

Colossians

September 14, 2025 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Text: Colossians 1:15-23

Topics: Supremacy of Christ, Believers, Church, Creation, Death, Doctrine, Enemies, Image, Reconciliation

Core Values: Because God's fullness dwells in Christ (v19), He is all that believers need. Jesus Christ makes the Father and the Spirit visible to people. There is nothing outside the scope of Christ's sovereignty. The purpose of Christ's death on the cross was to bring all things created by Christ and for Christ (Col 1:16) into harmonious relationship.¹

Main Idea: Paul proclaims the supremacy and sovereignty of Christ, who was present and active in the creation of the universe and who remains active in sustaining and reconciling all things. All of life and existence is about Jesus Christ.

Application/Beginning thought...Take time this week to meditate on the powerful, compelling description of Christ in this week's scripture. Focus on how you can strengthen your faith in Christ. What truths about Christ do you want to remember when you present the gospel to unbelieving friends?

Bible Study Questions:

1. What is Christ's relationship to God? (1:15)
2. What is Christ's relationship to Creation? (1:15-17)
3. How do "all things...hold together" under Christ? (1:16-17)
4. What is Christ's relationship to the church? (1:18)
5. Why was the resurrection of Jesus significant? (1:18)
6. How did Paul explain the deity of Christ? (1:19)
7. What did God achieve through the work of His Son? (1:20)
8. How did Christ bring us to God? (1:21-22)
9. Why was reconciliation necessary? (1:21-22)
10. What is a Christian's position before God? (1:22)
11. What is the role of faith in reconciliation with God? (1:23)
12. What kind of faith did the Colossians have? What was Paul's confident expectation? (1:23)

Group Discussion Questions:

1. What person comes to mind when you think of greatness? What qualities stand out in a person you admire? Whom do you look up to? Why?
2. Why did Paul take the time to describe the qualities of Christ? In what ways does this passage clarify the relationship between Christ and God the Father? What difference does our understanding about Christ make?
3. What does it mean to be reconciled through Christ, and why is this important for our understanding of salvation? How would you explain reconciliation (with God) to a non-Christian friend?
4. What does the work of Christ on your behalf mean to you?
5. In what way are we all under Christ's authority? In what way are you under Christ's authority?
6. Have you ever been tempted to solve your problems apart from Christ? If so, what did that look like? In what ways does Paul's argument about the role of Jesus as Savior speak to those areas of your life you're tempted to solve through other methods?²
7. How firm is your faith?
8. What can a person do if his or her faith is weak? What practical changes might you consider implementing to better reflect Christ in your daily interactions and decisions?

*Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus, **Everything** we need to know about God is revealed in and through you. With the Father and Spirit, you have **always** existed in perfect relationship and unimaginable wonder. Everything that exists has been created **by** you and **for** you—and though things often seem random, out-of-control; You—quite literally, have the whole world in your hands—sustaining and orchestrating, planning and effecting. You love your church more than we can imagine. Capture our hearts dear Lord through your Holy Spirit; help us to uphold Christ's supremacy with our words and attitudes. Help us to take hold of the fact that everything in heaven and on earth is related to Christ and can only be understood through Him. Make it so dear Lord. AMEN*

¹ John D. Barry et al., [Faithlife Study Bible](#) (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016), Col 1:20.

² Warren W. Wiersbe, [Colossians: Become the Whole Person God Intends You to Be](#), The Wiersbe Bible Study Series (Colorado Springs, CO: David C Cook, 2009), 38.