

The Preeminence of Jesus

“AND HE IS THE HEAD OF THE BODY,
THE CHURCH: WHO IS THE BEGINNING,
THE FIRSTBORN FROM THE DEAD, THAT
IN ALL THINGS HE MIGHT HAVE THE
PREEMINENCE.”

COLOSSIANS 1:18

OUTLINE

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- Background
- Christ is Preeminent in the Church (Body)
- Christ is Preeminent in the Beginning (Creation)
 - Christ is Preeminent over Death
- Conclusion
- Invitation

Introduction

- How important is 1st Place?
- What does it mean to be “preeminent?”
- Preeminent is used in **Colossians 1:18** in reference to Jesus.
- It is also used in **3 John 9** in reference to Diotrephes.

Background

Colosse was an Asiatic city; located 100 miles east of Ephesus.

Colosse was surrounded by idolatry and paganism.

The church at Colosse was established during Paul's time at Ephesus, *Acts 19:10*.

It is probable that Epaphras started the congregation, *Colossians 1:7; 4:13*

*Christ is **preeminent** in the church.*

Ephesians 1:22-23; one body is the church.

Ephesians 5:23; Christ is the head of the church.

Zechariah, 6:12-13, prophesied the Messiah.

Matthew 16:18 shows Christ's ownership of the church (**Acts 20:28**).

*Christ is **preeminent** in the church.*

Revelation 1:11, “I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last:”

Can Christ be our Alpha if we are not part of His body?

Do those who wear and follow men have Christ as Alpha?

*Christ is **preeminent** in the beginning.*

John 1:1-3 Jesus was active in the Creation.

Colossians 1:15-17 By HIM all things consist.

****Christ is not just the creator of man, but he is the creator of the “new man.” 2 Corinthians 5:17**

*Christ is **preeminent** in the beginning.*

Galatians 6:15, “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.”

Can Christ be first in our lives if we are not part of the “new life” he offers?

Christ is *preeminent* over Death.

Revelation 1:18,

- “I am he that liveth, and was dead.”
- “I am alive for evermore.”

Romans 6:9 Death has no dominion over Jesus.

Christ is *preeminent* over Death.

Revelation 1:18,

- “I have the keys of hell and of death.”

Revelation 12:10-11,

- Christ overcame Satan.
- Those who are **in Christ** can overcome Satan.
- Can we overcome death and hell without Jesus?

Conclusion

1 Corinthians 15:20,

“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.”

It is certain that Christ will return; are you ready? If not, why not let us help you get ready this morning?

Invitation

Needing to Obey the Gospel

- Hear the Gospel- Romans 10:17
- Believe the Word- John 3:16
- Repent of Sin- Luke 13:3
- Confess (Jesus)- Romans 10:10
- Become Baptized for the Remission of Sins- Acts 2:38
- Live faithfully

Needing to Return to Jesus

- Repent of Sin- Acts 8:22
- Pray God for Forgiveness- Acts 8:22
- Live faithfully