

Finding Hope

Where might we turn...

- when we feel empty?
- when we are in trouble or conflict?
- when we regret the past or fear the future?
- when we lose hope for a broken world?

1

Just what I Needed Colossians 1:15-20

ref.ly/Co1;niv



2

Finding Hope

Where do we turn...

- when we feel empty?
- when we are in trouble or conflict?
- when we regret the past or fear the future?

In Colossae

- religious foods and drinks
- religious festivals and special days
- worship of angels and spirits

3

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus

¹⁵ The **Son** 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. ¹⁷ He is before **all things**, and **in him all things hold together**

4

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. 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.

5

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is...

- The image of God and head of the church
- The firstborn over creation and from the dead
- How everything holds together
- Supreme over everything
- The means of peace for all things

6

The Big Idea
True and full life
and recovery from any disaster
are in Christ and Christ alone

7

googol = 10,000,000,000,000,000
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8

infinity + googol = infinity

infinity – googol = infinity

Jesus Christ + everything = Jesus Christ / Life

Jesus Christ – everything = Jesus Christ / Life

9

“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives
in bodily form, and in Christ **you have been
brought to fullness.**” Colossians 2:9-10a

10

"If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Romans 8:31a

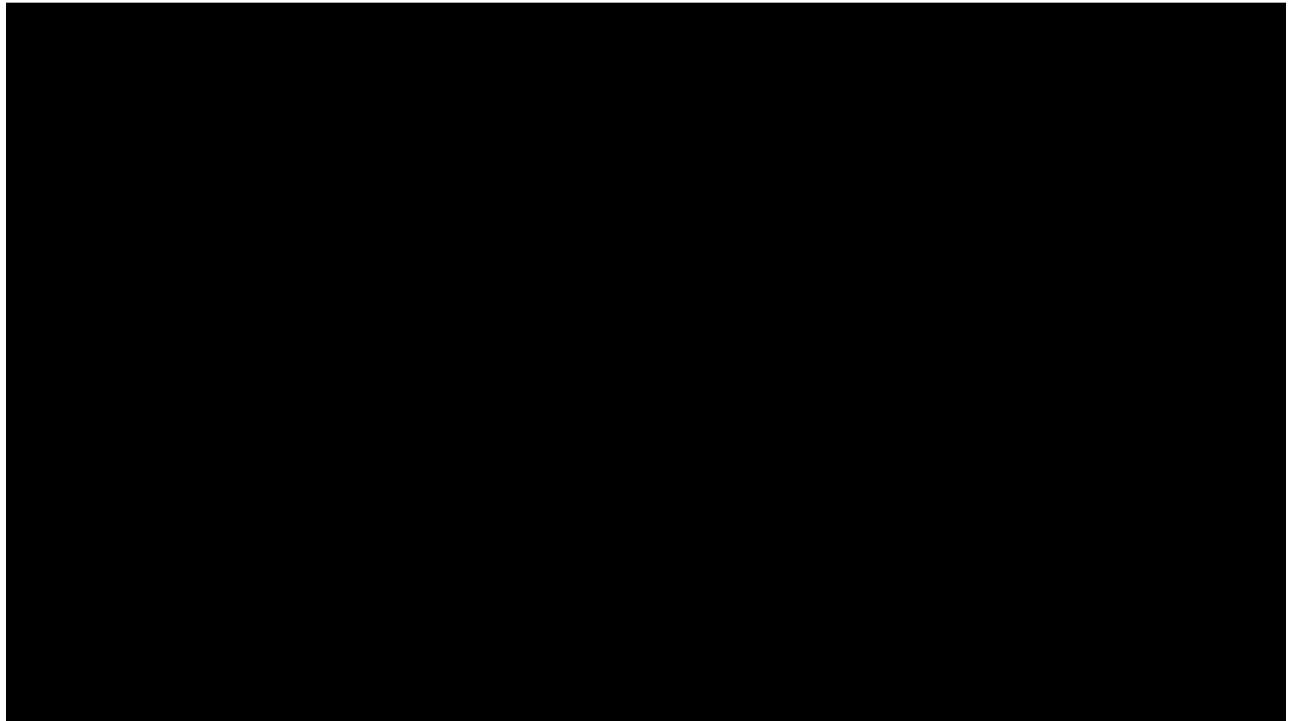
11

Implications

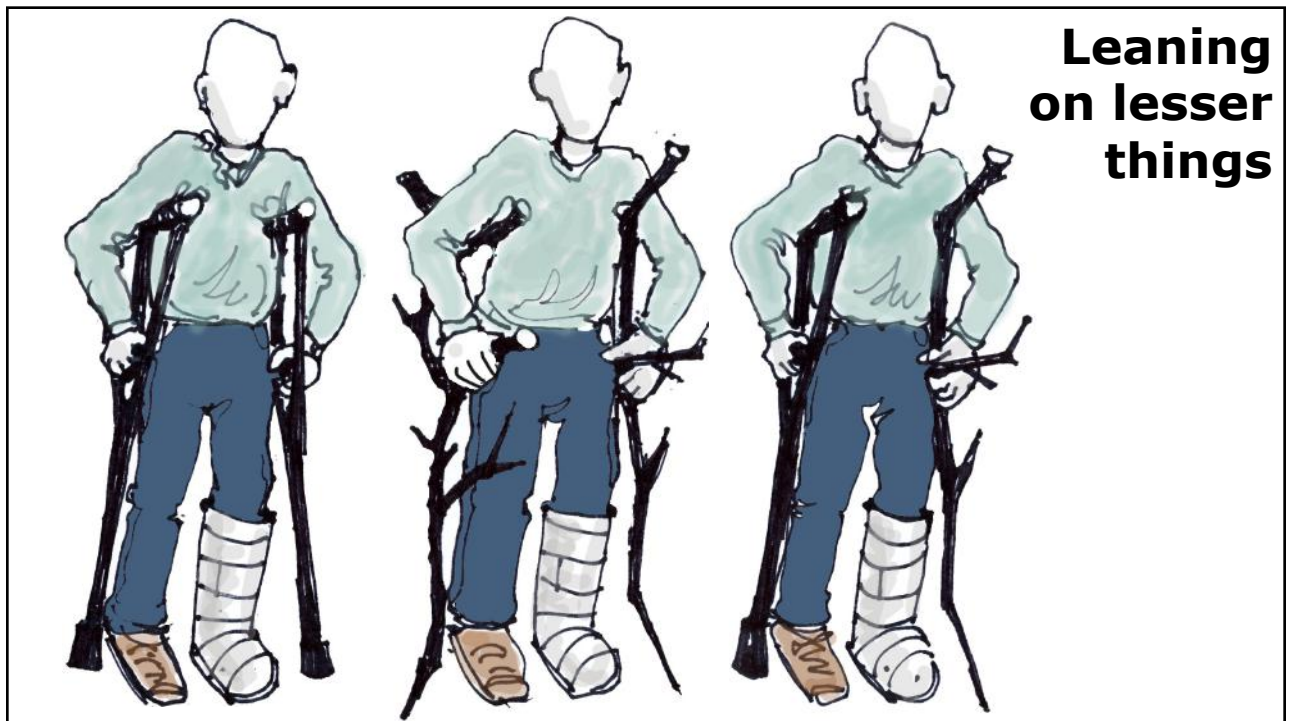
When you have Christ, you have everything

- **"For those who have Christ, the universe has no ultimate terrors. They know that their Redeemer is also creator, ruler, and goal of all."**
- **Nothing else is needed for...**
 - Salvation
 - Full members of God's family
 - Rescued from all our sin and failings
 - Completely protected from evil forces
 - Fully assured of eternal hope

12



13



14

Application

When you have Christ, you have everything

➤ **Leaning on anything else brings disaster**

So...lean on Christ, and Christ alone

15

The Big Idea

**True and full life
and recovery from any disaster
are in Christ and Christ alone**

16

Romans 8:31b-32

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

infinity – googol = infinity

Jesus Christ – everything = Jesus Christ / Life!

Jesus Christ + everything = Jesus Christ / Life!

17

*Christ 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.*

Colossians 1:18

18

Finding Hope

Where do we turn...

- when we feel empty?
- when we are in trouble or conflict?
- when we regret the past or fear the future?

Jesus Christ

- The fullness of God
- The centerpiece of God's work in the universe
- Living in and for us!

19

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵ The Son 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. ¹⁷ He is before **all things**, and in him **all things** hold together.

20

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**. 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.