

“The Lifetime Plus Guarantee”

Colossians 1:15-23
Series in Colossians #03
January 25, 2009
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl

Theme: **Christ’s Total Superiority Guarantees Your Position With Him.**

Christ’s Total Superiority.

1. Seen in His relationship to God the Father. (15, 19)
2. Seen in His relationship to creation. (15-17)
3. Seen in His relationship to the church. (18)

Your Certain Position In Christ.

1. He has provided objective reconciliation for all. (20)
2. He has provided personal reconciliation for all who believe. (21-22)
3. He has provided final glorification for all who believe. (22-23)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Read 1:15-23 several times, slowly. Remember that those first century believers had people bending their ears with false ideas of things they *had to* add or exclude to be real or complete Christians, just as we hear today. Paul reminds them that Christ is both sufficient for all they need and supreme over all. As you think of Christ's relationship to God the Father, review the meaning of "the image of the invisible God" (verse 15) and "the fullness to dwell in Him" (verse 19). Check your notes from Sunday. What do these statements tell us about Christ?

Tuesday. Christ's total superiority is also seen in His relationship to creation (verses 15-17) and to the church (verse 18). Jesus Christ is the Creator and Sustainer of all that exists. What part of the meaning of the term *first born* is Paul using here in verse 15, as reinforced by verse 16? (See also Exodus 4:22, Psalm 89:27 and Hebrews 1:6 for similar uses.) Sum up the truth about Christ's total superiority seen in these three relationships.

Wednesday. Christ's superiority guarantees every believer's position in Christ. This is grounded in the reconciliation He brought about when He died on the cross to pay for our sins (*cf.* verse 20). Christ provided objective reconciliation for all—it is sufficient for any and every person. Review John 3:16, 2 Corinthians 5:19, 1 John 2:2 and Revelation 22:17, etc. What does this tell you about yourself? What does it tell you about people who have not yet come to faith in Christ?

Thursday. Our position in Christ is guaranteed because He has provided personal reconciliation and final glorification for all who believe (see verses 21-2). The warning in verse 23 is real. Some people "believe in God," or even have church membership but are not really in "the faith." The test of true faith is continuing—God will keep all who are truly His and they will continue with Him. With this certainty, we don't need, those first century Christians didn't need anything added to Christ.

Friday – Saturday. Sunday is a *Missions Sunday* here at Knox. Peter McCallum will be our guest. Karen Hoel will also report on her work. *And*, we have a potluck lunch after the service. Prepare your heart for this time of worship and fellowship.