

## COLOSSIANS 1:15-20: THE REAL ART OF THE GOSPEL



The Colossian church had trouble recognizing the real art of the gospel message, and because of this, they were **easily fooled by counterfeits**.

1. Who is Jesus in Relation to God?
2. Who is Jesus in Relation to Creation?
3. Who is Jesus in Relation to the Church?

### 1. Who is Jesus in Relation to God?

Who do you believe Jesus is in relation to God? Do you believe that Jesus Christ is God? Do you believe that Jesus is the only one who can bring you peace with God and forgive you of your sins?

Each one of us here today has a **deep need** that only Jesus can meet and like the church in Colossae, we think there is something else that is going to meet that need. I don't know what you've tried or what you are trying, **but I can promise you, Jesus is Better!**

Everything else is **counterfeit art** and you are wasting your life chasing after it all because it's not the real thing!

### 2. Who is Jesus in Relation to Creation?

When Paul says that Jesus is the firstborn of all creation he means that Jesus **holds the highest and most prestigious place**. He is saying that **Jesus is supreme** over any and all things.

If Jesus cares for His creation this much, **how much more will He care for us?** He cares about us more than He cares for the stars and the planets. **Psalm 17** says we are the apple of His eye. If Jesus can hold the creation together, He is the **unmovable lynchpin** that will hold your life together.

**He takes what is chaotic and in darkness and creates order and brings light.**

It is easy to think that when circumstances in our lives are chaotic that God has stopped caring or even that God is somehow punishing us or is angry and taking out His wrath on us.

Many times, He is really shining light in our darkness. Many times, He is in the process of bringing order to our chaos because He loves us.

### 3. Who is Jesus in Relation to the Church?

We might say if God filled the tabernacle to meet with people during the Old Testament times, He has filled Jesus to meet with his New Testament people.

At the end of an interview, Dr. Dallas Willard was asked this pointed question: "When you look at how off track the church is, do you ever just throw up your hands in despair?" Willard smiled and said, "Never." "But how can you not?" the interviewer asked. "Because," he said, **"I know Christ is the head of His church and He knows what He's doing."**

This means that as part of His redeemed and new creation we are to live how He has created us to live. In a true sense the church on this side of heaven will always be broken but still beautiful.