

Colossians Chap 1v 13-20

The Pre-Eminence of Christ.

Today the name of Jesus is used as a swear word Satan has done a good Job in blinding people to the truth of such a majestic name as Jesus is. My wish is that when you hit your thumb or finger with a hammer instead of using the Lord's name in Vein you might say Allah or Buddha.

People do not realize that Jesus is God and for a Christian your foundation must and I stress must be set to this Fact. Tonight we will be exploring the word of God and you will be able to see clearly that Jesus Christ is God.

In the book of Acts Chap 9v, 3-5 we find that Paul has had an experience On the road to Damascus. He asks the question Who are you Lord ?.

and by the time he has written the book of Colossians he has a great understanding of who Jesus is. This is vital for all Christians to grasp. We have heard it all but when an unsaved person tests it could we possibly explain to them who Jesus is.

Tonight's text is from

Colossians Chapter 1 v13-20.

From these verses, we will be able to see fully that Jesus is certainly our All Sufficient and Pre Eminent Savior. Who is worthy of all praise and Glory.

Col 1 v13-20 is in essence a summary of the Gospel. It is perhaps the greatest defense of the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Paul wrote this Gospel to counteract Gnosticism that was creeping into the Church. Well nothing has changed we still have it. E.g. Christadelphians. Paul does not refute them point by point but what he does he shows that God's truth is superior and is available to all who sincerely seek it.

So who is Jesus? Lets start at Verse 13.
We find in this verse that he is the
“ the King over his Kingdom”

JESUS himself proclaimed to be a King
He claimed to have a kingdom, and even came into this world to proclaim
the truth that he is a King John 18: 36-37.

After his resurrection, he claimed the extent of His rule: His authority over
all Heaven and Earth. Matt 28:18 Eph 1:20-23.

The book of Revelation tells us of his Kingship and Kingdom .

1 He is ruler over the Kings of the earth Rev 1:5

2: He has made his disciples Kings and priests to his God and father Rev 1v6

3:Those in Christ Jesus are in his Kingdom Rev 1:9

4 Those who persevere to the end will rule with him even as he now reigns!
Rev 2:26-27 Rev 3v21

5: He is truly “ Lord of Lords and King of Kings”!! Rev 17:14 and Rev
19:16

Verse 14:

He is the Savior from our Sins.

By Virtue of his Blood we Have Redemption

Gk word for Redemption (apolutrosis) means “ a releasing effected by
payment of a Ransom”

we have been released from the bondage of sin through the payment of Jesus
Blood shed on the cross at Calvary Matt 20:28.

By Virtue of his Blood we have “ Forgiveness”

Forgiveness (Greek : Aphesis) means release from bondage or
imprisonment”

In Christ we have forgiveness or pardon of sins - Remission of the Penalty.

As pronounced by the angel to Joseph

You shall call his name Jesus ,for he will save his people from their sins .

Matt 1v 21

A king that is capable of providing 'redemption' and forgiveness from sins is truly and indication of pre-eminence. But wait there is more for he is also

There are Four Great Christology Passages in the NT
THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD. Verse 15.

1. **The Word "Image"** comes from the Greek word Eikon (I-kone)
2. **meaning an image, figure, likeness an exact representation**

Jesus is the image of the God who is invisible

No man has ever seen God ,but Jesus has declared (made manifest) him
John 1v18

As Jesus himself said " he who has seen Me has seen the Father
John 14:7-9.

The writer of Hebrews said Jesus is

(a) the brightness of God's Glory

(b) the expressed image of his person Heb 1:3

As Paul wrote to the Corinthians ...

Jesus is the image of God

2 Cor 4:4 and

in 2 Cor 4 :6 in the face of Jesus Christ is "the knowledge of the Glory of God"
2 Cor 4: 6

From these passages we can see that Jesus accurately and fully expresses the being and perfection of God.! ie by looking at Jesus (as he is revealed in the Word of God .) We can know the Father who is invisible!!!!

Verse 15

He is the firstborn over all creation.

Greek Word (Prototokos)

Concerning the term "Firstborn" it can mean firstborn in the sense of being the first born .

Jw's erroneously make this mistake.

However in scripture it is used as a Metaphor to describe one who occupies the rank and position and privilege of first born (without being firstborn).

He has all the privileges of one who was first born

This metaphor was used by God