[**Before All Things**](https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/13Q63Xtv-sXzV2IUvM1PXGBtv9m-slq-TFD5l3S-P7xc/edit)**📖 Lesson 2 – *Before All Things***

**Scripture Text:** Colossians 1:15–23
 **Golden Text:** *“[The Son] is before all things, and by Him all things consist”* (Colossians 1:17).

**🔑 Vocabulary Section**

* **Preeminence** – Supremacy, absolute first place above all things.
* **Image (Greek: eikōn)** – Visible manifestation of an invisible reality.
* **Firstborn (Greek: prōtotokos)** – Position of rank and inheritance, not creation; authority and honor.
* **Consist (Greek: synistēmi)** – To hold together, sustain, keep from falling apart.
* **Reconcile (Greek: apokatallassō)** – To restore to favor, bring back into harmony.
* **Fullness (Greek: plērōma)** – The complete presence and essence of God dwelling in Christ.
* **Alienated** – Separated, estranged, cut off from relationship.
* **Grounded** – Firmly established, with a foundation that will not shake.
* **Preexistence** – Christ’s eternal being before creation.

**📖 Scriptures**

**Colossians 1:15–23 (AMP)**

*[15] He is the exact living image [the essential manifestation] of the unseen God [the visible representation of the invisible], the firstborn [the preeminent one, the sovereign] over all creation.
 [16] For by Him all things were created in heaven and on earth, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things were created and exist through Him [that is, by His activity] and for Him.
 [17] And He Himself existed and is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.
 [18] He is also the head [the life-source and leader] of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will occupy the first place [He will stand supreme and be preeminent] in everything.
 [19] For it pleased the Father for all the fullness of deity—the sum total of His essence, all His perfection, powers, and attributes—to dwell permanently in Him.
 [20] and through [the intervention of] the Son to reconcile all things to Himself, making peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven.
 [21] And although you were at one time estranged and alienated and hostile-minded toward Him, participating in evil things,
 [22] yet Christ has now reconciled you [to God] in His physical body through death, in order to present you before the Father holy and blameless and beyond reproach—
 [23] [and He will do this] if you continue in the faith, well-grounded and steadfast, and not shifting away from the confident hope [that is a result] of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which [gospel] I, Paul, was made a minister.*

**📝 Lesson Outline**

**1. Christ’s Preeminence Over All Creation (Col. 1:15–17)**

**Main Points**

* Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God.
* He is the rightful heir and ruler over creation.
* All things (visible and invisible, spiritual and physical) were created by Him and for Him.
* He existed before all things and sustains all things.

**Next Level Point:** ➡️ Christ doesn’t just start creation—He sustains it. In 2025, that means your life holds together not by willpower, but by His power.

**2. Christ’s Preeminence in the New Creation (Col. 1:18–20)**

**Main Points**

* Jesus is the Head of the church, giving it life and direction.
* His resurrection is the start of a new creation.
* Fullness of God permanently dwells in Him.
* Through His blood, peace and reconciliation are offered to all creation.

**Next Level Point:** ➡️ Resurrection power isn’t locked in the past—it fuels believers now to live reconciled, restored, and renewed.

**3. Applying Christ’s Preeminence to Believers (Col. 1:21–23)**

**Main Points**

* Once alienated, now reconciled through Christ’s death.
* Believers are presented holy, blameless, and beyond accusation.
* The call is to remain grounded and steadfast in faith.
* Hope of the gospel is the anchor that keeps us.

**Next Level Point:** ➡️ Christ’s supremacy demands my consistency—faith must not drift, but deepen.

**🌟 Key Points of the Golden Text**

*Colossians 1:17 – “[The Son] is before all things, and by Him all things consist.”*

1. Christ’s eternal existence—He always *was*.
2. Christ’s sustaining power—He keeps all creation intact.
3. Christ’s authority over time, space, and eternity.
4. Christ’s relevance—He still holds *your* world together in 2025.
5. Christ’s supremacy—no one else can compare.

**📌 Practical Points**

1. Jesus is the perfect reflection of God—study His life to know the Father.
2. Nothing in creation has power over Christ—believers should not fear spiritual forces.
3. The very fact that creation still exists proves God’s sustaining power.
4. The church thrives only because Christ is its Head.
5. Christ’s cross-work reconciles even the broken systems of the world.
6. Faith must remain rooted in the gospel, not in trends or shifting culture.

**🧭 Applications for My Life – 5 Compass Points**

1. **Anchor in Christ’s Supremacy** – In a culture of shifting truths, I rest in Jesus who is before all things.
2. **Live Reconciled** – No longer alienated; I walk daily in restored fellowship with God.
3. **Stay Grounded** – I won’t drift in faith; I’ll be settled in the gospel’s hope.
4. **See the Bigger Picture** – All creation is Christ’s; my life must serve His purpose.
5. **Embrace Resurrection Power** – I live as part of the new creation, empowered to overcome.