

Lesson Six The Case for the Deity of Jesus - **Jesus Is Our Answer - Col 1:13-23**

Intro:

- A. The Topic for today's lesson – "JESUS" is our Answer?
 1. The question that NEED'S ANSWERING is simply – WHAT MUST WE DO?
 2. Since "ALL" have sinned – Romans 3:23 and the just punishment of God towards us is "DEATH" – Romans 6:23 – we find ourselves in a situation of complete helplessness.
 3. It is because of this that God has intervened.
- B. The Word (pre-Incarnate) needed to become Flesh (Incarnate) because He, and He alone, is our Answer:
 1. He Is The Only Savior of Sinners – (**Col 1:13-14, 21-23**)
 2. He Created All That Is – (**Col 1:15-17**)
 3. He Is Deity – (**Col 1:15-17**)
 4. He Is The Head of The Church – (**Col 1:18**)
 5. All That God Provides Is Found In Jesus – (**Col 1:19-20**)
- C. **Colossians 1:13-23** (NKJV) - 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.
 1. 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible,
 2. whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.
 3. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,
 4. 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.
 5. 21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled 22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight-
 6. 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.
- D. Misconceptions in the Colossian Heresy:
 1. Qumranian Mysticism, Asceticism and Paganism
 - a. Being in Christ is not sufficient – (**1:19; 2:9**)
 - b. Must have the secret wisdom and knowledge outside of Christ – (**1:28; 2:3,4**)
 - (1) Colossians 1:28 ---- 28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.
 - (2) vrs 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.4 Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words.
 - c. Must have philosophies of men about the basic principles of the world – (2:8)
 - (1) Colossians 2:8 ---- 8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.
 - d. Voluntary humility and the worship of angels – (**2:18**)
 - (1) Colossians 2:18 ---- 18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly

- puffed up by his fleshly mind,
e. Intruding into things not seen – (2:18)

II. **He Is The Savior of Sinners** – (Col 1:13,14,21-23)

- A. Released From Satan's Control - Delivered from Satan's power and transferred into Christ's kingdom – (Col 1:13; John 18:36-37; Rev 1:5,9; Eph. 1:20,21)
1. **John 18:36-37** ---- 36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." 37 Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."
 2. **Revelation 1:5,9** ---- 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 9 I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.
 3. **Ephesians 1:20-22** ---- 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,
- B. Released From The Bondage of Sin – Redeemed and forgiven through Jesus' blood – (Col 1:14; Rom 3:24-26; Eph 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18,19)
1. **Romans 3:24-26** ---- 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.
 2. **Ephesians 1:7** ---- 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace
 3. **1 Peter 1:18-19** ---- 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.
 4. **Acts 26:18** (NKJV) - 18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'
- C. (Col 1:21) - You, Who Once Were
1. Alienated ; Enemies ; Wicked Works
- D. (Col 1:21,22) - Yet Now He Has Reconciled
1. Holy ; Blameless ; Above Reproach
- E. Salvation Is Conditional-
1. Initial justification gained when, by faith, a penitent believer is baptized into Christ– (Col 1:2:11-13)
 - a. **Colossians 2:11-13** ---- 11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your

- trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,
2. The justified person must “continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard” (**Col 1:23**)
 - a. **Colossians 2:23** ---- 23 These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, *false* humility, and neglect of the body, *but are* of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

III. **Jesus Christ Is Deity** - (**Col 1:15-17**)

- A. The Image of the invisible God - the word image is the Greek word *eikon* {i-kone'} - Meaning "an image, figure, likeness" – (**John 1:18; 14:7-9; 2 Cor 4:4; Heb 1:3**)
 1. **John 1:18** ---- 18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*.
 2. **John 14:7-9** ---- 7 “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.”⁸ Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.”⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”
 3. **2 Corinthians 4:4** ---- 4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.
 4. **Hebrews 1:3** ---- 3 who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
- B. The Firstborn over all creation – Not stating that Jesus was a created being – BUT stressing that Jesus is pre-eminent over all creation. (**cf. Col 1: 18; Heb 1:5-9; Rev 1:5**)
 1. **Hebrews 1:5-9** ---- 5 For to which of the angels did He ever say: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You”? And again: “I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son”?⁶ But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: “Let all the angels of God worship Him.”⁷ And of the angels He says: “Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire.”⁸ But to the Son *He says*: “Your throne, O God, *is* forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness *is* the scepter of Your Kingdom. ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”
 2. **Revelation 1:5** ---- 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
- C. Every Thing That Was Created Was Created By The Son – the mediating cause; through Him, - (**John 1:3; Heb 1:2**)
 1. **John 1:3** ---- 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.
 2. **Hebrews 1:2** ---- 2 has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;
 3. THE SUSTAINER OF ALL THINGS (**Col 1:17b**)
 - a. "IN HIM ALL THINGS CONSIST" “and in Him all things hold together.” (ASV)
 - (1) That is, in Him all things are kept in their present state
 - (a) Their existence, order, and arrangement are continued in the present form by HIS power! - **cf. Heb 1:3** - “And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. (ASV)

