

Christ Alone: Who Jesus Is and Why He Matters

Colossians 1:15-20 (a hymn of praise to Christ)

Do we need any supplements to get us to God?

Modern supplements: religion, good deeds, _____

Colossian supplements: emanations, a stairway to heaven

Jesus Christ is more than enough! After Paul's opening prayer for them (and for us, 1:9-14) his hymn of praise assures us of this

1. Jesus Christ in his relationship to God the Father, 1:13-15

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son...

- Forgiver of our sins
- Facsimile of the invisible God
- Firstborn of all creation

2. Jesus Christ in his relationship to all creation, 1:16-17

For by him all things were created.

- Through him
- For him
- He is before all things
- In him all things hold together
- Preeminent(above) in all things
- The fullness of God dwelling in him
- Reconciling all things...by his cross

3. Jesus Christ in his relationship to us, the church, 1:18, 21-23

Christ, the fullness of everything there is....is the head of the church, his body.

Once alienated from God...

Hostile in mind

Doing evil deeds

Now reconciled

In his flesh body by death

In order to present you

Holy

Blameless

Above reproach before

him.

So "continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven" 1:23

A Prayer for us (based on 1:9-12)

May we be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.

May this lead us to live in a manner worthy of the Lord. May we be fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in all we do. May we know God more and more.

May we be strengthened with God's glorious might so that we may endure with patience and joy.

We thank you, Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Who is Jesus?

Why does he matter?