

Sunday, January 29, 2023

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: Give Jesus the Preeminence

Series: Growing in Our Walk, a Journey Through

Colossians ... 2

Text: Colossians 1:15 - 29

Purpose: I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to seek to give the Lord Jesus Christ the preeminence in their thoughts and actions.

Introduction:

~ Review of Colossians 1:1 – 14, What is My Faith, Hope and Love:

~ Thanks for Their Faith, vs. 4; ~ Thanks for Their Hope, vs. 5

~ Thanks for Their Love, vs. 4; ~ the Holy Spirit's Desire, vs. 9 - 14

~ 2 Peter 3:11 – 13, "*Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, (12) waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolve, and the heavenly bodies will melt as the burn! (13) But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.*"

~ Review of Colossians 1:1 – 14

~ Reading of Colossians 1:15 – 29

~ This devotional is intended to be an appetizer for you to self- explore this portion of God's Word to enjoy the whole meal!

1. Reasons I Should Give Christ Jesus the Preeminence:

~ vs. 15 & 16, "*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.*"

~ Compare Genesis 1:25 – 26, Genesis 2:15 – 27, Hebrews 1:3

~ "firstborn:" Exodus 4:22, "*Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son,'"*

Firstborn has divinely appointed rights that are by decree of the Almighty.

~ vs. 17, "*And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*"

This is why every knee will bow to the King of Kings!

~ vs. 18, "*And he is the head of the body, the church.*"

~ Compare with Ephesians 1:20 – 23

He is the Head of the Church!

~ vs. 18, "*He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*"

~ the word "might" does not mean maybe, it means enabled to be!

He was not resuscitated he was RESURRECTED!

~ vs. 19, "*For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,*"

All that God is He is in our Lord Jesus Christ!

~ vs. 20, "*and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*"

~ Compare with Romans 5:1 & 2 and Hebrews 9:22 - 28

He is the believer's LAMB, PRIEST and soon coming KING!

~ vs. 21 – 22, "*And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, (22) he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,*"

Jesus Christ redeems, reconciles, sanctifies, and presents us to the Father!

2. Reason I Should Give Preeminence to Christ Beyond All Our Comprehension:

~ vs. 25, "*of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,*"

According to Ephesians 2:10 we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works!

~ vs. 27, "*To them God chose to make know how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*"

Do I need any other reason to give Jesus Christ the preeminence?

Conclusion:

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all!

O seed of Israel's chosen race now ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!