

# SERMON OUTLINE Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Is Preeminent - The Firstborn of All Creation

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **JESUS IS PREEMINENT OVER ALL CREATION**

*The Firstborn of All Creation*

*Creation By and Through Him*

*Creation For Him*

## **CONCLUSION**

# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## MAIN POINT

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The big idea of this passage is that whatever form the hardships in your life take, you must know that whoever or whatever it is that is causing your trouble was created by, through, and for Jesus. There is great help in that knowledge for all who are hoping in Jesus. The main takeaway, then, is to learn to live out of that story—the greatest and truest story, with the greatest Hero, the greatest ending, and the greatest Author.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What hardships are you facing in life? What help is there for them?
3. What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Jesus as the "firstborn of all creation"?
4. Can you think of a specific time that Jesus being the "firstborn" brought you comfort?
5. Do you draw sharp lines around the work of the persons of God (Father/Creation, Son/redemption, Spirit/sanctification)?
6. Is it at all surprising that Creation took place by and through Jesus? What difference does that make?
7. How do you usually communicate something so significant that ordinary language won't do?
8. Try to express the reality behind Jesus as the firstborn of all Creation and/or as the One by and through whom God Created.
9. What is the most significant incentive you can imagine?
10. Is your suffering more physical, emotional, or theological? How is Jesus' preeminence over Creation a help in it?
11. If someone were to watch your life, what would they say you are living for?
12. How does the fact that all creation is *for* Jesus affect the way you live? What would it look like to live more for Jesus?
13. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

## AREAS OF APPLICATION

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14. Read straight through the entire book of Colossians.
15. Begin memorizing Colossians 1:15-20.
16. Try to tell the story you normally live out of in your suffering.
17. Research some aspect of God's creation this week and consider what it means that it is by, through, and for Jesus.
18. Share the good news of the preeminence of Jesus with someone who is suffering.
19. Ask someone to tell you one thing they got from this sermon and one way to pray for them in light of it.
20. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

## PRAYER POINTS

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21. Adoration. Praise God that He is the Creator of all. Praise God that He is preeminent over all everything. Praise Jesus that He is firstborn over all Creation. Praise Jesus that all Creation—on heaven and earth—is by, through, and for Him.
22. Confession. Confess any aspect of the story you're living out of in your suffering that is inconsistent with Colossians 1:15-16. Confess any ways you are being faithless in your suffering. Confess any indifference to you toward those who are suffering.
23. Thanksgiving. Thank God for revealing His image to the world in Jesus. Thank God for His continual ministry to you in your suffering. Thank God for aiming all creation at Jesus, from and to Him. Thank God for giving us a ministry to the suffering.
24. Supplication. Ask God to be near to someone who is suffering. Ask God to help you see the grace and mercy of God in your life. Ask God to sanctify the story you are living out of, and especially in your suffering. Ask God to fill us with awe at Jesus.