

Prioritizing God's Son First

Colossians 1:15-20

Introduction

Many people believe in God and have a level of reverence and respect for Him. What we must understand is that there is a level of specific honor and priority for God's Son. In Colossians, we see the specific characteristics of Jesus Christ highlighted and their importance explained.

Christ is the image of the invisible God. Christ is important because He is the human picture of the God that we can't physically see. He is the first born of all creation, which places Him as the lead person in history. He is utterly unique. As a result, He comes first. He has preeminence because it pleases the Father for all to dwell in Him. It is therefore pleasing for us to recognize and honor Him for his special place in time and in eternity.

Jesus Christ has a unique purpose. He is our high priest and therefore represents us before God. He serves as link between man and God. Jesus Christ acts as a mediator who operates as a "go-between" and helps us access God in a personal way. If we ignore Jesus, we sacrifice our ability to connect with God. (Hebrews 5:10)

Lastly, Jesus has a unique position. He is Lord. Philippians 2:10 says that "at the name of Jesus, every knee will bow... and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." It's God's desire that we recognize the lordship of Jesus Christ and submit to His guidance and direction in our lives. Doing so benefits us by giving us full access to a relationship with God that He designed for His children.

Getting Started

1. What point from this week's sermon resonated most with you?
2. Explain what it means for Jesus Christ to be Lord.

Let's Get Personal

1. When you think about your knowledge of the life of Christ, what did Jesus being fully human show us about the character of the invisible God? Think of the stories you know of Jesus Christ from the New Testament. What do they teach us about God?
2. Jesus Christ lived a perfect life. Reflect on the commonly used phrase "WWJD or What Would Jesus Do". Compare your knowledge of Jesus with the reality of your life. What is one thing Jesus would do differently if He were in your shoes?
3. Have you always had a high focus on Jesus as a part of your relationship with God? Think about your background, your upbringing, and your experiences. Have they always been Jesus centered or have they been God focused without the emphasis on His Son?

Take the Next Step

1. How has this week's sermon impacted on your thinking? What change do you need to make in your life as a result?
2. Because Jesus lived on earth, but did so perfectly, He can identify with our struggles and has the power to help us overcome them. "He learned obedience from the things which He suffered." (Hebrews 5:8). Does this encourage you?
3. Do you want to read more about the lordship of Jesus Christ? Look at Philippians 2:9-11 and Hebrews 5:8-14.

Renew Your Mind

He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. Colossians 1:17
