

JESUS REVEALS

COLOSSIANS 1:15-17

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: This section of Scripture (Colossians 1:15-22) helps define our comprehension and our worship of God. Seeing His divine plan helps to give understanding of God's heart.

THE INVISIBLE GOD. “By using the term *eikon* (image), Paul emphasizes that Jesus is both the representation and manifestation of God. He is the full, final, and complete revelation of God. He is God in human flesh.” John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Colossians and Philemon, p. 45. (**Colossians 1:15, fn 1:15, 16, Colossians 2:9, fn 2:9, John 8:58, fn 8:58, John 10:30, fn 10:30, John 14:9, fn 14:9, John 1:18, fn 1:18**) *How would you teach your family who God is?*

THE ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE. “...which states that the universe appears to be carefully designed for the well-being of mankind.” John McArthur, p. 48. Jesus, the Creator, shows that there is a divine plan whose purpose is to demonstrate to mankind that His creation reveals Himself and His heart for all to know Him. “The testimony of nature to its Creator is so clear that it is only through willful unbelief that men can reject it.” MacArthur, p.48. (**Colossians 1:16, fn 1:16, Psalms 19:1-4, fn 19:1-6, Acts 17:24-28, fn 17:27, 28, Romans 1:19-23, fn 1:20[1st], fn 1:21-23**) *How has seeing Jesus as creator helped to strengthen your faith?*

A GOD THING—“THE SUSTAINER”. Scientists are puzzled at what it is that holds and binds atoms together. “The perfect tense here tells us that he (Christ) continues now to hold all things together, and that apart from his continuous activity, all would disintegrate.” R. Kent Hughes, Colossians and Philemon: The Supremacy of Christ, p. 32. (**Colossians 1:17, fn 1:17, Hebrews 1:2, 3, fn 1:2, 3, fn 1:3, Hebrews 1:10-12, fn 1:10-12, Revelation 1:8, fn 1:8, II Peter 3:5-7, 10, fn 3:10, 11**) *Why is it important to know that Jesus holds all atoms together?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.

