**first place in everything.**

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation
  - Head of the body
  - The beginning
  - Firstborn from the dead
  - The fullness

# Colossians 1:19

For it was *the Father's* good pleasure for **all**  
**the fullness** to dwell in Him,

# Colossians 2:9

For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in  
bodily form,

## Ephesians 4:7-10

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN." 9 (... 10 He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that **He might fill all things.**)

## Ephesians 1:20-23

... He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, **the fullness of Him who fills all in all.**

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation
  - Head of the body
  - The beginning
  - Firstborn from the dead
  - The fullness
  - The reconciliation

# Colossians 1:20

and through Him to **reconcile all things to Himself**, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

## Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, ... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who **for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame**, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

# Colossians 1:20

and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having **made peace through the blood of His cross**; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

# Colossians 1:20

and through Him to reconcile **all things** to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, **whether things on earth or things in heaven.**

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation

# You and Me

- Then

- Alienated
- Hostile
- Doing evil

- Now

- Reconciled
- With a purpose
- Conditionally

# Colossians 1:21-23

And although you were formerly alienated  
and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds,

# You and Me

- Then

- Alienated
- Hostile
- Doing evil

- Now

- Reconciled
- With a purpose
- Conditionally

## Colossians 1:21-23

22 yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach-- 23 if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation

# The Exalted Christ

- First Place Over Creation
- First Place Over the New Creation
- **First Place In My Heart and Life?**