

Preeminence of Christ Colossians 1:15-19

I. He is Worthy of Preeminence - 1:15

1. He is the image of the invisible God
He is the visible manifestation of the invisible God
John 1:18; 14:7-9; John 10:30
Hebrews 1:3 describes Him as
“brightness of God’s glory”
“express image” “exact likeness” of God’s person
“He upholds all things by the word of His power”
2. He is the Principle Heir, holds position of Firstborn
He is in the position of honor, worthy of all glory
He is in the position of absolute supremacy

2. Father has chosen to reveal Himself fully in Him – 19
John 1:18
3. Being in step with God means Christ is preeminent
In the church (which is His body)
And in our individual John lives as believers

II. He is Preeminent in the Universe – 1:16-17

1. He is the Creator of everything in this universe - 16
He is the source of all life in heaven and on earth
Visible things that we can see in the natural world
Invisible things that we cannot see in the spiritual world
This includes the angels who serve God
And those who rebelled against God
They are all accountable to God
Job 1:6-12; 2:1-6
Everything was created by Him and for His glory
2. He is the Eternal One - before all things – 17
He is before in that He is eternal
But He is also “before” in that He is supreme
over all
3. He is the Sustainer of this universe - 17
All things in the universe are held together by His
power

III. Preeminent in the Church - 1:18

1. He is the Head of the Church - 18
It is His Church - Matt. 16:18
It is His Body - The Head rules over the body
Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:15-16
2. He is the Beginning & Life of the Church
He triumphed in resurrection and gives life to the Body
Resurrection proves debt of sin has been paid
Romans 4:23-25
Regeneration gives us new life spiritually
Galatians 2:20
Firstborn implies that others will follow in resurrection
1 Corinthians 15:20-24
His body is on the resurrection side of death
Ephesians 2:5-6

IV. Father Honors Him as Preeminent – 1:18-19

1. He is preeminent over all things - 18
The Father has exalted Him to position of Lordship
Philippians 2:9-11; Revelation 5:8-14