

Sunday, April 26, 2020—Colossians 1:14 All Things Were Created By Him and For Him

### Announcements

- Welcome to the Grace Life Bible Church live stream.
  - Teaching directly to the saints of GLBC & others who want to join in.
  - Feel free to comment on the video but I will not be engaging with the audience in real time.
  - Focus on my notes and delivering the message.
  
- I would like to begin with some announcements.
  - Corona Comfort Playlist on the Church YouTube playlist.
  - Fred Curtis is not doing well. Send them to Fred Curtis, SKLD Healthcare, 2320 East Beltline SE, Grand Rapids MI 49546, Room 201.
  - Janette and Terry Nickels have been exposed to Coronavirus. Terry's brother has Covid-19.
  - Pray for those in our church family that are out of work at this time or may have other needs.
  
- Things to keep in mind this week.
  - Tuesday @ 10:00 am—I will be a guest on the Grace Life Podcast. You can listen Live Tuesday morning by searching for Fellowship Bible Church Orlando on YouTube
  - Wednesday @ 7:00 pm—Live stream Pastor Bryan's Bible study on YouTube.

Friday @ 7:00 pm—Living the Transformed Life on Zoom. Anyone from the local assembly is invited. Be sure I have your current email address by Noon on Friday if you want to join.

  - Offerings can be made on the church's website via PayPal by clicking on the Donate button under Support of Ministry. Checks can be mailed Daryl Doornbos our treasurer at his home. He can deposit them using technology without leaving his home.
    - A One-Anothering Fund has been set up to help saints from Grace Life Bible Church who may be struggling financially. If you are in need of assistance, please contact me or Daryl Doornbos. Your request will be kept confidential.

## Introduction

- Last Sunday during our time together I taught on Colossians 1:15. In doing so, we observed the following points regarding Christ:
  - “. . . image of the invisible God”—the Lord Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God in that he “declared” and manifested the nature and character of God the Father.
    - John 1:18—God the Father is declared and manifest and by the Son i.e., the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the “image of the invisible God” because he was God in human flesh i.e., he is by definition the image. He is God in the flesh or God in the material substance of a human body.
    - John 10:30
    - John 14:9
  - “the firstborn of every creature:”—Christ is the “firstborn” in the sense that he is “most excellent, most distinguished or exalted.”
  - Beware of those who would seek to use this verse to argue that God the Father produced the birth of Christ, and there Christ is a created being inferior to God, and therefore not part of the Godhead. All cults attack the integrity and deity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Regarding Paul’s use of the term “firstborn” Ernest R. Campbell states the following in his commentary on Colossians:
    - “Paul’s use of the word “first-born” here emphasizes only the fact that Christ existed prior to the creation of the universe and all that is in it, and cannot be justifiably used to prove that He is a created being, which is the furthest thing from Paul’s mind in this context.” (Campbell, 43)
  - Colossians 3:10—the world sees God the Father as the image of Christ reflected in the members of the body of Christ. When we walk in the new man, we are the image of Christ to a lost and dying world.

## Colossians 1:16

- **For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:**
- **For by him were all things created**—contextually we are still talking about the Lord Jesus Christ. Why is Christ “the firstborn of every creature” in verse 15? Because “by him were all

things created” in verse 16. The creation is contingent upon Christ. Christ is not continued to creation.

- John 1:1-3
- **That are in heaven, and that are in earth**—everything in heaven and earth was created by Jesus Christ.
  - Genesis 1:1—the Lord Jesus Christ was there with God the Father in the beginning. According to John 1 and Colossians 1, it was the Lord Jesus Christ, the second member of the Godhead, who spoke the universe into existence out of nothing.
  - Genesis 1:2—focus our attention on earthly, physically, and visible portion of God’s creation.
- **Visible and invisible**—this is the only time that Greek word rendered “visible” appears in the New Testament. The word means “capable of being seen.” In contrast the word translated “invisible” means “unseen, or that which cannot be seen.”
  - Colossians 1:15
  - Romans 1:20
- Colossians 1:16—so the Lord Jesus Christ created some things in heaven and earth that are “visible” i.e., you can see them as well as some things that are “invisible” i.e., you can’t see them.
  - Earth—“visible”
  - Heaven—“invisible”
- **whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers**—all of these are positions of governmental rank and authority.
  - Ephesians 1:20-23—God the Father has exalted His Son the Lord Jesus Christ far above every governmental position throughout the entire universe. All these positions of governmental rank and authority have been put under the feet of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Colossians 1:18
- **all things were created by him, and for him**—in the verse, “all things” is a reference to the governmental positions of rank and authority that he just spoke about. Put another way, all the governmental structures in heaven and earth were created by Christ and for Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ created all of them for himself.

- Genesis 1:6-8—what is missing from the account of the creation of the firmament of heaven? The phrase “God saw that it was good.”
  - Genesis 1:14-19—God placed the planetary bodies into the firmament of heaven.
  - Colossians 1:16—God did not just create the sun, moon, stars, and planets in the firmament of heaven; He also created “invisible” positions of governmental rank and authority.
- Job 15:15—according to Job, the heavens are not currently “clean” in the sight of God.
- Ephesians 2:2—one of the names given the Satan in the Bible is “the prince the power of the air.”
- Daniel 10:5, 11-14, 20-21—just as there are national boundaries here on earth there are governmental boundaries that have been drawn across the heavenly places.
  - These positions of governmental authority in the heaven are currently occupied by Satan and his cohorts i.e., fallen angels.
- Revelation 12:7-12—halfway through the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel the heavens will be purified as Satan and his angles are expelled from the heavenly places and sent down to earth.
- I Corinthians 2:7-8—Satan never knew that the heavenly places were in play. Why? Because the prophetic program focusses on the establishing of a kingdom on the earth. So, in the fulness of time Satan wrought the very action that would result in the complete ruination of his entire plan of evil.
- I Corinthians 3:19—“. . .He taketh the wise in their own craftiness [Job 5:13].”
- Colossians 1:16—the Lord Jesus Christ did not create these positions of governmental authority for anyone else to occupy, there were “created by him and for him.”
- Ephesians 3:10-11
- Ephesians 1:10—the eternal purpose of God has been to center all things in heave and earth under the headship of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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