

JESUS GOD

Let us look at Colossians chapter 1 beginning at verse 15. Most of it is easily understood but there are a couple of things that would have been understood by the early church but are a stumbling block to us. The first is the word image which conjures up an image of an idol which has caused heresy among the cults. It could also be thought that Jesus is the physical image of the invisible God but scripture tells us it is a reference to God's perfect nature to which we shall be transformed:

put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
Col 3:9b

And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.
1Co 15:49

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.
2Co 3:18

Another stumbling block which has caused heresy among the cults is the word "firstborn." This has caused people to say that Jesus is a created being which totally misses the importance of Christ's death and resurrection making him the firstborn from the dead and the pre-eminent head of the church on earth.

Rev 1:5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us, and has washed us from our sins in his blood,

4416 /prōtōtokos ("firstly") specifically refers to Christ as the first to experience glorification, i.e. at His resurrection (see Heb 12:23; Rev 1:5). For this (and countless other reasons) Jesus is "preeminent" (4416 /prōtōtokos) – the unequivocal Sovereign over all creation (Col 1:16).

Continuing our study we read:

Jesus is God

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." (John 1:1)

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. (1 Tim 3:16 16)

Jesus is Father

Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father. (John 14:9)

Jesus is Creator; Head and First Born from the Dead

"by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Jesus is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Jesus is the head of the body, the church: which had it's beginning in the resurrection firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the pre-eminence."