

## Jesus the One and Only- series intro

**Colossians 1:12-18** <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. <sup>13</sup> For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

The theological term for this sentiment (first place in everything) is “pre-eminence.”

**Eminent:** *Adj.* high in station, rank, or repute; prominent; distinguished. **Pre-eminent** means the one who comes before all the others who could be considered eminent.

**Proverbs 31:29** <sup>29</sup> “Many daughters have done nobly, But you excel them all.”

Jesus is greater than them all: He came before them all, He created all things, and all things are held together by Him.

**John 17:12** <sup>12</sup> While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.

Jesus held His rag-tag group of disciples together- men from all walks of life and faith. He lived, bled, died, and overcame death to seem them unified.

### No less the church today...

From the expanse of the galaxies to the very fibers of our beings, Jesus HOLDS all things together.

**Laminin:** Image: <https://www.faithandhealthconnection.org/wp-content/uploads/files/laminin.gif>

**Hebrews 1:3a** <sup>3</sup> And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power.

“It is possible that God says every morning, ‘Do it again’ to the sun; and every evening, ‘Do it again’ to the moon. It may not be automatic necessity that makes all daisies alike; it may be that God makes every daisy separately, but has never got tired of making them. It may be that He has the eternal appetite of infancy; for we have sinned and grown old, and our Father is younger than we.” - **G.K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy***

**Philippians 2:9-11** <sup>9</sup> For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus is the highest name that can be spoken, not only on earth, but in heaven, under the earth, and everywhere else!

There are currently movements to restore other names of God (YHWHY, Jehovah, etc) and to get all Christians feeling condemned if we don't use them- as though the name of Jesus were not high enough!

**Exodus 3:13-15** <sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, “Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you.’ Now they may say to me, ‘What is His name?’ What shall I say to them?” <sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” <sup>15</sup> God, furthermore, said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations.

**John 18:4-8** <sup>4</sup> So Jesus, knowing all the things that were coming upon Him, went forth and \*said to them, “Whom do you seek?” <sup>5</sup> They answered Him, “Jesus the Nazarene.” He \*said to them, “I am *He*.” And Judas also, who was betraying Him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup> So when He said to them, “I am *He*,” they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup> Therefore He again asked them, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus the Nazarene.” <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered, “I told you that I am *He*; so if you seek Me, let these go their way,”

**John 8:56-59** <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad.” <sup>57</sup> So the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” <sup>58</sup> Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.” <sup>59</sup> Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

**I am bread of life, light of world, the Door for the sheep, good shepherd, resurrection and life, way, truth, life, the vine.**

**Jesus is fully God: He is Yahwey, Jehovah God, and it glorifies God the Father for us to worship and bow before His name!**

**Acts 4:12** <sup>12</sup> And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

**Back to where we started...**

**Colossians 1:18** <sup>18</sup> He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

Ministry focus: He is worthy of first place in everything, He has bought us for Himself with His own blood. Is anything sitting on His throne in your heart? Set apart Christ as Lord!

Consider how small the things are we allow to come before Jesus!