

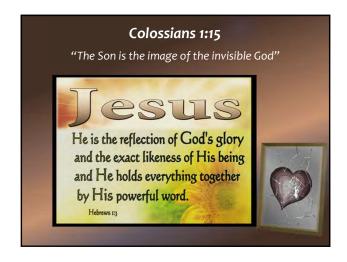


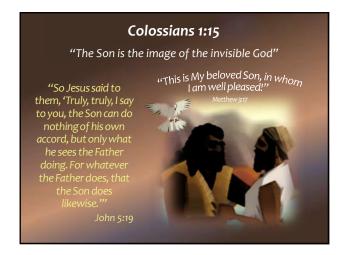
# Letter to the church at Colossae Paul addresses a group of believers he has not visited but has been told about. The message of Christ was carried there by Epaphras. Paul affirms his call as an apostle. He writes this "circuit letter" from prison (Rome) to encourage and correct. Pagan philosophies and false teachers were teaching that Jesus was merely a created, angelic being. To combat these heresies, Paul emphasizes the deity of Christ and His preeminence over all!

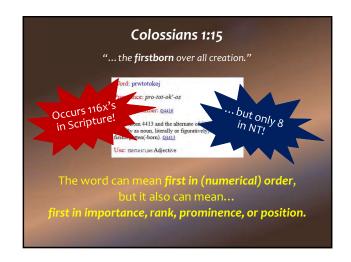












# Colossians 1:15

"... the **firstborn** over all creation."

# Psalm 89:27 -

"And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth."

David is described as the "firstborn," even though he was the youngest of eight sons!

# Colossians 1:15

"... the firstborn **over all** creation.

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. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Jesus is the source & creator of ALL creation.

Thus, He Himself is separate from and is not Himself a creature!

He sustains all creation and thus has prominence over it all!

All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

John 1:6

# Colossians 1:18

"And he is the **head** of the body, the church..."

Word: kefalls

Pronounce: kef-al-ap/

Strongs Number: 02728

Orig: from the primary kapto (in the sense of seizing); the head (as the part most readily taken hold of), Inerally or figuratively—head.

Use: tree-bar.os Noon Feminine

Heb Strong: H1281 H1281 H1281 H2181 H2181 H2181

1) the head, both of men and often of animals. Since the loss of the head destroys life, this word is used in the phrases relating to captal and extreme pumbanical.

2) metaph anything supreme, clinic, prominent
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## Colossians 1:18

"And he is the head of the body, the church..."

Jesus is exalted as "head"... the ultimate authority of His church...

It is His will that imparts life to and directs all aspects of the church.

## Colossians 1:18

"... the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead..."

There are accounts in Scripture (both OT & NT) about God raising people from the dead but they all happened prior to Jesus' resurrection...

... and they were all temporary, followed again by another natural death.

# Colossians 1:18

"... the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead...

Jesus was the first to rise from the dead, no more to die! ... the first to rise immortal and incorruptible!

"I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

Revelation 1:18

## Colossians 1:18-20

"... the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 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.

Jesus not only bears God's glory, but all that God is also dwells in him. He possesses the wisdom, power, Spirit, and glory of God. To say that all this divine fullness dwells in Jesus is to say that he is fully God.

The ESV Study Bible - Crossway Bibles. (2008).

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Acts 4:12 – "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

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It was the Father's good pleasure that Jesus should be the supreme agent of creation and redemption and...

Salvation is not about us; it is about Christ: "For" him, "through" him, and "to" him!

(v19-20)

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