



“He Holds It All Together”

Colossians 1:17-18

December 12, 2021

MY STORY

1. Have you had moments or seasons of life when it felt like things might fall apart? That the world might come undone? That the church might unravel? That you might come undone? What happened?

QUICK REVIEW

Awaiting trial before Caesar in Rome, Paul is on house arrest. He receives a visit from one of his former students, Epaphras, who had planted the church in Colossae. Epaphras brings a glowing report of the church’s faithfulness and the report of false teaching infecting this small city. Paul writes to fortify the church with a clear, accurate view of the supremacy and the sufficiency of Christ Jesus for life and salvation.

In verses 15-20, it appears that Paul incorporates one of the early hymns of the Christian church. It presents a pure, elevated view of our all-sufficient Christ to bolster us against false doctrine. At the heart of this, we learn that Christ is holding all things together.

Who is holding all things together?

1. The _____ Creator (15:17)
2. The _____ of the Body (15:18)
3. The Firstborn from the _____ (15:18)

Was any point in this weekend’s message or portion of Scripture particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Christ is before all things. Read through John 17. Reflect especially on verses 4-5 & 24-25. How might thoughts of the preexistence of Christ have helped the disciples through what they faced in the time to come? How does the preexistence of God deepen your sense of worship for who God is and what God does in your life?
2. Christ is the head of the church. Reflect on Colossians 1:9-10 and 3:16. Why is it so important that we discern and retain the “knowledge of God’s will”? What efforts can you make to be sure your counseling and discipling others according to the mind of Christ?
3. Christ is the firstborn from the dead. In Christ, the church shall also rise to everlasting life and joy. Read I Corinthians 15:50-58. How does the knowledge of the resurrection encourage you now?
4. Jesus holds all things together, including the faith of his people. How is this illustrated in Psalm 121? What do you learn in this Psalm that helps you along the path?