

Providence Reformed Baptist Church – Sunday, December 29, 2024

Sermon Series: Our Great Savior

Message 5. Our Savior Preeminent – Colossians 1:15-20

Pastor Phillip M Way

Paul quotes 2 stanzas of an early Christian hymn to emphasize Christ's supremacy over all of creation (the Universe) and His supremacy over the new creation (the Church). Jesus is not just the reason for the season. Jesus is the reason for EVERYTHING!

- I. Christ, the Image of God – vs. 15
 - A. The Invisible God Revealed – 2 Cor. 4:4
 1. Eikon – appearance
 2. Gen. 1:26-28 LXX – our image at creation
 3. Col. 3:10 – our image renewed
 - B. The Firstborn of All Creation
 1. Existing before – John 1:1
 2. Over ALL creation – 1 Cor. 15:20-28
- II. Christ's Supremacy over Creation – vs. 16-17
 - A. All Things Were Created
 1. In Him
 2. Through Him
 3. For Him
 - B. All Things
 1. Heavens and Earth – the universe
 2. Visible and Invisible – material and immaterial
 3. Thrones, Dominions, Rulers, and Authorities – Heb. 1:1-14
 - a. Seats of Power
 - b. Power to Rule
 - c. First, in Charge
 - d. Spiritual and Earthly Rulers
 - C. Before All Things – pre-existent
 - D. Holding All Things Together – “The universe owes its continuing coherence to Christ.” - Moo
- III. Christ's Supremacy over the New Creation – vs. 18-20 – 2 Cor. 5:17
 - A. The Head of the Body
 1. The Church – Col. 1:24; 2:19; 3:15
 2. Life Source for the Body
 - B. The Beginning – Rev. 3:14; John 1:1-3
 - C. The Firstborn from the Dead – Resurrection – 1 Cor. 15:20
 1. Firstborn = Founder
 2. He initiated the new order of those raised from the dead
 - D. That He might have First Place in Everything (supremacy through resurrection)
 - E. In Him the Fullness was Pleased to Dwell – John 1:14
 1. Through Him Reconciling All Things to Himself
 2. Having Made Peace through the Blood of His Cross – Col. 2:13-15
 - a. God With Us – not in the Temple, but in Christ
 - b. “God has reconciled all things to Christ.” – All things will be what and where they are because of Christ. He is the reason for Everything! – 1 Cor. 15:28; Phil. 2:10-11

Cross References

2 Corinthians 4:4

4 in whose case the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Genesis 1:26-28

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness, so that they will have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that creeps on the earth."

Colossians 3:10

10 and have put on the new man who is being renewed to a full knowledge according to the image of the One who created him—

John 1:1

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy to be abolished is death. 27 For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. 28 And when all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

Hebrews 1

1 God, having spoken long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in these last days spoke to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds, 3 who is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power; who, having accomplished cleansing for sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become so much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they. 5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"? And again, "I will be a Father to Him And He shall be a Son to Me"? 6 And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, "And let all the angels of God worship Him." 7 And of the angels He says, "Who makes His angels winds, And His ministers flaming fire." 8 But of the Son He says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, And the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom. 9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness above Your companions." 10 And, "You, Lord, in the beginning founded the earth, And the heavens are the works of Your hands; 11 They will perish, but You remain; And they

all will wear out like a garment, 12 And like a mantle You will roll them up; Like a garment they will also be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end.” 13 But to which of the angels has He ever said, “Sit at My right hand, Until I put Your enemies As a footstool for Your feet”? 14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Colossians 1:24

24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and I fill up what is lacking of Christ’s afflictions in my flesh, on behalf of His body, which is the church,

Colossians 2:19

19 and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

Colossians 3:15

15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body, and be thankful.

Revelation 3:14

14 “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: This is what the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says:

John 1:1-3

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

1 Corinthians 15:20

20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

John 1:14

14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 2:13-15

13 And you being dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive with Him, having graciously forgiven us all our transgressions. 14 Having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us which was hostile to us, He also has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them in Him.

1 Corinthians 15:28

28 And when all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

Philippians 2:10-11

10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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