

“He Might Have the Preeminence”

Col. 1:12-18

Introduction

- I. Colossians 1:18 is the only verse in the New Testament that contains the Greek word that is translated as “preeminence.”
 - A. It's meaning, according to both Strong and Thayer, is “to be first.”
 - B. It is used in reference to Jesus Christ, that He is to have the “preeminence.”
- II. Why is such a great designation bestowed upon Christ?

Discussion

- I. Christ is preeminent because He is the the only begotten Son of God (John 3:16; Luke 1:31-32, 35).
 - A. Five times in the King James Version, John called Jesus the “only begotten” (John 1:14, 18, 3:16, 18; 1 John 4:9).
 - B. There has never been, nor will the ever be, another “only begotten Son of God.
- II. Christ is preeminent because He is the first born from the dead never to die again (Col. 1:18; Rev. 1:5).
 - A. Others have been resurrected, but they all had to die again (John 11:43-44; Matt. 27:50-53).
 - B. Jesus ascended to Heaven, and He continues (Acts 1:9; Heb. 7:23-25).
- III. Christ is preeminent because He is the head of the church (Col. 1:18; Eph. 5:22-27).
 - A. There is no man on Earth who is the head of the church.
 - B. There is only one Good Shepherd, Whose flock the church is (John 10:11-14; 1 Pet. 5:4).
- IV. Christ is preeminent because He has all authority (Matt. 28:18).
 - A. This authority was made known at the Mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 17:1-5).
 - B. What we do is to be authorized by the Lord (Col. 3:17).
- V. Christ is preeminent because His name is above all names (Phil. 2:9-11).
 - A. Salvation can only be found in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:11-12).
 - B. Keep in mind, that all acknowledge such.
- VI. Christ is preeminent because He sits at the right hand of the LORD (Acts 2:34-35; Heb. 1:3).
 - A. Others desired this position, but it is only filled by Christ (Mark 10:37; 1 Tim. 6:15).
 - B. The right hand denotes trust, authority, and preeminence.
- VII. Christ is preeminent because He is the Judge of all mankind (Acts 17:30-31; John 5:22-23).
 - A. He will use His Word as the standard by which man will be judged (John 12:48).
 - B. Every person will stand before His judgment seat (Matt. 25:32; 2 Cor. 5:10).

Conclusion

- I. Jesus should be first in our lives.
- II. After all that He has done for us, He deserves the honor, reverence, and yes, the preeminence!