

# Rooted in Christ – A Study of Colossians Lesson 5

Women of Grace | GraceLife Church

*Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, And in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church; Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, --Colossians 1:15-19*

## Day 1 – Verse 15

*Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. --Colossians 1:15*

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1. Who is the image of God?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How can something invisible have an image?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Since we are also made in the image of God, how does Christ being the image of God differ from us?

4. The word firstborn (prōtotokos) can have two meanings. What are they? Which one do you think Paul means?

5. Is Jesus a created being?

6. What does it mean that Jesus is “the firstborn of all creation”?

7. What happens when we get the doctrine of who Jesus is wrong?

## Day 2 – Verse 16

*For in Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. --Colossians 1:16*

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1. Who created the heavens and the earth?
2. What does the created order tell us about God?
3. What are the invisible things that were created?
4. What are the thrones, dominions, rulers and authorities?
5. Is there anything in all creation that was not created by God the Son?

6. What does it mean that everything was created not only through Him, but also for Him?

### **Day 3 – Verse 16**

*For in Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. --Colossians 1:16*

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1. How does John 1:3 help us to better understand this verse?
2. How does this verse exalt Christ as King?
3. In Colossae, angel and spirit worship would have been alive and well with the Gnostics. How does Paul deal with the illogical nature of worshipping creation?

4. Romans 1:23 tells us that those who deny God are people who exchange the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. How does this verse help us in evangelism when dealing with those who worship creation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How does everything being “created through Him and for Him” combat the me-centered mentality we see in the professing church today?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Read Romans 8:37-39. How does this passage add to your understanding of this verse?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Why is it so important to understand the deity of Christ?

## Day 4 – Verse 17

*And He is before all things, And in Him all things hold together. -- Colossians 1:17*

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1. What does it mean that He is before all things?
2. How does John 8:58 and Revelation 22:13 help bring greater fullness to this verse?
3. How does He hold all things together?
4. In an article written by Life Science on January 2, 2020, it noted that, “no one really knows what happens inside an atom” and that protons and neutrons (together known as nucleons) are “restrained by a strong force”. How could this verse help our understanding of what force holds atoms together? How does this verse answer the question of who holds the unknown and known things together?

- a. What is the danger of attempting to answer scientific questions while denying the One who created Science?
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5. How does Christ being before all things cause greater worship?
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6. How does Christ holding all things together bring comfort to your life? Especially in this dark world we live in?

## **Day 5 – Verse 18-19**

*And He is the head of the body, the church; Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell –Colossians 1:18-19*

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1. What are the practical implications of Christ being the head of the church?

2. Can you love Christ, but not the body? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What does it mean that Christ is the firstborn of the dead?
  - a. How does this passage confront the Gnostic teaching that spirit is good, but matter (physical) is evil?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Read Phil. 2:8-11. How does it add to your understanding of this verse?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Do we need anything or anyone other than Christ to save us? To intercede for us? To bring us into glory one day?



6. All the fullness of what dwells in Christ?

7. The Gnostics believed that the fullness of deity dwelt in the totality of lesser gods. How does this verse correct them?

**Heart Check:**

- How does God having first place change the way you live?
- Does He have first place in your relationships, work, schooling, conversation, thoughts, leisure, entertainment, money, etc.?
- Are there any areas of your life that you need to submit to Christ? Be specific and put a plan in place to make it happen.

**Dig Deeper:**

Listen to Pastor James' two-part sermons "Who is Jesus" from Colossians 1:15-20.

<https://gracelife.ca/sermons/who-is-jesus-part-1/>

<https://gracelife.ca/sermons/who-is-jesus-part-2/>