

Third in Series

*Colossians: THE MOST Christ Centered book of the New Testament*

*THEME the Supremacy of Christ*

*Key Verse Colossians 2:14*

12-14 **CHRIST THE REDEEMER**

The Father deserves thanks for three things

**1 Qualified US:** inheritance of the saints in light

We don't qualify by ourselves. We don't earn our inheritance we receive it

**2 Rescued US:** delivered us from the power of darkness

Rescued (ruomai) to describe God's deliverance of the believer from darkness. This word states that the believer was in acute danger and has been delivered from an alien power in a highly dangerous situation

Darkness is the realm of opposition toward God and the place of sin the realm where Satan enforces his authority

**3 Brought US:** translated us into the kingdom of his dear son

**REDEMPTION-** to buy back and set them free. Because of Christ death on our behalf we are set free from both the penalty and the power of sin

**FORGIVENESS-** literally means TO SEND AWAY TO CANCEL

God has canceled the debt for our sins Jesus paid the debt so therefore God canceled it

**PROBLEM IN COLOSSAE:** Jesus got equal billing with a vast number of emanating spirits flowing out of God

15-18 **Christ THE DIVINE RULER**

**The image of the invisible God;** he revealed God to man all that God is, HE IS

Christ is the image of the firstborn No mortal man can see God but God has revealed Himself in the person of Jesus He is the firstborn over all creation **SPECIALLY HONORED**

**(eikon)** The word was used for a likeness placed on a coin it carries the idea of correspondence to the original **(PENNY)**

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God (manifested in the incarnation of Christ)

**The firstborn (prototokos)** received the birthright and subsequent family headship JEHOVAH's witness

Not protoktistos if he wanted to show that Christ was the first creature of God's creation (V17) clearly states that he was before all things

He holds the highest rank because he is the Creator He is before him and he holds all things together

Israel is called the firstborn as was David it is not talking about physical birth but a position of honor

All creation came about through him and for Him. He holds all thing together Christ is the upholder and sustainer of the physical universe

Science can determine the what of the natural world but only God answer the question of WHY Through his death and resurrection He became sovereign head of His spiritual creation He deserves preeminence

Has nothing to do with him being the first physically but because he is first in rank (NOTE LAZARUS JARIUS DAUGHTER)

Angels are not to have a place of priority or even equality with Christ ONLY Christ is to have supremacy

19-23

## CHRIST THE RECONCILER

We were alienated that is we were separated estranged We were alone an outsider exiled shut out cut off locked out

We were enemies 1<sup>st</sup> in our minds 2<sup>nd</sup> in our evil behavior

Jesus died for a race of rebels to offer them a chance to become his allies

The slate of sin has been wiped clean we look forward to the day we will stand before God holy in his sight without blemish and free from accusation

This verse is **not** saying that we will be presented blameless **if we remain faithful** as if our salvation depends on our performance. The **if** is not an expression of doubt but an **expression of confidence** the word probably should be better understood as **since**

Reconciliation is the removal of hostility and the restoring of friendly relations to parties that have been at war

RECONCILIATION is making peace through his blood shed on the cross

Peace is not merely the absence of hostility but it also includes the presence of a relationship

1 Reconciliation is a reason to rejoice

2 Reconciliation is a blessing to be practiced

3 Reconciliation is a message to share

Christ reconciling work qualifies him to serve as the sustainer and redeeming lifeline between the spiritual, Holy God and the physical sinful world

Christ rescued the Colossians from darkness and delivered them into light; Their allegiance, therefore belongs to Christ.

**Justification** – court room The sinner stands before God accused and guilty. God declares the sinner righteous

**Redemption** – marketplace the sinner stands before God a slave God grants freedom by payment of a ransom

**Forgiveness** – from the bank the sinner stands before God in debt and the debt is paid

**Adoption** – from the home before God as a stranger God makes the sinner a member of his family

**Reconciliation** – from the battlefield the sinner stands before God as an enemy and becomes a friend when God makes peace

He holds a position of supremacy in everything because of his resurrection and the word of reconciliation