

The Preeminence of Christ

Col. 1:15-18

Introduction:

- A. The preeminence (first place) of Christ, the theme of Colossians.
 - 1. The firstborn over all creation. (vv. 15-17)
 - 2. The firstborn from the dead. (v. 18).
- B. The preeminence of Christ in several areas is discussed in Colossians:

Discussion:

I. Jesus Christ Is Number One In Our Salvation. (cf. Acts 4:12).

- A. Only in Christ is salvation available
- B. Only in Him we can be:
 - 1. Partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light. (v. 13)
 - 2. Delivered from the power of darkness. (v. 13)
 - 3. Conveyed (translated) in the kingdom. (v. 13)
 - 4. Redeemed through His blood. (v. 14).
 - 5. Forgiven of sins. (v. 14).
 - 6. Reconciled to God. (vv. 19-23).
- C. Only in Christ we have hope of heaven. (1:3-5).
- D. Our salvation and hope in Him are conditional. (1:23; 2:11-13; cf. Acts 2:38)

II. Jesus Christ Is Number One In The Church

- A. He is the head of it. (1:18; 2:19).
- B. He purchased it. (Acts 20:28).
- C. He is to be glorified in it. (cf. Eph. 3:14-21) rather than man. (cf. 1 Cor. 1:10-13).

III. Jesus Christ Is To Be Number One In Our Preaching and Practice

- A. Rather human philosophy. (2:1-10).
- B. Rather than O.T. law. (2:14-14).
- C. Rather than human tradition and regulations. (2:18-23).

IV. Jesus Christ Is To Be Number One In Our Minds And Hearts. (3:1-2)

- A. The results of an earth-centered mind. (3:5-9).
- B. The results of a Christ-centered mind. (3:12-17).

V. Jesus Christ Is To Be Number One In Our Homes

- A. As Husbands and wives as is fitting in the Lord. (3:18-19; cf. Eph. 5:22-29; 1 Pet. 3:1-7).
 - 1. Husband is highest authority under Christ in home.
 - 2. Wife also a guide, manager, ruler of house -- second in command. (cf. 1 Tim. 5:14).
- B. As Parents and children well pleasing to the Lord. (3:20-21).

Conclusion:

- A. Are you ready to make Christ number one in your life?
- B. Believe in Him. (John 8:24). Confess His name.
- C. Repent and Be Baptized in His name. (Acts 2:38).
- D. Do all in his name. (Col. 3:17)