



SERIES: August / September Series “HE IS ENOUGH”

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Saturday, 08/14/2021

Scripture: Colossians 1:18

NC0229

TITLE: Who’s in First Place?

Who is the first place in your life? Is it your spouse? Is it your kids? Is it a parent? Maybe it’s not a who, but a what. Is it your work? Is it your pets? Your golf? Your streaming services? What thing or person takes precedence over your life? Who or what is in the first place? Now, you may know what I’m going to ask next, “Who should take first place over your life?” Chances are the “ought” and “is” answers are not the same, if you’re like me. But let’s let the Apostle Paul help us align those answers.

Here’s what Paul writes in Colossians 1:18 (NLT):

“Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything.”

As a reminder, Paul is writing the Colossian church to combat heresies about Christ. He has declared that Jesus is God, Redeemer, Creator, and Sustainer, Head of the Church, and now the Beginning.

“The beginning of what? I thought He wasn’t a created being.”

He’s not. He is The Beginning, or we might say, The Source and Head of the Church. We talked about this yesterday. Christ brings life to the Church. If Christ is apart from a church, it’s no longer a church. It’s a corpse. Christ is the Architect and Sustainer of the Body of Christ.

Paul also says that Christ is “supreme over all who rise from the dead.” Is Paul writing an episode of “The Walking Dead”? No, he’s not. He wasn’t a big zombie fan. But Christ is the First of who was raised from the dead and will never die again. Christ is the First and again Supreme One, who has been resurrected. Death is not the end, but only the beginning. When a believer dies, our souls don’t vanish. Our life doesn’t go on hold. Our Spirit immediately goes into the presence of God. And at a time only He knows, Christ will come back to resurrect us, and judge the living and the dead.

It was Billy Graham who said, “Someday you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don’t you believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone into the presence of God.” (*Billy Graham: God’s Ambassador* – originating from D.L. Moody)

His resurrection will be our resurrection.

Jesus is God, Redeemer, Creator, Sustainer, Head of the Church, Beginning, and Supreme. Therefore, Christ should be in first place in your life. He deserves preeminence overall.

So here's my challenge for you today: Put Christ back where He belongs. Christ is worthy of all praise, honor, and glory. Jesus Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He deserves to be in first place in your life. The question is will you let Him? Why do those hobbies, pets, or people hold priority? Christ is ready to move back into His rightful position. So begin to do so today.

When Christ reigns in our lives, we will win the day.