

Master of the Universe

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Colossians 1:15-17.

B. The central claim of the Christian faith has been for two thousand years, hail the Incarnate Deity.

C. There may not be overt texts that explain the Trinity, but this text clearly shows the deity of the Son.

II. Occasion.

A. The Colossians were in danger of losing a sense of the immanency of Jesus Christ in their lives. Jesus is active in our lives and in this world today.

B. Paul recalls these characteristics of Christ because of his own encounter with Christ.

III. Jesus is the image of the invisible God.

A. His nature is God.

B. He is the very picture of God.

IV. Jesus is the firstborn of all creation.

A. Firstborn indicates that He is the heir and possessor of creation.

B. The one born first is not necessarily the firstborn as with Jacob and Esau, Manasseh and Ephraim.

V. All things were created by and for Jesus.

A. Jesus could not have been a part of creation if He created everything.

B. Jesus is the purpose for all things as well. (Philippians 2)

C. The Father willed the creation, the Son planned it, and the Spirit executed it.

D. The creation includes all things visible and invisible.

VI. The Colossian heresy was the idea that you had to go through a hierarchy of angels to arrive at God.

A. We find counterparts in the ideas of reincarnation, astrology, and transcendentalism.

B. Jesus is above all these intermediary beings however.

C. Creation is totally under His control—He is the reason everything was made.

VII. How Jesus controls all of creation.

A. Jesus is outside His own creation—this speaks of His eternity as the Son of God.

B. There is nothing that Jesus sees that He cannot say, “you are mine.”

C. We are a generation without a king.

D. In Jesus is found the center of life.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that doctrines such as the Trinity that are not overtly explained in the Scriptures are unimportant?

2. What is Jesus’ role in the Trinity in creation?

3. Why is it important to understand that there is no mediator between God and man other than Jesus? How can this encourage someone not only in his or her salvation but also in his or her daily walk with God?
