

Introduction

This section of this chapter focuses on the person of Christ and is the answer to all heresy concerning the person of Jesus Christ.

Just Who is Jesus Christ? This question was first posed by Jesus to his own disciples as he asked them this: “*Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?*” in *Matthew 16:13*. Now there was a diversity of opinions among men in Jesus’ day just as there are a diversity of opinions still today.

Some believed Jesus to be John the Baptist risen from the dead.
Some believed that He was Elijah laying the pathway for the Messiah.
Some believed that He was Jeremiah come back to restore the temple.
Some believed that He was just another one of the prophets sent from God.

The real question though is the same that Jesus asked his disciples in *Matthew 16:15* when he said, “*But whom say he that I am.*”

What is your view of Jesus? And, by the way, Jesus already knows the answer to that question! It is for you to honestly answer and contemplate!

Heresies regarding the person of Christ abounded in Paul’s day just as they do today.

One of the first heresies was one known as Arianism. **Arianism said that Jesus Christ was just another creature.** Another heresy during this time was Gnosticism. **The Gnostics believed that Jesus Christ was not God but just another emanation of many emanations from God.**

There are those today who still hold these same beliefs. Unitarianism and some of the cults, including the Jehovah’s Witnesses do not believe that Jesus is God!

It took more than another creature to redeem man! If the blood of bulls and goats was inadequate (and it was), so the blood of any other creature that might have come into the world would also be inadequate!
It took a Man to redeem man!

It took more than just an emanation from God to redeem man—otherwise an angel could have been the object of redemption. However angels don’t have blood. Without the shedding of blood there is no redemption. It took a Man to redeem man!

However, it took more than just a man to redeem man! It took a sinless and holy man. It took the sinless perfect Son of God. It took the God-man!

In this passage we see Paul marking out the **superiorities** or the **glories of Christ!**

I. THE GLORY OF HIS PERSON! (VS 15a)

He Is The Image Of The Invisible God! (Vs 15a; Hebrews 1:1-3)
John 1:18—“No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.”

John 14:6-11

John 15:24—“If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.”

2 Corinthians 4:6—“For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 2:6—“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:”

II. THE GLORY OF HIS POSITION! (VS 15, 18)

A. He Is The Firstborn Of Every Creature!
(Vs 15b; John 1:14; 3:16)

1. He Is The Firstborn Of God In The Flesh!

Get this!

Of every creature that was ever made, **He is the first that was born of God.**

THE GLORIES OF CHRIST–PART 1
COLOSSIANS 1:15-19

He is the only one Who was ever begotten of God in the flesh!

God is the Everlasting Father; The Son is the Everlasting Son!

His Person in the Trinity is that of Son.!

Firstborn indicates **His priority before ALL creation!**

*Psalm 89:27–“Also **I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.**”*

*Hebrews 1:6–“And again, **when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.**”*

*Romans 8:29–“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be **the firstborn among many brethren.**”*

We too have to be born of God, but **Jesus was the first and He is the only one born of God in the flesh!**

THE GLORY OF HIS POSITION!

He Is The Firstborn Of Every Creature!

He Is The Firstborn Of God In The Flesh!

2. He Is The Firstborn From The Dead!

(Vs 18; 1 Corinthians 15:12-23)

Now, He was not the first to arise from the dead!

a. Some arose from the dead in the Old Testament!

Elijah raised the widow of Zarephath’s son!
Elisha raised the Shunammite’s son!

b. Some arose from the dead in Jesus’ day!

Jesus raised the widow of Nain’s son...Jairus’ daughter...ans Lazarus.

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c. Some arose from the dead in the Apostle’s day! Peter raised Tabitha (a/k/a Dorcus)

But consider this, **all those who were raised from the dead in each of those instances had to die all over again! (Bummer!)**

But Jesus was the FIRST to arise from the dead TO DIE NO MORE!

We too will arise from the dead to die no more, but Jesus was the FIRST!

THE GLORY OF HIS POSITION....He is the Firstborn of God In The Flesh...

B. He Is The Head Of The Church!

(Vs. 18; Ephesians 1:19-23; 4:15-16; 5:23)

1. The Head Is The Prominent Position In The Body.

2. The Head Is The Power Position In The Body.

It gives the direction and control for every other function of the Body!

3. The Head Is The Perception Position In The Body.

All five senses find their source in the Head!

- a. Sight
- b. Hearing
- c. Smell
- d. Taste
- e. Touch or Feeling

That is why it is so necessary for us to abide in Christ!

Jesus said in *John 15:5* “...without me ye can do nothing”

THE GLORIES OF CHRIST—PART 1
COLOSSIANS 1:15-19

THE GLORY OF HIS PERSON!—He Is The Image Of The Invisible God.

THE GLORY OF HIS POSITION!—He Is The Firstborn Of Every Creature, He Is The Head Of The Church.

III. **THE GLORY OF HIS POWER! (VS 16)**

A. **All Things Were Created By Him!**

This clears up any question about Christ being a **Creator or a creature!**

Isaiah 44:24—“Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself”

John 1:1-3

1 Corinthians 8:6—“But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.”

Ephesians 3:9—“...God...created all things by Jesus Christ”

Hebrews 1:2; 10-12 (cf. Psalm 102:25-27)

B. **All Things Were Created Beneath Him!**

*Deuteronomy 4:39—“Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that **the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.**”*

*1 Chronicles 29:11—“Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, **O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.**”*

C. **All Things Were Created Because Of (Or For) Him!**

THE GLORIES OF CHRIST—PART 1
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Proverbs 16:4—“The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.”

Isaiah 43:21—“This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise.”

Romans 11:36—“For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.”

Hebrews 2:10--“For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”

IV. **THE GLORY OF HIS PRE-EXISTENCE!**

(VS 17; Revelation 1:8, 11, 17-18)

Genesis 1:1—“In the beginning God...”

John 1:1—“In the beginning was the Word. . .”

Isaiah 44:6—“Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.”

Micah 5:2—“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.”

John 8:58—“Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.”

THE GLORIES OF CHRIST–PART 1
COLOSSIANS 1:15-19

John 17:5–“And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.”

Hebrews 13:8–“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”

Conclusion

Oh what a mighty and glorious Saviour that we have!
What a glorious head of the Church!

We should be obedient to Him in every way!
Is the Lord Jesus your God today? Is He your Lord?
All of His creatures will one day acknowledge Him in all of His glory!

You are one of His creatures! Have you acknowledged Him for Who He is?
Why not call Him Lord in this life while you still have an opportunity!
You will acknowledge Him one day, don't let it be too late!

Dear Christian friend, are you serving this glorious Saviour as you should?
You have all of Him. Does He have all of you?