Notes First Place

COLOSSIANS 1:13-20

¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Supremacy of the Son of God

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

POINT 1 — JESUS DESERVES FIRST PLACE BECAUSE HE RESCUED US

"For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves." — Col. 1:13

Paul starts with identity. Before he talks about supremacy he talks about salvation. Jesus didn't upgrade you.

He **rescued** you.

He didn't improve your life.

He **transferred** your life.

From darkness to light.

From domination to freedom.

From guilt to grace.

From lost to found.

You cannot give Jesus second place when He gave His life to give you a new place.

"If Jesus saved you completely, He deserves you fully."

POINT 2 — JESUS DESERVES FIRST PLACE BECAUSE HE REVEALS GOD PERFECTLY

"He is the image of the invisible God..." — Col. 1:15

Jesus isn't a reflection of God.

He is the **revelation** of God.

He doesn't just point to God. He is God.

"He is the image of the invisible God..." — Colossians 1:15

What does that actually mean?

When Paul says Jesus is "the image of the invisible God," he is making one of the strongest theological statements in the entire New Testament.

In simple terms:

Jesus is God made visible, audible, touchable, knowable, and relational.

He is the exact image of the invisible God...so when you look at Jesus, you are seeing **God** as **He truly is**.

POINT 3 — JESUS DESERVES FIRST PLACE BECAUSE HE RULES OVER EVERYTHING

"All things were created through Him and for Him... in Him all things hold together." — Col. 1:16–17

Paul lifts Jesus so high that nothing else can rival Him.

He is the Creator. He is the Sustainer. He is the glue of the universe. He is the center of existence.

You weren't made for success.

You weren't made for relationships.

You weren't made for money.

You weren't even made for ministry.

You were made for Him.

POINT 4 — JESUS DESERVES FIRST PLACE BECAUSE HE REDEEMED US COMPLETELY

"...through Him to reconcile all things to Himself... making peace through His blood." — Col. 1:20

Jesus didn't negotiate your peace. He **bought** it with His blood.

He didn't manage your sin. He erased it with His sacrifice.

APPLICATION — HOW TO GIVE JESUS FIRST PLACE TODAY

1. First in your schedule

Your calendar reveals your Lord.

2. First in your decisions

Stop praying for God to bless decisions you made without Him.

3. First in your relationships

If Jesus isn't first there—it will never flourish.

4. First in your identity

Stop letting culture tell you who you are.

5. First in your finances

Giving isn't about money. It's about **placement**."What place does Jesus have in your trust?"