

# Serve the Savior as Your Creator

## Colossians 1:15-17

- BGT** <sup>15</sup> ὅς ἐστιν εἰκὼν τοῦ θεοῦ τοῦ ἀοράτου, πρωτότοκος πάσης κτίσεως, <sup>16</sup> ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ ἐκτίσθη τὰ πάντα ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὰ ὄρατα καὶ τὰ ἀόρατα, εἴτε θρόνοι εἴτε κυριότητες εἴτε ἀρχαὶ εἴτε ἐξουσίαι· τὰ πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ καὶ εἰς αὐτὸν ἔκτισται· <sup>17</sup> καὶ αὐτός ἐστιν πρὸ πάντων καὶ τὰ πάντα ἐν αὐτῷ συνέστηκεν,
- NKJ** <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

My Identity as an INDIVIDUAL (Colossians 1:1)

My Identity as Part of a GROUP (Colossians 1:2)

Three Realms of a Believer's Walk (Colossians 1:3-8) – Ongoing Belief, Active Care, Forward Focus

Three Areas of Prayer for Spiritual Growth (Colossians 1:9-11) – Worthy Walking, Fruitful Working, Empowered Doing

Four Reasons to Thank God (1:12-14) – Our Qualification, Extrication, Translation, Redemption (He made us fit, free, followers, forgiven)

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ – Image – God of all

He is the image of the invisible God (ὅς ἐστιν εἰκὼν τοῦ θεοῦ τοῦ ἀοράτου,)

**A. Man created \_\_\_\_\_ the image of God**

**B. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ the image of God**

**2 Cor 4:4** whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

**C. No \_\_\_\_\_ image** (Ex 20, Deut 5)

**D. Believers are predestined to be \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ's image** (Rom 8:29) **through the \_\_\_\_\_** (2 Cor 3:18)

**Invisible**

- **Invisible Attributes** (Rom 1:20) – For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,
- **Creation of and Control Over All Things** (Col 1:16) – For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.
- **Seeing Him Who is Invisible** (Heb 11:27) – By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.
- **1 Tim 1:17** Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.
- John 4:24

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ – Firstborn of all

the firstborn over all creation (πρωτότοκος πάσης κτίσεως)

“firstborn” can mean first created being and/or that which has precedence over creation NIGTC (Colossians)

“That ‘firstborn’ must denote primacy over creation, and not just within creation, is indicated by the conjunction linking the two verses: he is ‘firstborn of all creation *because* in him were created all things” in heaven and in earth. NIGTC (Colossians)

**Revelation 3:14** "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ' These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: (Καὶ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν Λαοδικείᾳ ἐκκλησίας γράψον· Τάδε λέγει ὁ ἀμήν, ὁ μάρτυς ὁ πιστὸς καὶ ἀληθινός, ἡ ἀρχὴ τῆς κτίσεως τοῦ θεοῦ·)

**Jesus, the Firstborn**

- **Of creation**
- **From the dead** (Rev 1:5; cf. Col 1:18) – and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
- **Among many brethren** (Rom 8:29) – For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

- **Commanded to Be Worshipped as God** (Heb 1:6) – But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."
- **To which the general assembly and church belong** (Heb 12:23) – to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ – **Creator of all**

For by Him all things were created (ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ ἐκτίσθη τὰ πάντα)

#### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of creation (what)

that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers (ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὰ ὀρατὰ καὶ τὰ ἀόρατα, εἴτε θρόνοι εἴτε κυριότητες εἴτε ἀρχαὶ εἴτε ἐξουσίαι)

- Where – Any place
- What – Any thing – "no job too small"
- Who – Any body – answerable to Him & controlled by Him

#### Results in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Creature to Creator

**Hebrews 4:13** And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account. (καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν κτίσις ἀφανῆς ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ, πάντα δὲ γυμνὰ καὶ τετραηλισμένα τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς αὐτοῦ, πρὸς ὃν ἡμῖν ὁ λόγος.)

#### Results in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Creation

**Romans 8:39** nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (οὔτε ὕψωμα οὔτε βάθος οὔτε τις κτίσις ἑτέρα δυνήσεται ἡμᾶς χωρίσαι ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ θεοῦ τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.)

#### B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of creation (how) – All things were created through Him (τὰ πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ)

**Eph 2:10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. (αὐτοῦ γὰρ ἔσμεν ποίημα, κτισθέντες ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ ἐπὶ ἔργοις ἀγαθοῖς οἷς προητοίμασεν ὁ θεός, ἵνα ἐν αὐτοῖς περιπατήσωμεν.)

**Eph 3:9** and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; (καὶ φωτίσαι [πάντας] τίς ἡ οἰκονομία τοῦ μυστηρίου τοῦ ἀποκεκρυμμένου ἀπὸ τῶν αἰώνων ἐν τῷ θεῷ τῷ τὰ πάντα κτίσαντι.)

**Rev 4:11** "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." (ἄξιός εἰ, ὁ κύριος καὶ ὁ θεὸς ἡμῶν, λαβεῖν τὴν δόξαν καὶ τὴν τιμὴν καὶ τὴν δύναμιν, ὅτι σὺ ἔκτισας τὰ πάντα καὶ διὰ τὸ θέλημά σου ἦσαν καὶ ἐκτίσθησαν.)

#### C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of creation (why) – and for Him (εἰς αὐτὸν ἔκτισται)

**Romans 1:25** who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. (οἵτινες μετήλλαξαν τὴν ἀλήθειαν τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν τῷ ψεῦδει καὶ ἐσεβάσθησαν καὶ ἐλάτρευσαν τῇ κτίσει παρὰ τὸν κτίσαντα, ὅς ἐστιν εὐλογητὸς εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας, ἀμήν.)

Without Accepting God as the Creator, You Cannot Know or Understand:

- The Purpose and Plan of Gender (Matt 19:4; 1 Cor 11:9)
- The Extent of the Gospel Message (Mark 16:15)
- The Means of Comprehending Time (Mark 13:19)
- The Plan of God for Believers – Good Works (Eph 2:10)
- The Power of God in Salvation & Sanctification – Creation of a New Man (Eph 4:24)
- The Process and Goal of Believers – Renewed in Knowledge (Col 3:10)
- The Power of God to Make New Things – New Creation (2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15)
- The Propriety of Marriage (1 Tim 4:3)
- The Purpose of Food (1 Tim 4:3)
- To Differentiate Between Things Created and Uncreated (Heb 9:11)
- Many, many other things.

### 4. \_\_\_\_\_

#### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of creation (priority) – And He is before all things, (καὶ αὐτός ἐστιν πρὸ πάντων)

#### B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of creation (power – God) – and in Him all things consist (καὶ τὰ πάντα ἐν αὐτῷ συνέστηκεν)