- (b) He gave the command for all things to come into existence, and he gave the command for all things continue to work as He set them in order –
 - i) The sun, moon, & other heavenly bodies continue their course -
 - ii) All things on earth reproduce after their kind –
 - iii) The weather – nature – the boundaries of mans knowledge -
- b. WHAT IF JESUS CHOSE TO REMOVE HIS POWER?
 - (1) **2 Peter 3:5** 5For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.
- D. Every Thing Was Created Unto The Son – “All things, as they had their beginning in Him, tend to Him as their consummation, to depend on and serve Him.”-Vincent's Word Studies
- E. The Son Existed Before Any Created Thing Existed – Therefore the Son was not a created being – (**Col 1:17; John 1:1,2; 8:58; 17:5; Phil 2:6,7; Rev 1:11; 22:13**)
 - 1. **John 1:1-2** ---- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.2 He was in the beginning with God.
 - 2. **John 8:58** ---- 58 Jesus said to them, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.**”
 - 3. **Philippians 2:6-7** ---- 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.
 - 4. **Revelation 1:11; 22:13** ---- 11 saying, “**I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,**” and, “**What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.**”
 - a. **Rev 22:13** “**I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.**”
- F. In Him All Things Consist – “i.e. In Him all things are held together” - Creation continues to be sustained by the Son --The Universe’s existence, order, and arrangement continues in its present form by HIS power! - (**Col 1:17; Heb 1:3**)
 - 1. **Hebrews 1:3** (NKJV) - 3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
- G. The Son “Impresses upon creation that principle of unity and solidarity which makes it a cosmos instead of chaos “ [Lightfoot]

IV. **Jesus Christ Is The Head of The Church** – (**Col 1:18**)

- A. Christ Is The Authority Over His Church - The Head Gives Direction To, And Rules The Body – (**Col 1:18; Eph 1:20,21; 5:24**)
 - 1. **Ephesians 1:20** (NKJV) - 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
 - a. **Ephesians 1:21** (NKJV) - 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
 - 2. **Ephesians 5:24** (NKJV) - 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.
- B. “Who Is The Beginning”– Refers to Jesus as being the life force and creator of the church - (**Col**

¹ The New King James Version. 1982. Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

1:18; Matt 16:18; Acts 2:47; 2 Cor 5:17; Eph 2:10; Gal 6:15; 1 Pet 2:9,10)

1. **Matthew 16:18** (NKJV) - 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
 2. **Acts 2:47** (NKJV) - 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.
 3. **2 Corinthians 5:17** (NKJV) - 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
 4. **Ephesians 2:10** (NKJV) - 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.
 5. **Galatians 6:15** (NKJV) - 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.
 6. **1 Peter 2:9** (NKJV) - 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
 - a. **1 Peter 2:10** (NKJV) - 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.
- C. **The Firstborn From The Dead – The first to be raised from the dead never to die again (Col 1:18; Heb 1:6; Rev 1:5) – The church and our hope is grounded upon this truth! - (1 Cor. 15:1-4,20)**
1. **Hebrews 1:6** (NKJV) - 6 But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: “Let all the angels of God worship Him.”
 2. **Revelation 1:5** (NKJV) - 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
 3. **1 Corinthians 15:1-4** (NKJV) - 1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,
 4. **1 Corinthians 15:20** (NKJV) - 20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- D. **That In All Things He May Have The Preeminence – Over the material universe (previously established 15b-17) – here – over the church – i.e. – both material and spiritual realm! – (1 Cor 15:27)**
1. **1 Corinthians 15:27** (NKJV) - 27 For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.
- V. **All That God Provides Is Found In Jesus – (Col 1:19,20)**
- A. **Jesus, The Son, Is Fully God –(John 8:58; Heb 1:8,9; Phil 2:6) – All The Fullness Should Dwell In Him – All one needs from God is found in Christ - In His CHURCH – [Salvation - Wisdom - Knowledge – Completeness – All Blessings] - (Col 2:3,9,10; 3:11; Eph 1:3, 23)**
 1. **John 8:58** (NKJV) - 58 Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”
 2. **Hebrews 1:8** (NKJV) - 8 But to the Son He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.
 - a. **Hebrews 1:9** (NKJV) - 9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”
 3. **Philippians 2:6** (NKJV) - 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be

- equal with God,
- B. “This is to us a most precious truth. We have a Saviour who is in no respect deficient in wisdom, power, and grace to redeem and save us. There is nothing necessary to be done in our salvation which he is not qualified to do; there is nothing which we need to enable us to perform our duties, to meet temptation, and to bear trial, which he is not able to impart. In no situation of trouble and danger will the church find that there is a deficiency in him; in no enterprise to which she can put her hands will there be a lack of power in her great Head to enable her to accomplish what he calls her to. We may go to him in all our troubles, weaknesses temptations, and needs, and may be supplied from his fullness-just as, if we were thirsty, we might go to an ocean of pure water and drink.”- Albert Barnes,
 - C. **Ephesians 3:14-21** (NKJV) - 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height-- 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

VI. Conclusion:

- A. He Is The Only Savior of Sinners – (Col 1:13,14,21-23)
- B. He Created All That Is – (Col 1:15-17)
- C. He Is Deity – (Col 1:15-17)
- D. He Is The Head of The Church – (Col 1:18)
- E. All That God Provides Is Found In Jesus – (Col 1:19,20)