

I. The person of Christ (v. 15)

- A. He perfectly reveals God to us

“The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being.” (Hebrews 1:3)

- B. He holds the highest place of honor

“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:9-11)

II. The power of Christ (v. 16)

- A. He created everything in the visible universe

“Through Him all things were made, without Him nothing was made that has been made.” (John 1:3)

- B. He created everything in the invisible heavenly realm

- C. He created all things for his glory

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.” (Psalm 19:1)

“Since the creation of the world, God’s invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.” (Romans 1:20)

III. The priority of Christ (v. 17)

- A. He is eternal in nature

“Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.” (John 17:5)

- B. He holds the universe together

“...Sustaining all things by his powerful word.” (Hebrews 1:3)

IV. The preeminence of Christ (v. 18)

- A. He is the head of the church

“And God placed all things under his feet and appointed to him to be head over everything for the church.” (Ephesians 1:22)

- B. He is the creator of a new people

- C. He is the pioneer of resurrection life

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies.” (John 11:25)

V. The personality of Christ (v. 19)

A. He is God

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” (John 1:14)

“For in Christ all the fullness of Deity lives in bodily form.” (Colossians 2:9)

VI. The peace of Christ (v. 20)

A. He shed his blood on the cross to bring us reconciliation

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

B. He shed his blood on the cross to bring us peace

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)

C. He shed his blood on the cross to bring us salvation

“Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.” (Revelation 1:5)

D. He shed his blood on the cross to bring us eternal life

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)