

Christ is Preeminent

Colossians 1:15-18

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. **16** 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. **17** And 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, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

When we think back on the events of the past few months in our country such as the election or the confirmation of Neil Gorsuch, we realize that we believe we NEED a certain candidate or a certain judge in order to ensure that our liberties will be protected or correct judgments will be made. Although we might say that Christ is enough, in practicality we behave as though we need Christ *plus* something else. Colossians 1 teaches us that Christ is enough. Christ is preeminent. Christ is all sufficient.

- I. The first thing we read is that Christ is the SOURCE of all things. Christ is the source of all creation and He is the source of the new creation, His Church. Christ is the creator of all things and the sustainer of all things.
- II. The second things we note is that Christ is the PURPOSE of all things. All things are created through Him and FOR Him. He is the head. Creation was for His glory. The church exists for HIS purposes. The purpose of the church, both universal, and here at Second Presbyterian Church, is Jesus. It is not about us. Jesus is the purpose for our existence and the purpose of our church's existence.
- III. The last thing we see in this portion of scripture is that Christ is the AUTHORITY in all things. He is the "firstborn" in all creation. He is not called the firstborn because he was BORN first, but rather because He IS first. He is the absolute ruler of creation and of the Church.

Jesus is preeminent in all things. All things exist for Him and by Him and for His glory.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean when the scripture says that He is the "firstborn" of all creation?
2. What is the implication of knowing that ALL things were created by Him and for Him – thrones, dominions, rulers, and authorities?
3. What does it mean when we say that Christ is the PURPOSE of all things?
4. What is the primary question that should be asked about Second Presbyterian Church?

5. What does it mean when the scriptures says that Christ is preeminent?

Going Deeper

1. In what areas of your life are you sometimes tempted to feel that Christ is not enough?
2. In what areas of your life do you sometimes fail to acknowledge the supremacy of Christ?
3. What changes do you need to make this week in order to display the preeminence of Christ in your home, work, and church?