

Series: Greater Than  
Passage: Colossians: 1:15-23  
Sunday: April 23, 2023

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**Colossians 1:15-23 (ESV)**

**The Preeminence of Christ**

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, <sup>23</sup> if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

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1. What does it mean to be the *head* of something? What do you expect from someone who is designated as the *head*?
2. Verses 15-20 are one of the earliest Christian poems on record. This poem shows that Jesus is at the center of Christianity. How would you sum up what the poem reveals about Jesus?
3. How was (and is) Jesus supreme in creation (verses 15-17)? How was (and is) Jesus supreme in redemption (verses 18-20)?

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4. How has the centrality and supremacy of Christ changed your home and family life? Your work life? Your church life?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How do you respond to the idea that you are in God's presence "holy, blameless and above reproach" (verse 22)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What are one or two ways in which your life is different since you were changed from being alienated from God to being reconciled through Christ's death (verses 21-22)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Where in this passage do you see that the work of Jesus is GREATER THAN all else?