



## The Jesus Supremacy

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September 3 & 4, 2016

### Summary

#### Colossians 1:15-20 (NLT)

<sup>15</sup> Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.

He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,

<sup>16</sup> for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.

He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—

such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world.

Everything was created through him and for him.

<sup>17</sup> He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.

<sup>18</sup> Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body.

He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead.

So he is first in everything. <sup>19</sup> For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,

<sup>20</sup> and through him God reconciled everything to himself.

He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

The greatness of Jesus is renown even outside of Christian circles. He is known as a great philosopher, humanitarian, healer, and even a miracle worker. Some non-believers will even acknowledge His resurrection. But the passage above invites us to consider the deity of Jesus and how He is greater than anything we can ever think. Jesus is God (read **Col 1:15**); therefore, He created everything (read **Col 1:16**) and holds everything in creation together (read **Col 1:17**). Jesus is the head of the entire Church (read **Col 1:18**) - all several billions of people past, present, and future that are joined together throughout time. He is our one and only Savior who reconciled everything through His death on the cross (read **Col 1:20**). The meta-narrative is that Jesus is bigger than everything.

### Discussion Questions

1. So what, why does this matter (the meta-narrative)? Can we just “rest” on the laurels of Jesus' human accomplishments during his time on Earth?
2. What happens to the size of our faith in relation to the size of our God?
3. What happens to the weight of our problems in relation to the size of our God?
4. What happens to our peace?

## Activation

We are directed to worship God throughout the Bible (read **Exodus 7:16, Psalm 37:4, Luke 4:8**). Is it because God is arrogant? Is it because He needs it? Read **Psalm 100**. How do we enter into God's nearness as stated on verse 4? Thanksgiving for all that God has done gets us through the gates, but praise for the character of God and His loving kindness gets us into the throne room, into His Presence, and allows us to experience Shalom. Shalom is being *at* peace regardless of circumstances. Worship reorients us to the greatness and goodness of God and expands our minds into the invisible aspects of our world. Our God is Spirit (read **John 4:24**) and not limited by the universe that we see, touch, and feel.

## Discussion Questions

1. Define peace, what does it mean? Can you be *at* peace and not *have* peace?
2. Can you thank God but not praise him? What is the difference between thanksgiving and praise?
3. Does thanksgiving always lead to praise? Is that a good thing?

## Encouragement

The acts of God that cause us to thank Him also reveal His nature, His attributes, and His limitless qualities. Think of different acts and works of God in your life. What do they reveal about God? How have you been transformed? Share a few testimonies as time allows. Praise puts you into a position of victory and reframes your mindset into that is found in **Romans 8:31-32**:

*What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?*

When Paul and Silas found themselves in a Roman dungeon (read **Acts 16:23-24**), what was their response (read **Acts 16:25**) and what was the outcome (read **Acts 16:26, 34**)? What do you want to praise today and for the rest of the week?

**DEVOTIONAL:** As a small group, access the Weekly Devotional by going to [www.chapel.org](http://www.chapel.org), go to the **GROW** link at the top of the page and select **WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS** from the dropdown and then select **JESUS IDENTITY: WEEK TWO**.

## PROVIDE US WITH FEEDBACK

We are excited about the potential these studies have to help each of us process the weekend message at a deeper level, and to see God change our lives in significant ways. In order to make these guides as helpful as possible, we would love to hear which elements are most helpful, which are least helpful, as well as any other comments, questions or suggestions. Feel free to send your feedback directly to Jon Holmberg at [gabrielslyric@msn.com](mailto:gabrielslyric@msn.com).