

With the Master and Nothing Else!—Lesson 5—Colossians 1:15-19—Who is the Lord?

1. (a) Read Colossians 1:15-19. What appears to be the theme of these verses? (b) List 5 questions an unbeliever may ask when reading this passage for the first time. (You do not need to answer the questions; just ask them.)

2. Memorize Colossians 1:16.

3. (a) We know from Colossians 1:18 that Christ is the head of the body, the church. What does that mean according to Ephesians 1:22-23 and Ephesians 4:15-16? (b) What does He do as the Head of the church? (See 1 Corinthians 12 for more help.)

4. (a) Read Job 38 and 39; write down at least 10 observations about God as Creator and Sustainer of the universe that are especially meaningful to you. (b) What is Job's response to all that God says? See Job 40:3-5. (c) How do these verses help you to understand more clearly what Paul says in Colossians 1:15-19? (d) Is your response like Job's? Why or why not?

5. (a) In the following passages, who is being raised from the dead, and by whom are they being raised? 2 Kings 4:18-37; Luke 7:11-15; John 11:41-44; John 20:1-10; Acts 9:36-42, and Acts 20:7-12. (b) What is different about the Lord's resurrection in contrast to these others? (c) What is the significance of Christ's resurrection, according to 1 Corinthians 15:12-28? (d) How does 1 Corinthians 15:20 help you better understand Colossians 1:18?

6. (a) How could you use Colossians 1:15-19 in presenting the gospel to someone? (b) How could you use Colossians 1:15-19 to help those who are caught up in Gnosticism?

7. What does it mean to you personally that Christ is the Creator of all things?

8. (a) In what ways can Jesus Christ be given first place in our lives? (b) What things might we put before Him?

9. After meditating on Colossians 1:15-19 this week, what encouragement does it give you for any difficulties you are now facing? Write down your petitions and pray with faith that the Lord of all Creation, who upholds the world by His power, will answer your prayers! Bring a petition to share.