

Colossians 1:15-23
In Him All Things
Hold Together

Col. 2:6 Therefore *as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,*
7 *having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established*
in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

Review of Last Week

Colossians 1:9-14
Strengthened
With All Power

“The wear and tear of daily living can chip away at our trust in God and our appreciation for the bounty of life **in Christ.**”

- The investment of praying for others 9a
- The fruit of understanding His will, having His power & giving thanks 9b-12
- The steadfastness of His rescue, redemption & forgiveness 11b-14

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“The church does not exist to meet the needs of its members
or to insure its institutional survival,
but to fulfill the redemptive purposes of Christ, its head.”

- The holy, creator God 15-17
- The crucified, risen King 18-20
- Not moved away from the hope of the gospel 21-23

Colossians 1:15 **He is the image** of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For **by Him all things were created**, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions 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**.

- The holy, creator God
 - Seeing Jesus in the Word of God gives us the best glimpse of God.
 - Without Jesus, everything falls apart.

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Colossians 1:18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. 19 For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

- The crucified, risen King is above all.
 - The resurrected Jesus is proof of new creation.
 - Redemption through the death of Jesus is the path to new creation. The redeemed become the church body.

Colossians 1:21 And although **you were formerly alienated and hostile** in mind, engaged in evil deeds, 22 **yet He has now reconciled you** in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach— 23 **if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel** that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

- Not moved away from the hope of the gospel
 - God's Reign As Christ Exemplified

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We are all sinners.

We all need Jesus as we are becoming saints.

We all need each other as we are becoming the church.

The world needs the gospel as we are living sent.