the SUPREMACY of CHRIST
Colossians 1:15-18

Introduction
Who is Jesus?
- A prophet or religious leader
- A philosopher or teacher
- A miracle worker or healer
- God
- Just a man

Who’s telling the truth?

Jesus said, “Unless you believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will die in your sins.” John 8:24

Who is Jesus Christ?
It is the most important question we will ever answer.

What does the Bible say?

I. He is God.
Colossians 1:15

“He is the image of the invisible God.”
The word image means likeness or manifestation.

Jesus is God in human flesh.
“The Son is the radiance of God’s glory, the exact representation of his being.” Hebrews 1:3
“No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.” John 1:18

“He who has seen me has seen the Father.” John 14:9
If we want to know what God is like, we need to look at Jesus.

II. He is the Lord of Creation. Colossians 1:15-17
“He is the firstborn over all creation.”

What does the word firstborn mean?
- Jehovah’s Witnesses would say it means that Jesus had a beginning.
- Latter Day Saints would say that Jesus is our elder brother.
- Both would say that Jesus is not God in the way that we believe the Bible teaches.

The false teachers at Colosse believed:
- God was remote and inaccessible.
- He could only be reached through a long series of intermediaries and Jesus was one of them.
- The way you get to know God was by climbing the steps of their secret knowledge.

What does the Bible say?
The word firstborn denotes priority in time and supremacy in rank.
He is the Lord of Creation because he existed before the worlds were made.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God.” John 1:1

He is the Creator.

“For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.”

He is over all power and authority.  
All things exist for him and for his glory.  
He sustains them all by his power.

Is Jesus just a man?  
No, he is the Lord of Creation.

III. He is the Lord of the New Creation, the church.  
Colossians 1:18

“He is the head of the body, the church.”

He is our authority.  
He gives direction to the church.

He is the source of life and he gives life to all who believe in him.  
He is the beginning.  
The church is his idea.
He is the firstborn from the dead. He triumphed over sin, death and Satan.
He is Supreme!

Conclusion
Who is Jesus?
• He is God.
• He’s the Creator.
• He’s the Savior.
• He’s my Lord.