

**“He is the image of the  
invisible God”**

**Colossians 1:15-23**

**“He is the image of the invisible God”**

**Colossians 1:15-16**

**15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

**16** For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

**“He is the image of the invisible God”**

**“This is one of the strongest statements about the divine nature of Christ found anywhere in the Bible. Jesus is not only equal to God, He is God; as the image of the invisible God, He is the exact representation of God. He not only reflects God, but He reveals God to us.**

**As the firstborn over all creation, He has all the priority and authority of the firstborn prince in a king’s household.”**

**“He is the image of the invisible God”**

**“He came from heaven, not from the dust of the earth, and He is Lord of all. He is completely holy, and He has authority to judge the world. Therefore Christ is supreme over all creation, including the spirit world.”**

**NIV 1984 Life Application Study Bible**

**“He is the image of the invisible God”**

**John 1:1-3**

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

# **“He is the image of the invisible God”**

**John 1:14,18**

**14** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**18** No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

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## **John 14:8-11**

**8** Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” **9** Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

**10** Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. **11** Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.



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**Colossians 1:17-18**

**17** He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

**18** And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

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**1 Corinthians 15:20-23**

**20** But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. **21** For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. **22** For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. **23** But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

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**Colossians 1:19-20**

**19** For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, **20** and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

**“He is the image of the invisible God”**

**“For Paul “fullness” meant the totality of God with all His powers and attributes.”**

**NIV 2011 Study Bible**

**“He is the image of the invisible God”**

**John 1:16**

**Out of his fullness we have all  
received grace in place of  
grace already given.**

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**Ephesians 1:19b-23**

**That power is the same as the mighty strength **20** he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,**

**21** far above all rule and authority,  
power and dominion, and every  
name that is invoked, not only in  
the present age but also in the one  
to come. **22** And God placed all  
things under his feet and appointed  
him to be head over everything for  
the church, **23** which is his body,  
the fullness of him who fills  
everything in every way.

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**Colossians 1:21-22**

**21** Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. **22** But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—



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**Ephesians 2:1-7**

**1** As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **2** in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

**3** All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. **4** But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, **5** made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved.

**6** And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, **7** in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

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**Colossians 1:23**

**if you continue in your faith,  
established and firm, and do not  
move from the hope held out in the  
gospel. This is the gospel that you  
heard and that has been  
proclaimed to every creature  
under heaven, and of which I,  
Paul, have become a servant.**

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**Philippians 2:12-13**

**12** Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, **13** for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

# Applications

- **We must understand that Jesus is God**
- **Since Jesus is God: “Therefore Go”**
- **Since Jesus is God: Become more like Him**

# Final Thoughts

**“We, like the Colossian believers, must believe in the deity of Jesus Christ (that Jesus is God) or our Christian faith is hollow, misdirected, and meaningless. This is a central truth of Christianity. We must oppose those who say that Jesus was merely a prophet or a good teacher.”**

# Final Thoughts

## Philippians 2:5-11

**5** In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: **6** Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;



**7** rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. **8** And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross!

**9** Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, **10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.