



JESUS FIRST IN ALL THINGS.

Colossians 1:15-20

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. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

“There is nothing that Satan so much endeavors to accomplish as to bring on mists with the view of obscuring Christ, because he knows, that by this means the way is opened up for every kind of falsehood.” - John Calvin¹

“It is funny how mortals always picture us as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out...the simplest is to turn their gaze away from Him and towards themselves.” – Screwtape²

Truths

- ▶ Jesus **reflects** the Father – 1:15 *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.*
 - a. Resurrection = supernatural reality = Yes, there is a God.
 - b. Resurrection = Who is it? = Jesus Christ.
 - c. Life & teachings of Christ: What is God like?

▶ Jesus is the **centerpiece** – 1:16-17 *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.*¹⁷ *And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

- a. All things were created through Him.
- b. All things were created for Him.
- c. All things are held together by Him.

Q: Who/what is at the center of my universe?

Q: How does my life point to Jesus?

▶ Jesus is **indispensable** to life, relationships, and eternity – 1:18-20 *And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*¹⁹ *For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,*²⁰ *and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*

- a. Jesus is the head of the church.
- b. Jesus is the Reconciler.

¹ John Calvin, *Commentaries on the Epistles of Paul the Apostle to the Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians*, trans. John Pringle (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2010), 145-146.

² C. S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters: Annotated Edition* (New York: Harper Collins, 2013), 22-23.