

The Person and Work of Christ Col. 1:9-23 (A) Christ above all

(1) WE ALSO PRAY FOR YOU

what is the main core of this long sentence?
 What did Paul pray on behalf of the Christians at Colossi?
 How are the following related to each other in the Christian life, according to this passage: 1) Knowledge of God 2) Fruitfulness. 3) Power. 4) Thanksgiving

Prayer

9For this reason **we also**, since the day **we** heard it, **do not cease to pray for you**, and to **ask that** you may be filled with the knowledge of His will **in** all wisdom and **spiritual** understanding; 10**that** you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, **being** fruitful in every good work and **increasing** in the knowledge of God; 11**strengthened** with all might, **according to** His glorious power, **for** all patience and longsuffering **with** joy; 12**giving thanks** to the **Father** who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

What to (How)

Note the repetition of similar terms in one: 11 strengthen, might power. Compare inheritance 1:12 and 1:5. What it means to have spiritual understanding 1:9? What is the richness of joy that rides out of suffering 1:11?

(2) AS REDEEMER & CREATOR

What is the main topic of this paragraph? Keep in mind. This key passage exposing of worshiping angels. What are the references to Christ's death? How do the two phrases of 1:15 identify Christ? Compare 2 Cor. 4:6 and Heb. 1:3 Compare 1:16 w Gen 1:1 & Heb. 1:3 What does this reveal about who Jesus is?

His Person

13**He** has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14**in** whom we have **redemption** through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. 15**He** is the image of the **invisible** God, the firstborn over all creation. 16**For by Him** all things were **created** that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created → **through Him** and **for Him**. 17**And He** is before all things, and **in Him** all things consist → . 18**And He** is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, **that in all things He may have the preeminence.**

His Work

What two realms are contrasted here? How does vs. 13 introduce vs. 14-20? What is meant by redemption? What is the price of redemption? CF. 1 Pe. 1:18-19. What is the impact of the repeated phrase all things in 1:16? Our angels included as created beings? What is meant by the word consist?

(3) FULLY GOD

What Is Meant By Reconcile? Who initiates reconciliation? Note by Him 2x's what is meant by these phrases? What is meant by all things?

19For it pleased the Father that **in Him all the fullness should dwell**^x, 20**and by Him** to reconcile^{x1} all things to Himself, **by Him**, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

On the basis of 18 and 19, how is Grace qualified to have preeminence? What is meant by "to himself"?

