

Who Is This Man, Jesus?

Colossians 1:15-18

Intro:

- A. We know what the Father has done for us.
 - 1. Vs. 12-14
 - 2. There are five definite things.
- B. How and by whom has God the Father accomplished these things?
 - 1. We know that He Loves us.
 - 2. We know He has Power.
 - 3. How? Who?

I. Christ Is The Image Of God.

- A. Vs. 15a "Who is the image of the invisible God..."
 - 1. "Image" = εἰκὼν = "a pattern of likeness of the original, which sets forth that original in vivid fashion".
 - 2. "Invisible" = ἀορατός = "unseen" The unseen God as opposed to the idols which are seen.
- B. "...the firstborn of every creature."
 - 1. "Firstborn" = πρωτότοκος = "firstborn". He is the head of all creation. He was not God's first creation but the first in all things, all creation.
 - 2. "Creatures" = κτίσις = "Creation".

II. He Is The Creator of All Things.

- A. Vs. 16 "For by him were all things created..."
 - 1. "Created" = ἐκτίσθη = "to create".
 - 2. "For in Him was created the universe" - Wey
 - 3. John 1:1-5
- B. "that are in heaven, and that are in earth,"
 - 1. "Heaven" = οὐρανός = "the over-arching".
 - 2. "Earth" = γῆ = "the earth", "land", "ground".
- C. "Visible and invisible,"
 - 1. "Visible" = ορατός = "seen", "what one can see".
 - 2. "all things, seen or unseen".
- D. "Whether they be thrones, or dominions..."

1. "Thrones" = θρονος = "a high seat with a footstool".
 2. "Dominions" = κυριστης = "lordship".
 3. "its rulers and authorities..."
- F. "...all things were created by him, and for him:"
1. "the whole universe has been created through and for Him..." - NEB
 2. "all were made by Christ for His own use and glory". - Tay

III. Christ Is Before All Things.

- A. Vs. 17 "And he is before all things..."
1. "So he existed before all things..." - Wms
 2. "He was before all else began" - Tay
- B. Vs. 17b "...and by him all things consist."
1. "Consist" = συνιστημι = "to place together", "to hold together", "to cohere".
 2. "and they all in Him hold together." - Rhm
 3. He can let it loose whenever He so chooses!
 4. II Peter 3:10-11 - "Dissolved" = λυω = "to loosen what is fast".

IV. Christ Is The Head Of The Church.

- A. Vs. 18 "And he is the head of the body, the church:"
1. "Head" = κεφαλη = "the head", "the chief part".
 2. "Body" = σωμα = "the body as a whole".
 3. "Church" = εκκλησια = "the called out ones".
 4. He is the head of every scriptural church. There is no universal church, only local!
- B. "Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead..."
1. "Beginning" = αρχη = "origin".
 2. "Firstborn" = πρωτοτοκος = "first-born"
 3. "Dead" = νεκρος = "the dead ones".
 4. "He is its origin (the church) the first to return from the dead."
- C. "...that in all things he might have the preeminence."
1. "That in all", not things.
 2. "Preeminence" = πρωτευω = "to be first", "to have first place".
 3. "so that he is first in everything".
 4. Remember the first commandment.