**THE SUPREMACY AND SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST**

Colossians 1:1-23 (Key verse 18,19)

*“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. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him*,”

*Live a life worthy of the Lord (1:10)*

1. Who are the author(s) and recipients of this letter? (1-2) What are Paul’s thanks topics for the Colossian believers? (3-5a) What is the outcome of hearing the true message of the gospel? (5b-8)
2. What is Paul's prayer for them? (9) What is the purpose of his prayer? (10a) How can they reach the goal? (10b-12) Read verses 12-14. Why should we give joyful thanks to God? (12) What has God done for us in Jesus Christ? (13-14)
3. Who is Jesus in relation to God? (15a) How did Paul describe God? (1 Ti 1:17; Jn 4:24) What does it mean that Jesus is the “image” of God? (Heb 1:3; Jn 1:18) What does the phrase “the firstborn over all creation” teach us about Jesus? (15b) [Here, the term “firstborn” does not mean created but preeminent.]

*The supremacy of Christ (18,19)*

4. How does verse 16 explain the scope, means and purpose of Jesus’ creation? (Jn 1:3) How is Jesus continually involved in his creation? (17) What is Jesus’ relation to the church? (18a) What does it mean that Jesus is the head of the church? (Eph 1:22,23) How did he become the head? (18b; 1Co 15:20–22; Ro6:9)

5. Based on verses 15–18, in what respects does Jesus have the supremacy? Why is Jesus alone sufficient? (19) What did God do through Jesus? (20a) How did God reconcile all things to himself? (20b) How did Paul describe our former condition? (21) What happened to us because of Jesus’ death? (22) What do we need to continue in? (23a)