



Week of January 21, 2019: Colossians 1:15-23

Discussion Questions Set #1

“God exalted [Jesus] to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:9)

In sermon, we discussed Paul’s use of the words “all”, “every” and “first” in our passage from Colossians. Our conclusion was that the words “every” and “all” help us to understand the scope or the completeness of who Jesus is and what He has done, while the word “first” establishes His position or primacy. In the simplest of summaries, this passage presents to us the idea that Jesus is supreme in absolutely everything.

1. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is supreme in everything?
2. Why is it important to acknowledge that Jesus is supreme in everything, that there are no dark corners of creation over which Christ is not supreme?
3. Let’s talk about experience for a moment. In your experience, does it “feel” like Jesus is supreme or sovereign in everything? Why or why not?
4. If Jesus is supreme in everything, it also means supremacy in our lives. Discuss the idea of Jesus’ supremacy in your life. Would you describe this as an easy thing? What barriers exist to Jesus’ supremacy in your life?

Discussion Questions Set #2

In service, we found that Paul uses the next portion of this passage to present the idea of Christ’s supremacy in three “realms” – He is supreme in creation, in new-creation, and in reconciliation.

1. Why is Jesus’ supremacy in creation important to note? What difference does it make that Jesus is called “**firstborn over all creation**” in Colossians 1:15?
2. Why is Jesus’ supremacy in new-creation important to note?
3. Paul informs us that Jesus is the “**firstborn among the dead**” helping us to understand the intimacy of Jesus’ interaction in our salvation. Whereas Jesus was separate from and beyond that first creation, He was far more intimately involved in the re-creation. How does knowing that Jesus chose a far more intimate interaction with new-creation make you feel? What difference does this reality make?
4. Why is Jesus’ supremacy in reconciliation important to note? Why is it important to know that “all” is reconciled Christ?

Discussion Questions Set #3

“... at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth”. (Philippians 2:10)

“... to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven”. (Colossians 1:20)
“God ...reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us”. (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

In service, we noted the shift in Paul’s language regarding those who will “acknowledge” Christ’s sovereignty (Philippians 2:10) and those who will “be reconciled” (Colossians 1:20). In essence, there is a reality excluded from the new creation; there is an outer darkness, an away-ness, an other that exists outside of the “all” that is reconciled in Christ.

1. How does it make you feel to know that there does exist an other that lies outside of the “all” that Christ has reconciled?
2. Why is it important for us to know that this reality exists and what should it motivate us to do as followers of Jesus?
3. How can we make this a key part of how our H2H groups function?