

# Sermon Notes

## Jesus is Better

### The Hero of the Bible

#### Jesus and Creation

*"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 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. (Colossians 1:15-16)*

#### Chorus

*He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:17)*

#### Jesus and Redemption

*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. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, 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. (Colossians 1:18-20)*

*And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, 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-- 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." (Colossians 1:21-23)*

# Feb 9 2014 For Further Thought And Discussion

#### Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Can you think of a time when getting outside of a situation helped you to see that situation more clearly? Or where getting some distance created greater clarity? Why must we get outside of ourselves to really understand ourselves? How has knowing Christ changed your perspective of yourself?

#### Going Deeper

1. Please read the poem in Colossians 1:15-23 and discuss each of the following descriptions of Jesus. What does each teach you about Jesus? How would knowing this about Jesus change the way you look at Christ? At yourself? At life?

*"He is the image of the invisible God"*

*"the firstborn of all creation"*

*"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."*

*"He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together."*

*"He is also head of the body, the church;"*

*"He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything."*

*"For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him,"*

*"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."*

2. What's the difference between seeing Christ as the end and seeing Christ as the means? Which is more familiar in your own relationship with Him?

#### Application

What is one lesson you will apply from this week's discussion? How will you apply it?