

Sermon Outlines  
 Meditations On The Preeminence Of The Lord -Part 1

**Readings**

Colossians 1:18  
 3 John 1:9

**Introduction**

The word preeminence is used twice in the New Testament

- a) “That in all things He might have the preeminence” (Col. 1:18) and “Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence” (3 Jn. 1:9).
  - i) There is immediately seen the disparaging of Christ by Diotrephes who in the attitude of Satan sought to displace the Lord from that place. This was a proud individual who, while professing to be an elder in a local church, was in fact a false shepherd.

Preeminence does not mean joint ownership. Preeminence means 100% Lordship.

- a) This demands 100% devotion to the Lord due to this position apart from love to Him.

**The Preeminence of Christ**

This glorious subject leads to two questions:

- a) By what authority is He given preeminence?
  - i) Thank God the Lord was not given preeminence by any government, academics, or power of earth. It was God who gave and decrees His preeminence. How?
    - 1. This was no unrighteous act of God in endowing the man Jesus with a glorification which was undeserved or unwarranted. The Lord was all that He claimed to be and this was evidenced by God raising Him from the dead by the spirit of holiness (Rom. 1:4).
- b) Along what avenues is He given preeminence?
  - i) Summarized, He is preeminent in His:

| Excellency             | Quotation   | Reference              |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|
| <b>Liberation</b>      | “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free”  | Gal. 5:1               |
| <b>Qualifications</b>  | “Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals ... for thou wast slain”   | Rev. 5:9               |
| <b>Accomplishments</b> | “Hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God kings and priests”  | Rev. 5: 9-10           |
| <b>Administration</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the Head over all things”</li> <li>• “That in all things He might have the preeminence”</li> </ul> | Eph. 1:22<br>Col. 1:18 |
| <b>Attraction</b>      | “What is thy beloved more than another beloved .... He is altogether lovely?”   | Song of Sol. 5:9-16    |
| <b>Perfection</b>      | “Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully”      | Psa. 24:3-4            |

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| Excellency                 | Quotation   | Reference                |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Preservation</b>        | “Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling”  | Jude v. 24               |
| <b>Resurrection</b>        | He is, “The Firstborn from the dead”  | Col. 1:18                |
| <b>Divine Proclamation</b> | “I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth”  | Psa. 89:27               |
| <b>Adjudication</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To Judge</li> <li>• To execute judgment</li> </ul>   | Jn. 5:22<br>Jn. 5:27     |
| <b>Intention</b>           | “Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion”  | Psa 2.6                  |
| <b>Arrangement</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The head of every man is Christ”</li> <li>• “He is the Head of the body”</li> </ul>   | 1 Cor. 11:3<br>Col. 1:18 |
| <b>Revelation</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him”</li> <li>• “He that hath seen me hath seen the Father”</li> </ul> | Jn. 1:18<br>Jn. 14:9     |
| <b>Achievement</b>         | “Having spoilt principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it”  | Col. 2:15                |
| <b>Justification</b>       | “God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit”  | 1 Tim. 3:16              |

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.  
 John 16:13**

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