

Preeminent One

(Col 1:15-20) ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. ¹⁹For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, ²⁰and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

He is the exact image of God.

He is the heir of all creation.

All things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, were made by Him and for Him.

He precedes all creation, and holds it together.

(Heb 1:2-3) ²has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

He is the head of the church, the beginning of a new creation. (2 Cor 5:17)

He is preeminent in all things. (even worship)

Fullness dwells in Him.

He will gather everything into Himself.

(Eph 1:9-10) ⁹having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

(Col 2:9-10) ⁹For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Completion is found only in Him.

We need to meditate on these 9 huge universal truths...

(1Jn 3:2-3) ²Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. (holy)

because it changes how we live now.

(Ro 8:16-19) ¹⁶The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. ¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. (Eternal Perspective)

Spiritual Poverty: Short View vs Long View

victim vs complete (justice)

prayer/worship: need vs relationship (counseling 19 yr old young man)

- compare to marriage

Paradox: abundant life (Jn 10:10) vs die to self (Mt 16:24)

The Family Preferential Honor Plan

Jesus only does what the Father does (Jn 5:19)

Father says "listen to Son" (Mt 17:5)

Jesus says its better to have Holy Spirit (Jn 16:7)

Holy Spirit talks about Jesus (Jn 15:26)

We are adopted into this family

solution to paradox: Mt 16:25 ~ not just death, abundant life (Mt 6:33)

We die to ourselves by focusing on the Preeminent One, Who focuses back on us
to give us fullness, completion, and abundant life.