

THE PRE-EMINENT CHRIST: GOD'S DEAR SON

Colossians 01:12–23

A. God and Man: What God Has Done for Man

Colossians 01:12–14

1 *God has given us an inheritance*

12 Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

2 *God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness*

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

3 *God has redeemed us, even forgiven our sins*

14 In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

God and Christ (Part 1): The Person of Christ

Colossians 01:15

1 *Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God*

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

2 *He is above all things*

God and Christ (Part II): Christ the Creator

Colossians 01:16–17

1 *Christ created all things*

- a. In heaven and on earth
- b. Visible and invisible

2 *Christ created all things for Himself*

16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

3 *Christ is before all*

4 *Christ holds all things together*

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

God and Christ (Part III): Christ Is the Head of the Church
Colossians 01:18–19

1 *He is the head of the church*

2 *He is the beginning
of the church*

3 *He was the first from the dead*

4 *He is supreme in all things*

5 *He is filled with all the fullness
of God Himself*

18 And he is the head of the body,
the church:
he is the beginning
and the firstborn from among the dead,
so that in everything
he might have the supremacy.

19 For God was pleased
to have all his fullness dwell in him.

God and Christ (Part IV): Christ the Reconciler of All Things

Colossians 01:20–23

1 *God has reconciled all things to Himself – through Christ*

- a. The need: To make peace
- b. The means: The cross
- c. The result:
All things in heaven
and earth reconciled

2 *God has reconciled those who were alienated and enemies of God – through Christ*

**3 *God had one great purpose in reconciliation:
To present the believer perfect***

4 *God has made reconciliation conditional*

- a. Must continue in the faith
- b. Must not be moved away from the gospel

20 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.

21 Once you were alienated from God
and were enemies in your minds
because of your evil behaviour.

22 But now he has reconciled you
by Christ's physical body through death
to present you holy in his sight,
without blemish
and free from accusation –

23 If you continue in your faith,
established and firm,
not moved from the hope
held out in the gospel.
This is the gospel that you heard
and that has been proclaimed
to every creature under heaven,
and of which I, Paul,
have become a servant.