

EVERYTHING IS FOR HIM AND FOR HIM

Houses of Light Church • November 27-28, 2021 • Pastor Netz Gómez

Col. 1:15-20

"The Son [Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers 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. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Last week at our Annual Leadership Conference our church was heavily ministered and confirmed in the identity and purpose of what God loves about this place and what He wants to do. We recommend that you listen carefully to each conference.
- B. During these almost 22 years, since the Lord started this church He has been building something and we want to recognize it and continue building what He wants. **We know that our church is about Jesus. He is revival, He is the head of the nations. Everything points to Him and the Father wants us to stay in that reality.**

II. WHO IS JESUS

- A. v.15a ***"The Son [Christ] is the image of the invisible God"*** Calling Christ *"the image of the invisible God"* means that in Him the being and nature of God have been perfectly manifested; it means that in Christ the invisible of God has become visible. The concept of "image" involves at least three things:
 - 1. **The Likeness:** Christ is an exact reflection of who God is.
Heb. 1:3 *"The Son [Christ] is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being..."*
 - 2. **The Representation:** Christ makes God known to us; He represents the nature of God for all to see.
Jn. 1:18 *"No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known."*
 - 3. **The manifestation:** Christ is the reality and closeness of the Father among us.
Jn. 14:9 *"[Jesus said] Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father..."*
Jn. 1:14b *"...We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

- B. **v. 15b-16** *"the firstborn over all creation. 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible..."* This means that Jesus is superior to creation and that he has priority over all of it. Christ was before all creation in time, and He is in authority over all creation. It also means that He gives rise to creation. All things, in all places, of all kinds and of all ranks originated with Him. God gave life to the entire universe through His Son..

Jn. 1:3 *"Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made."*

- C. **v.16b** *"whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities"* Paul listed various ranges of spiritual powers and in this way affirmed that Christ is superior to all of them. On the cross, Christ conquered all kinds of spiritual forces especially those that captivate the human soul. Christ has shown that he is above all of them and therefore we do not fear.
- D. **v.16c** *"all things have been created through him and for him"* Christ is not only the means by which everything was created but the final purpose. History is moving toward a goal when the entire created universe will glorify Christ.

Phil. 2:10-11 *"that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.."*

- E. When you want to build a building, you first get the architect to design and prepare the plans and specifications according to the owner's wishes. Then a builder is hired and once it is finished the owner takes possession of the building to inhabit it. Jesus is not only the architect and but also the builder and owner of everything. He is the one who plans and produces. The Father did everything for His delight.
- F. **v.17** *"He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."* Christ is the antecedent of creation; this statement, combined with the previous one that He is the *"firstborn of all creation"* (v.15b), **proves that Christ is the one who preserves and maintains the existence of what He has created.** He prints the unity and coherence that make the world a livable place rather than chaos.

III. WHAT PLACE SHOULD HE HAVE IN THE CHURCH?

- A. **v.18a** *"And he is the head of the body, the church"* Here Paul uses the analogy of the body to illustrate the sovereignty of Christ over Christians. **He is the one leading the redemption and consummation of all things.** Our Lord provides authority and direction for His body.
- B. **v.18b** *"he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy."* Christ is the beginning of the church in which He is the power and source of spiritual and physical life. **He became the first to rise from the dead with a glorified body and is the first of many; because He will also resurrect us at the end of the age.**

Jn. 6:40 "For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

- C. **v.19 "For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him"** The importance of Paul's language is to indicate that **the fullness of God's self-revelation is focused on Christ**; that the totality of God's interaction with the universe is summed up in Christ. This "fullness" refers to the official power of Christ that the Father gave after His resurrection rather than His essential power that was always His by virtue of His deity..

IV. HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND TO HIM?

- A. As a church we recognize all that He is and prepare everything to show Him that He is welcome but when He arrives He wants our home to be His home.

Rev. 3:20 "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."

- B. While Jesus was physically here on earth, few people knew how to host him as he deserves:

1. **THE SINFUL WOMAN of Lk. 7:37-38 "A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. 38 As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them."**

JESUS EXPECTS TO BE TREATED WORTHILY Lk. 7:44-46 "Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet."

2. **MARY in Lk. 10:38-42 "...a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said...41 Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."**

- a) **Jesus was received with expensive perfume:** We receive Him with offerings both financial and of gratitude and adoration that express how much we appreciate him. Jesus says to Simon: "You did not anoint my head with oil" this represents filling him with appreciation with our resources.
- b) **Bowing down at His feet:** Bowing down to the ground implies acknowledging His lordship and authority in our lives precisely as the one that has preeminence.

Lc. 11:31 y 32 *"The Queen of the South... she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here. 32 The men of Nineveh...they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here."*

- c) **With tears:** This speaks of being moved by Him, it is giving Him your emotions. Legalism says, "that's emotionalism," but if you don't learn to give Jesus your emotions, many things in your life will be out of balance because much of what you do comes from your emotions. What you feel affects what you do. This woman's tears were of happiness for having been forgiven and washed away.
 - d) **Washing and kissing his feet:** Jesus' feet are beautiful because he brought the gospel (Isa. 52: 7) and they were going to be nailed to the cross for our sins. **Kissing his feet speaks of giving him your affections and when you do, you will strengthen yourself in him (Phil. 4:13).**
 - e) **Giving him our full attention:** Mary gave Jesus the importance that He deserves, leaving everything else aside. More than any news, discovery, gain, human wisdom or entertainment, He is worthy of being heard with our whole being.
- C. **We must give our love to Jesus.** None of this He takes away by force; it is something that you give of your will and that is genuine worship. Your life will be measured by this great commandment.

V. CONCLUSION

- A. **God is raising up a church that knows how to respond to his coming.** At Houses of Light we are learning to respond to Jesus; we are growing in understanding to be better hosts. When He becomes the goal we begin to see results. **We long for this house to be marked by Him.**
- B. If you say I need more, how can you need something more if you have Him? We simply need Jesus; the Father has a sermon: *"This is my Beloved Son, hear Him."* (Matt. 17: 5). The Lord is bringing us back to this reality. **The only thing we have is Jesus but he is the only thing that he counts. This is the future of where the church of Jesus is going worldwide.**
- C. **At the end of the age the church is seen as the beloved lying on the breast of her beloved (Song 8:5).**

VI. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. In what aspect(s) can you be a better host to the presence of Jesus in your life, family, and church? Explain
2. What hindrances do you need to remove to better respond to the glorious presence of Jesus?
3. What does it mean to you to give your emotions to Jesus?