

Hope of the World

Part 2, Colossians 1:15-23

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The Supremacy of the Son of God

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of ^[a] your evil behaviour. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

1. Discuss the relationship and position of Jesus to creation and the impact on your life.
2. Discuss what you know about other religions and what they say about Jesus – if anything.
3. What are the fundamental reasons of God sending Jesus as a human to die on the cross?
4. What life in history speaks to you most about a life that reflects Jesus as the Hope of the World?
5. How can we take the message of Jesus as Son of God and redeemer in this current world of materialism?
6. Discuss the quotes from Eric Liddell:

It is natural for a chap to think over all that sometimes, but I am glad I'm at the work I'm engaged in now. A fellow's life counts for far more at this than the other." EL

We are all missionaries. Wherever we go we either bring people nearer to Christ or we repel them from Christ. EL

In the dust of defeat as well as the laurels of victory there is glory to be found if one has done his best. EL
7. *They were all together in one place and in one accord.* Acts 2:1
How do we in PUC move more closely to the first church model?