

“Why He Should Have First-Place”
Colossians 1:15-20, Pt. 5

I. Why did Jesus’ resurrection take place so long before ours?

- A. Why did He rise in the “middle” of history instead of the end?
- B. So that He might have first-place in all things, including resurrection. (Col 1:18)

II. Why does Jesus deserve first-place in all things?

- A. He is fully God and fully man. (Col. 1:19)
- B. He has reconciled all things to Himself. (Col. 1:20)

- 1. Every single person? See the passage below:

2 Corinthians 5:18–20 - ¹⁸ Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

- 2. Every single wayward heavenly being?

Hebrews 2:16 - For surely it is not angels that He helps, but He helps the offspring of Abraham.

- a. Also, the unique Greek word used for reconciliation can mean “restoring the original intended order”.

Colossians 2:10, 13–15 - ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority...¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

- b. The cross of Christ silenced the accusations of hostile heavenly beings and also put them under His rule.
- 3. Through the cross of Christ, the elect have been restored to proper fellowship with God.

4. In Christ, humanity has been restored to its proper place in the universe.

III. How should we respond to Col. 1:15-20? With joyful praise!

Psalm 98:1-3 - ¹ Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. ² The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. ³ He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.