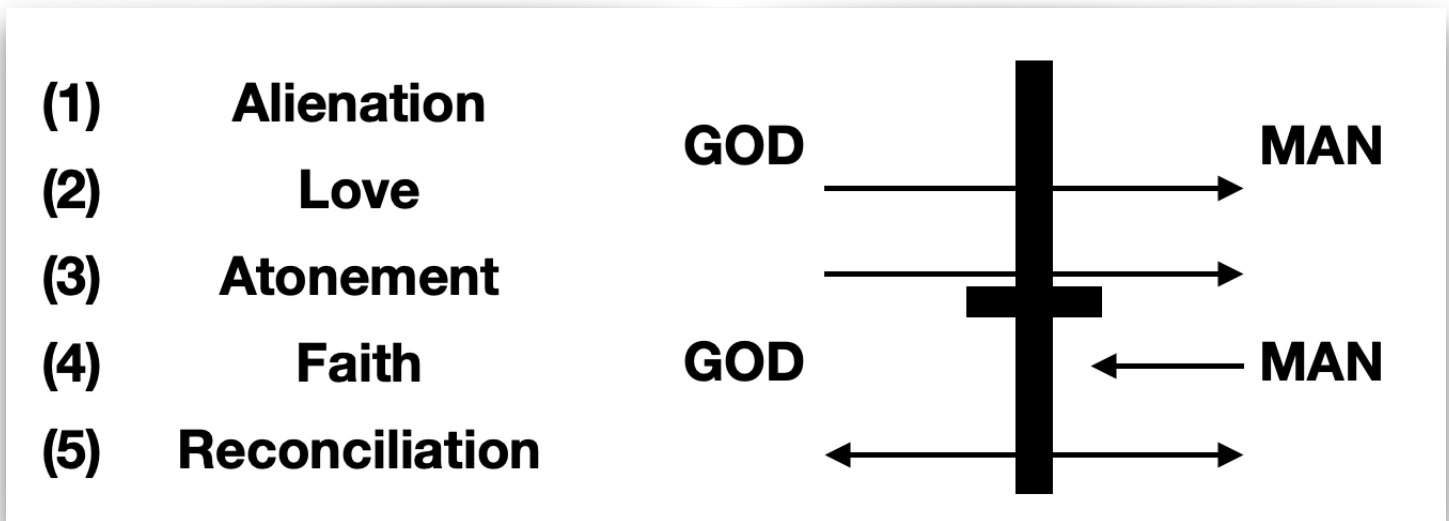
(4) RECONCILER

What is the ultimate purpose of reconciliation? 1:22 What is the presentation of verse 22 condition upon verse 23? Is this "If" situation intended to take away the assurance or to inspire watchfulness?

21**And you**, who once were alienated → and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet **now He has reconciled** 22**in** the body of His flesh through death, to present^x you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight— 23**if** indeed you continue in the faith, grounded → and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which **I**, Paul, became a minister.

What does the latter part of verse 23 teach about the gospel?

Person of Christ	Work of Christ
He is the image of the invisible God vs. 15	Delivered us from the power darkness vs. 13
The first born over all creation vs. 15	Conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son vs.13
For by him Creator vs. 16	Have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins vs. 14
He is before all things vs. 17	All things created vs 16
He is the head of the body, the church Vs. 18	All things consist vs. 17
The first born from the dead vs. 18	
In all things he may have preeminences. 18	

