



Pointers and questions on Paul's letter to the

COLOSSIANS

Session 2

1:15-20

The Centrality of Jesus Christ

Summary

- 1:15-17** Far from being just one among many heavenly beings to be worshipped—as the false teachers taught—Christ is shown to be uniquely superior. He is in fact the Creator of all things, and also the sustainer of all he has created.
- 1:18-20** Christ's headship includes headship over the church, which is the fruit of his death and resurrection. He is the first to have risen from the dead—his redeemed people will do the same. Though truly man, Christ is also God in the fullest sense, and is thus able to be an effective mediator between God the Father and fallen humanity.

Questions to get you thinking

1. We find it easy to imagine Jesus the *man*. It's more difficult to grasp his deity. Look hard at this passage. What insights does it provide into the majesty of his person?
2. Do you think of Jesus Christ as the Creator? Examine v16 carefully. What does it say about him in this respect?
3. 'In him all things hold together' (v17). What aspects of your own life sometimes feel as if they are about to fall apart? Do you think Christ's 'holding together' role applies to them?
4. Jesus has 'the supremacy' (v18). Talk about the ways in which some people reduce him to a lower status. How do people today—both religious and non-religious—regard him?
5. 'To reconcile to himself all things' (v19). What would you say to those who maintain, on the basis of statements like this, that even Christ-haters, fallen angels and the devil himself will in the end be saved? Is that a biblical position overall?
6. If Jesus is as important as this passage says, what adjustments do you need to make in the way you think of him, speak about him and relate to him?

