

## Sermon Text Discussion 12/10/2017

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Colossians 1:15-20: "Jesus, the True King" by Drew Hunter

### Overview

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One way to answer the question, "Why did Jesus come?" is to consider the three primary leadership roles described in the Old Testament and critical to the nation of Israel – prophet, priest, and king. They needed a prophet because they needed God's word. They needed a priest because they needed God's forgiveness. And they needed a king because they needed God's good rule. All three of these offices come to their complete fulfillment in Jesus, the perfect Prophet, Priest, and King. In our text, Colossians 1:15-20, Paul describes the good news of Jesus's arrival as the one true, good king that we should all desire. He is the king of all creation (verses 15-17) and of the new creation (verses 18-20)

### Quotations

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"All the fullness the God delights to rescue us and to dwell among us and to reconcile us, even at the cost of the cross. There could not be a greater love." - Drew Hunter

### Understanding & Application

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- 1) In verse 15, Jesus is described as the 'image of the invisible God' and the 'firstborn over all creation'. Describe what these portrayals of Jesus mean and what they do not mean. What biblical references support your descriptions?
- 2) What created things first comes to mind when you read 'all things were created' by Jesus? Why do you think Paul specifically points out thrones, dominions, rulers, and authorities as being created by Jesus?
- 3) Nearly every word of verse 18 is packed with imagery and meaning. Describe what each of the following mean to you: head of the body, the church, the beginning, firstborn of the dead, preeminent.
- 4) Both you and a non-believing friend receive a Christmas card from a mutual friend which refers to the 'incarnation of Jesus'. Your friend asks, "What does that big church word mean?" How would you define incarnation and describe its importance to your friend?
- 5) Drew states that ones most pressing need is to be transferred from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of King Jesus. What does that mean to you? Do you know of friends and family members who have not been transferred? What are you doing to address their most pressing need?
- 6) What specific things can you do this Advent season to celebrate being under the rule of King Jesus? How can you invite non-believers to ask why your focus during the holiday season is on a cross and not only on a manger?