

## THE PREMINENCE OF CHRIST *from* COLOSSIANS 1:15–19

Pastor George Stiekes

Epaphras trusted Christ as Lord and Savior through the ministry of the Apostle Paul, who was preaching and teaching in Ephesus. Not only did he become a faithful witness in the area, but he took the gospel back to Colosse and saw to it that a church was established there. The Apostle Paul wrote the Epistle of Colossians to this church to encourage the saints to stand on a firm foundation. The false teachers wanted the saints to shift their foundation to their pagan teaching. Not only was Paul's admonition to stand firm appropriate, but it was illustrated by the fact that Colosse sat on an earthquake zone.

### I. The Preeminence of Man

A. False Teachers in Paul's Day

B. False Teachers Today

### II. The Preeminence of Christ

A. Planned by the Father (Colossians 1:18; Philippians 2:9-11)

B. Proved in Creation (1:16)

C. Promoted in the Scriptures (John 5:39, 46; I Peter 1:10-11)

D. Purpose of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13-14)

E. Proclaimed by the Angels (Revelation 5:11-14)

F. Practiced by Jesus Christ (Matthew 8:2,3; 9:18; 14:33;  
28:9, 17; Revelation 4:10-11)