

# Christ Reconciles “The All”

## Colossians 1:19-20

09/21/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### Christ Reconciles “The All”

Colossians 1:19-20

by Bob DeWaay  
Gospel of Grace Fellowship

September 21, 2014

### The Fullness Dwells in Christ

Colossians 1:19 (HCSB)

For God was **pleased** to have all His **fullness dwell** in Him

- “He” is emphatic in the Greek (the verse begins “in Him”)
- “God” is supplied by the translators, it is not in the Greek
- Three key words “pleased, fullness, dwell” have roots in the Old Testament

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

2

### Christ Hymn Theme: “The All”

Verse 15: “of all”

Verse 16: “the all”

Verse 16: “the all”

Verse 17: “before all”

Verse 17: “the all”

Verse 18: “in all”

Verse 19: “all”

Verse 20: “the all”

- “*pas*” “all” is found 8 times in the Christ Hymn of Col. 1:15-20

- This word is repeated to emphasize Christ’s universal power and sovereignty

- The doctrines of Christ as Creator and Ruler are established

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

3



# Christ Reconciles “The All”

## Colossians 1:19-20

09/21/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### The Reconciliation of The All

Colossians 1:20a (HCSB)

and through Him to **reconcile** everything to Himself

- “In Him, through Him and to Him” are found in verses 19 and 20. (also see [Romans 11:36](#))
- The disruption of nature ([Romans 8:20-22](#)) is still true
- This does not teach universal salvation
- To subjugate is not to save ([Col. 2:15](#))

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Blood of the Cross

Colossians 1:20b (HCSB)

by making peace through **the blood of His cross**

- “Having made peace” means that believers are reconciled to God and rebels are subjugated
- The blood provides propitiation ([Romans 3:25-26](#))
- “peace” implies the reconciliation of former enemies by God’s work of grace ([Romans 5:1](#))
- [Ephesians 2:13-18](#) provides important commentary on redemption and peace,

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Universal Scope of Christ’s Work

Colossians 1:20c (HCSB)

whether things on earth or things in heaven.

- This implies “all created things”
- By obeying the gospel, the Colossians are reconciled to God and **need not fear the hostile powers**
- The spiritual forces of darkness were subjugated by Christ through the cross
- See [Romans 8:35-39](#)

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# Christ Reconciles “The All”

## Colossians 1:19-20

09/21/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### Implications and Applications

- God is both transcendent and immanent
- Fullness is found in Christ, not philosophy or human tradition
- All God’s enemies will be subjugated by Christ and God will be all in all

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### God Is Both Transcendent and Immanent

Jeremiah 23:23-24 (NASB)

“Am I a God who is near,” declares the Lord, “And not a God far off? Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?” declares the Lord. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the Lord.

- Immanence is revealed (as God who is near)
- Transcendence is revealed (fill the heavens and the earth)
- God cares for the humble and contrite (Isaiah 57:15)

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Fullness Is Found in Christ

Colossians 2:8, 9 (NRSV)

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily

- “elemental spirits” are the *stoicheia*
- Human traditions can keep us from Christ
- “See to it” is imperative in the Greek

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# Christ Reconciles “The All”

## Colossians 1:19-20

09/21/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### God’s Spiritual Enemies Are Subjugated

Colossians 2:15 (HCSB)

He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; **He triumphed over them** by Him.

- This is a reference to the Roman triumphal procession where the conquered enemies are publicly drawn along as vanquished foes
- All things are reconciled but only humans with faith in Christ are reconciled and saved
- See [1Corinthians 15:28](#)

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Every Knee Will Bow to Jesus

Philippians 2:10-11 (NASB)

so that at the name of Jesus **every knee will bow**, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that **every tongue will confess** that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- This is either willingly now or by constraint later
- If we have confessed Christ through the gospel it is our joy to worship Him
- We acknowledge who He is as Lord

Christ Reconciles “The All”: Colossians 1:19, 20

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

