

Think for a few minutes on what redemption and forgiveness are and what they mean to us. The state into which the Father has brought us is one of release from sin and entrance into the accepted family of God.

3. The Person of the Son 1:15-20

This is a remarkable section giving a very thorough theological picture of Christ and His preeminence. We must subdivide it for a fuller understanding.

a. He is the "image" 1:15

He displays for us the truth of the invisible God. His is the very likeness and in this we see something of the witness of Christ in John 14.

b. He is the "firstborn" 1:15

The principal one of every grouping. Compare with vs. 18. Others were raised before Christ's resurrection but none were of His magnitude.

c. He is the "creatorial agent" 1:16

All things are subject to him from the point of creation and prominence.

d. He is the "creatorial possessor" 1:16

All things are as much for Him as they are of Him.

e. He is the "sustainer" 1:17

Nothing continues without His force and power.

f. He is the Head 1:18

Head of the Body, the Church

He is this that He might be the preeminent One.