

Colossians 1:15-17 – Who Jesus Christ Is.

I. The image of the invisible God.

“**Image**” expresses perfect manifestation (in real life).

“Not as man was made in the image of God, in his natural faculties and dominion over the creatures: no, He is the precise Person...so that he who has seen Him has seen the Father, and His glory was the glory of the only-begotten of the Father.”

“God is invisible, which does not merely mean that He cannot be seen by our bodily eye, but that He is unknowable. In the exalted Christ the unknowable God becomes known.” (Peake)

As God, Jesus Christ knows everything (actual and possible), is present everywhere, is unchanging and unchangeable, is eternal and self-existent (He has no beginning and no end), is all-powerful and perfect. **As Man, He was born, had a normal development and growth, experienced hunger, wept, slept and died.**

John 1:18 - No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

John 14:8-9 - Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

Matthew 16:13-16 - When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

II. The first-born over all creation...

“Firstborn” (Prototokos-rank/authority/dominion), literally means “the first producer”; He existed before creation, made, controls and sustains everything.

- **Earth's** average orbital **speed** is about 30 kilometers per second or 110,000 kilometers per hour.
- Plants **cover** about 30 percent of **Earth's** land surface, while accounting for 50 percent of **plant** productivity. As **much** as 45 percent of the carbon stored on land is tied up in forests.

- About 71 percent of the **Earth's** surface is **water**-covered. **Water** also exists in the air as **water** vapor...in icecaps and glaciers, in the ground as soil moisture and even in our bodies.
- Atmospheric electricity is always present, and during fine weather away from thunderstorms, the air above the surface of **Earth** is **positively charged**, while the **Earth's** surface **charge** is **negative**.
- The equatorial diameter of Earth is 12,756 km, its polar diameter is 12,713 km, and its average diameter, which is referred to in common usage, is **12,742 km**.
- The radius of the observable **universe** is therefore **estimated** to be about 46.5 billion light-years...one light-year nearly 6 million miles.

John 1:1-3 - *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*

John 20:30-31 - *And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*

The Chalcedonian (451 A.D) Definition of Jesus Christ...

*Therefore, following the holy fathers, we all with one accord teach men to acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; **of one substance with the Father as regards His Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards His manhood**; like us in all respects, apart from sin, as regards His Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards His manhood, begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the Virgin, the God-bearer; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only Begotten, recognized in **two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation**; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather **the characteristics of each nature being preserved** and coming together to form **one person** and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-Begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from earliest times spoke of Him, and Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself taught us, and the creed of the Fathers has handed down to us.*