

THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST

Colossians 1.15-20

CHRIST THE IMAGE OF GOD, CREATOR OF ALL: VERSE 1.15, 16

Hebrews 1.3 // 2 Corinthians 4.4-6 // John 1.1-14, 14.8, 9

Christ, being the exact imprint and image of God, is first among all things. The Lord of lords, the King of kings, the First and Last, Beginning and the End. It does not mean that He was actually born or created, just like how He doesn't really have a beginning or an end. Being made "first born" speaks of rank, not sequence (cf. Psalm 89.27). He alone has the right to rule over and be sovereign over everything, because by Him and through Him everything was created.

God created all things, and all things were "good." But some of those good things (all humans as well as 1/3 of the angels, including Lucifer, who became Satan) destroyed what God had created as good through sin and rebellion.

Genesis 1.31 // Jude 1.6 // Romans 1.18-25

CHRIST THE LORD OF ALL THINGS: VERSES 17, 18

Hebrews 1.1-13 // Colossians 2.9, 10

It is astounding to see such massive statements about the supremacy and authority and power of Christ. That all things are held together by Him, that He upholds the universe by the Word of His power, that though this world, and even your life, may seem out of control, they are truly not.

If Christ is not Lord of all, He is not Lord at all.

-Francis Schaeffer

There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, "Mine!"

-Abraham Kuyper

EVERYTHING IS FOR HIS GLORY: VERSES 19, 20

Colossians 2.9, 10 // Romans 11.33-36 // John 11.4

**We don't grow by chasing what we don't have;
We grow by understanding what we DO have!**



NOTES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

KIDS ON MISSION

Please log on to check out www.lifemissionchurch.com and click "Kids" at the top to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walk through of our curriculum.

Also, the daily devotional book, **Long Story Short**, is available in the Atrium to purchase.

WANT TO GET CONNECTED?

- **JOIN A COMMUNITY GROUP!**

If you want to get connected to a group of people near your neighborhood, let us know by filling out the **Connection Card** or visiting the **Connection Booth** in the Atrium!

- **JOIN A MINISTRY TEAM!**

We would love to have you come serve our community with us. Let us know on our **Connection Card** that you want to help!



SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Colossians 1.15-20**. What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday or from these verses? _____

After reading those verses, how true or accurate do you think it is to say that "the key to spiritual growth is not to behave better, but to believe better?" How would believing these kinds of truths about Christ change your behavior and even give you a greater distaste for sin? _____

Read **Colossians 1.17-19** and **Hebrews 1.3**. What strikes you the most about these verses, and how do they apply to your life and things you are going through? _____

What feels out of control in your life right now? Or to maybe get even more honest, what do you hate about life right now? You may think hate is too strong a word, and maybe it is for you, but oftentimes when we search out our heart, we find that there are deeper, more sinful roots to our feelings and thoughts. _____

Sometimes, we may even realize that we don't like how *God* is, or how He operates or governs things. Take time to confess that or the thing that feels out of control in your life, maybe even to your group or someone you trust in the group. Ask God to show you why you feel that way, why you feel like you're owed differently, and show you the truth of His sovereignty in this situation.

Read **Exodus 4.11**, **1 Peter 4.19**, and **Philippians 1.29**. What do you find most fascinating or intriguing? What might be here that many (perhaps even you) might push back on? _____

Now read **Exodus 5.22, 23**. Here, Moses is complaining about what he *perceives* as being God doing something evil (much like how we don't feel comfortable with God "causing" deafness or blindness, like in **Exodus 4.11**). But now read **Exodus 6.1-13**. What did God end up proving to Moses? _____

Similarly, in **Job 38.1-4**, God answers back to Job when Job questions God on certain matters. Read God's response, what is He saying to Job? _____

Lastly, in **Romans 9.19, 20**, Paul says to the Romans, who are pushing back on God being in control over everything, even bad things (**Romans 8.28, 9.17, 18**), "who are you, oh [silly, simple] man, to answer back to God?" Now read **Romans 11.33-36**. Notice that Paul says that God's ways are "inscrutable"; they are unable to be rightly scrutinized, and everything is for His glory.

Why does believing that God is sovereign, even over bad things, matter so much for our faith? What are the good and bad ramifications of believing or not believing this truth?

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