

# Christ Over All

## *Ephesians 1:19-23*

**Introduction:** One need not read the New Testament very long before realizing that it has a great deal to say about Jesus Christ being supreme. He is the culmination of God's power. Everything associated with Jesus is great. The verses of our text show this and we will study more on the subject today.

### **I. The Power Of God (vv. 19-20).**

- A.** Paul uses four different words to describe the power of God. Each one makes its own point and together they emphasize the omnipotence of God (**v. 19**).
  - 1.** Power (*dunamis*). Potency, ability, or capacity to accomplish the end.
  - 2.** Working (*energeia*). Momentum or force in action, energy.
  - 3.** Mighty (*ischus*). Ability or force like in the strength of the military.
  - 4.** Power (*kratos*). Strength or force in operation.
- B.** The omnipotence of God is determined by what God accomplished through Jesus (**v. 20**).
  - 1.** He raised him from the dead.
    - a.** Jesus prophesied this (***Matt. 17:22-23; et al***).
    - b.** Other passages confirm this (***Acts 2:22-24; et al***).
    - c.** Confirms the Sonship of Jesus (***Rom. 1:4***).
  - 2.** He seated Him at His right hand.
    - a.** This position is symbolic of the level of authority possessed by Jesus.
      - 1)** Father gave Him **all** authority (***Matt. 28:18***).
      - 2)** Only Father is excepted (***1 Cor. 15:27-28***).
    - b.** This also means that He rules **now** and that His kingdom is **now**.
      - 1)** ***“King of kings and Lord of lords” (1 Tim. 6:15)***.
      - 2)** ***cf. Matthew 16:19***.
    - c.** This is all in the spiritual realm (***“heavenly places”***).

### **II. The Authority Of Jesus (v. 21).**

- A.** The great forces of history come up short when compared to Jesus.
- B.** Many great forces have existed and all of them have had limitations.
  - 1.** May be limited by time and place.
  - 2.** May be limited by influence.
- C.** The authority of Christ is not so limited.
  - 1.** Still exists centuries after His time (***Matt. 24:35***).
  - 2.** Not limited by space (***Mk. 16:15***).
  - 3.** Not limited by influence (***Rom. 1:16***).
- D.** All of this is through God's power.

### **III. The Relationship Of Jesus And The Church (vv. 22-23).**

- A.** God has placed Jesus as the head of the church (**Col. 1:18**).
- B.** Words used show how this exists. It is a figure of a physical body.
  - 1.** “**Head**” indicates control and “**body**” indicates what is controlled.
  - 2.** A body can do nothing without orders from the head.
- C.** The head of the unit is also the head of the parts.
  - 1.** “**The body is not one member but many**” (**1 Cor. 12:14**).
  - 2.** “**But now indeed there are many members, yet one body**” (**1 Cor. 12:20**).
  - 3.** All parts working together as the head directs.

[more on the church in a future lesson]

**Conclusion:** Jesus, as the one having all authority, commands us to believe, repent, and be baptized (**Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38**). Have you done it? Why not now?