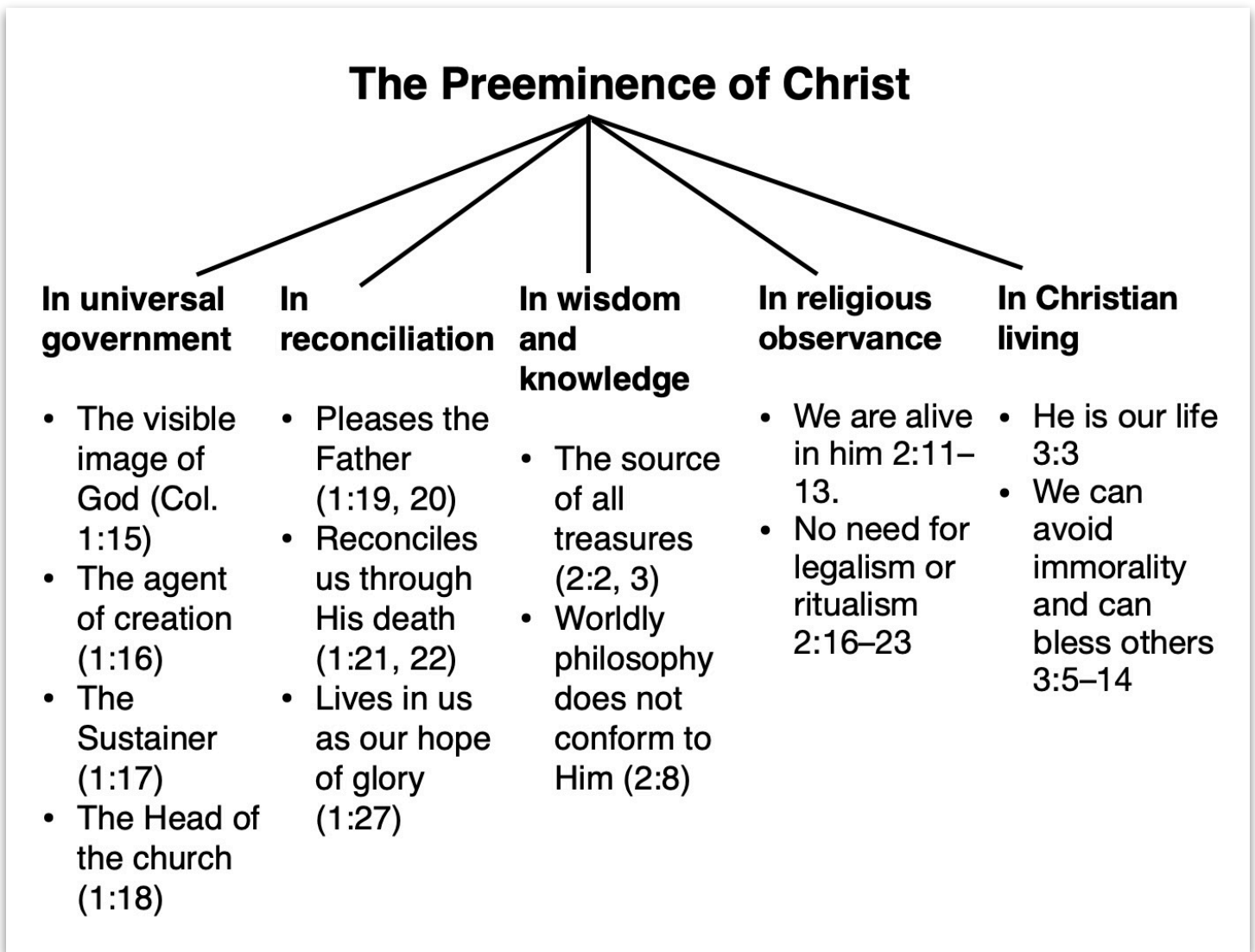


HOW TO PRAY FOR OTHER CHRISTIANS Colossians 1:3-12

1. Be thankful for their faith and changed lives (1:3).
2. Ask God to help them know his will (1:9).

3. 3. Ask God to give them spiritual wisdom and understanding (1:9).
4. 4. Ask God to help them live to honor and please him (1:10).
5. 5. Ask God to give them more knowledge of himself (1:10).
6. 6. Ask God to give them strength for steadfastness and patience (1:11).
7. 7. Ask God to fill them with joy, strength, and thankfulness (1:11-12).

How many people in your life could be touched if you prayed in this way?¹



NKJV Study Bible Nelson

THE COLOSSIAN HERESY Colossians 1:15-20

¹ Inc., Tyndale House Publishers. NASB Life Application Study Bible, Second Edition (Function). Kindle Edition.

Paul answered the various tenets of the Colossian heresy that threatened the church. This heresy was a "mixed bag," containing elements from several different heresies, some of which contradicted each other (as the chart shows).

The Heresy: Spirit is good; matter is evil. 1:15-20 Paul's Answer: God created heaven and earth for his glory.

The Heresy: One must follow ceremonies, rituals, and restrictions in order to be saved or perfected. 2:11, 16-23; 3:11 Paul's Answer: These were only shadows that ended when Christ came. He is all you need to be saved.

The Heresy: One must deny the body and live in strict asceticism. 2:18-23 Paul's Answer: Asceticism is no help in conquering evil thoughts and desires; instead, it leads to pride.

The Heresy: Angels must be worshiped. 2:18 Paul's Answer: Angels are not to be worshiped; Christ alone is worthy of worship.

Prayers can be funny

A woman invited some people over for dinner. At the table she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" The girl replied, "I wouldn't know what to say." "Just say what you heard Mommy say," the mother answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

A 5 year old boy was sitting down to eat when his mother asked him to pray for his meal. He replied, "Mom we don't have to. We prayed over this last night." His mother had prepared leftovers from the day before.

One of Pastor Rains prayer at college. "Now I lay me down to rest, and hope to pass tomorrow's test, if I should die before I wake, that's one less test I have to take."

Dear Lord,

So far today I'm doing all right.

I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, cursed, or eaten any chocolate. I have not charged anything on my credit card.

But I won't be getting out of bed in a minute, and I think that I will really need your help then.

Do you remember when Do you remember when the disciples asked Jesus to teach us to pray? Luke 11

Col. 1:9-12 could be Paul's version of what to pray about as he teaches us from his example of how to pray.

Applications: 1:9-12

Be faithful in prayers

Be specific in our prayers for others

Pray for knowledge, that people will know God's will

Pray, for God honoring lives – that people will know, and do what pleases God

Pray for strength – for people to be able to take a long view in life, and be able to hold up under trying circumstances

Put this in practice.

Be specific with one person

Then learn to practice it with others

Applications: 1:13-23

1. Make Christ first and everything.
2. Refocus your attention on Christ