



# The Supreme Question of Life

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

February 2, 2020

*Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 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. – Col. 1:21-22*

The church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is much like the recipients of the letter to Colossae. Instead of calling people to faith, repentance and submission to the supremacy of Christ, the emphasis seems to be upon the benefits that Jesus can bring them ... a happy marriage, a stress-free life, etc. While Jesus will certainly change our lives, our marriages, and our stress levels when we bow before His preeminence, we must move away from "What Jesus can do for me" to "Am I living in light of His Lordship?" We don't simply "add" Jesus to our lives; we adore Him with our lives through our obedience.

## His Supremacy ... Colossians 1:15-23

- I. Over \_\_\_\_\_ – vs. 15-17
  - a. He is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. He is the \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. He is the \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. He holds \_\_\_\_\_
  
- II. Over His \_\_\_\_\_ ... – vs. 18-23
  - a. He is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Body, the Church
  - b. He is the \_\_\_\_\_, the firstborn from the dead
  - c. He has the \_\_\_\_\_ of God dwelling in Him
  - d. He is \_\_\_\_\_ All Things to Himself

## Let's Consider ... vs. 23

- I. Our \_\_\_\_\_ as it relates to faith matters; continue in it ... The \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Do not \_\_\_\_\_; Do not move away from the Hope that comes from the Gospel ... The \_\_\_\_\_
- III. Where Christ is Lord of your life and Where He is Not; \_\_\_\_\_ in those areas where He is Not. ... The \_\_\_\_\_

# Truth for Life

For the week of February 2, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Think back to what drew you to Christ or what is drawing you to follow Christ now. What drew you to Him? Using the list below or your own words, describe that experience.

His love for me	Friend's example of God's love	Conviction of sin
Purpose in life	God's grace	Fear of death
Need for forgiveness	Personal Guilt	Other

2. What are the practical outworkings of Christ having the "first place" in our life in the following areas? Take time to work through each area.
  - a. Our affections?
  - b. Our time?
  - c. Our resources?
  - d. Our plans?

What things tend to compete with Christ having that special supreme place of lordship in your life? ...

3. Read Colossians 1:21 from a few translations. Paul used strong words like "enemies" and "alienated" to describe our spiritual condition before we knew Christ. How do the following verses reinforce and further describe our life before Christ?

Romans 1:18-25          Romans 8:7-8          Titus 3:3

Is there anything in these verses that might be difficult to believe or understand? If so, explain.

Why is it important to know and remember who we were before Christ?

4. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
  - a. Why is it critical to understand and believe that Jesus is fully God and fully man? If the cults who do not believe that Jesus is God in the flesh, then are they Christian if they don't believe this?
  - b. Is it futile or potentially useful to debate an atheist about the existence of God? Is the atheist's problem intellectual or moral?
  - c. Why is it important to guard what enters into our mind? As long as we balance that which is not good, or right, or fitting with good stuff should we not be alright? Reference Romans 12:2 and Philippians 4:8-9. Any other Scriptural support?



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### His Supremacy ... Colossians 1:15-23

- I. Over **Creation** – vs. 15-17
  - a. He is **God**.
  - b. He is the **Unique Son of God**
  - c. He is the **Creator of All Things**
  - d. He holds **All Things Together**
  
- II. Over His **New Creation** ... – vs. 18-23
  - a. He is the **Head** of the Body, the Church
  - b. He is the **Beginning**, the firstborn from the dead
  - c. He has the **Fullness** of God dwelling in Him
  - d. He is **Reconciling** All Things to Himself

### Let's Consider ... vs. 23

- I. Our **Personal Responsibility** as it relates to faith matters; continue in it ... The **Mind**
  
- II. Do not **Lose Heart**; Do not move away from the Hope that comes from the Gospel ... The **Heart**

### III. Where Christ is Lord of your life and Where He is Not; **adjust your life** in those areas where He is Not. ... The **Will**

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