

DECEMBER 1

Jesus Is the Creator of the Universe

Colossians 1:16, "For by (Jesus) all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him."

In the book of Colossians, the apostle Paul teaches that Jesus is pre-eminent, meaning that He is more important than anything else in creation. In this verse Jesus is most important because He created all things.

Jesus created all things that are visible and invisible. There are some things that Jesus created that we can see, while there are other things we cannot see. There are even things in creation that scientists are still discovering.

This verse also tells us that all things were created through His power. Can you imagine what it must have been like before the planets and stars were created? Before Jesus made the universe there was nothing but God. When it pleased Him, Jesus simply created the universe out of nothing. Jesus is omnipotent, meaning He is all-powerful, able to do everything that He desires. While it takes work for us to build something, Jesus needed to do nothing else but simply say the words to make things appear.

He also created all things for Himself. The entire creation, including mankind, was created to please, worship, and glorify God. Romans 11:36 says, "for from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."

Rejoice in Jesus Christ, our creator and sustainer.

Questions:

- ❖ Why did Jesus create the universe?
- ❖ If Jesus is our creator, how should that make us live our lives?

Suggested hymn: *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2. Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
Yon - der shines the in - fant Light: Come and wor - ship,
Ye have seen His na - tal star:

come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!

DECEMBER 2

Jesus Is the Eternal Word

John 1:1-4, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men."

John 1:14, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

The beginning of this passage is very similar to Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God..." In fact, when we read John 1, we should think of Genesis 1. These two passages indicate to us that God and the Word are in fact the same person. But who was the Word?

The idea of Jesus being the "Word" is an important one. When we use words, what are we doing? We are communicating ideas. The words that you speak tell others what we think, what we feel, and what we want. When God speaks to us, He uses the words of the Bible to tell us what He thinks, what He feels, and what He wants.

But in a very special way Jesus came to be God's Word to mankind, telling people both by His life and His actual words who God is, what God wants, and what God thinks. We call Jesus the Living Word.

Jesus, the Creator of the universe, became a man and lived among men. He came to tell us and show us who God is.

Rejoice in Jesus Christ, who came to declare to us who God is.

Question:

- ❖ As the eternal Word, what characteristics of God does Jesus communicate to us?

Suggested hymn: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

Latin hymn; ascribed to John Francis Wade, c. 1710-1786
tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880 and others

John Francis Wade, c. 1710-1786

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri -
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul -
3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py

um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le -
ta - tion, O sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a -
morn - ing. Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry

hem! Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels!
bove! Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est!
giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come let us a - dore Him, O

come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

DECEMBER 3

Jesus Is the Eternal Son of God

Psalm 2:7, "The Lord said to me, 'you are my Son; today I have begotten you.'"

Psalm 2:12, "Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled."

Though it is difficult for us to understand, the Bible teaches that God exists in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus has always been the Son of God, though He was not born like we are born. Before He came to earth, He enjoyed the glories of Heaven from eternity past.

These verses in Psalm 2 help us understand that Jesus existed before He came to earth as the Son of God. Some people believe that Jesus became the Son of God at some point during His earthly life, but that is not what the Bible teaches. Jesus has always been God's eternal Son, and as such He has always been worthy of our worship.

We are to give worship to Him—"kiss the Son" as the psalm says. Jesus, the eternal Son of God, chose to come to earth in the form of a man to be the Savior of men. If men do not worship Him as such, they face the doom of eternal wrath. But for those who fear Him and worship Him, there is the blessing of eternal life.

Rejoice in Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God.

Questions:

- ❖ How long has Jesus been God's Son?
- ❖ Do you know of a time when Jesus was on the earth that God the Father said of Jesus, "this is my beloved son?"
- ❖ What happens to people who do not believe that Jesus is God's Son?
- ❖ Do you believe that Jesus is God's Son?

Suggested hymn: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

MENDELSSOHN

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

alt. by George Whitfield, 1714-1770

arr. by William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord:
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild; God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
Late in time, be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus our Em - man - u - el.
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."