

## December 16 Questions

- 1) In his letter to the Colossians, Paul declared the truth which would guard them from heresy and motivate them to persevere in the faith: the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ (Col 1:15–20). First, Paul emphasized Christ’s supremacy over creation, saying that Jesus is “the \_\_\_\_\_ of all creation” (Col 1:15). We usually associate the term firstborn with birth, as in the first child born (cf. Luke 2:7), but it can also denote priority in \_\_\_\_\_ or supremacy in \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ “all creation” in time, and He is \_\_\_\_\_ “all creation” in authority. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ saying that Jesus is the first created being, but rather that Jesus is supreme over all things as Creator, for “all things were created \_\_\_\_\_ him and for him” (Col 1:16). Second, Paul declared Christ’s sufficiency in \_\_\_\_\_, saying that “through him,” God was pleased to \_\_\_\_\_ “all things” to Himself, “making peace by the blood of his cross” (Col 1:20). *The truth of the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ \_\_\_\_\_ false teaching.* In Christ, the “whole fullness of deity dwells bodily” (Col 2:9). This refutes any system of thought which denies either the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. In Christ, we received a spiritual circumcision by participating in His death and resurrection (Col 2:11–12). This refutes those who insist on \_\_\_\_\_ law-keeping to faith in Jesus. In Christ, we died to the world and its fallen ideas and values (Col 2:20–22). This refutes those who demand \_\_\_\_\_ (false humility, severe self-discipline) and the \_\_\_\_\_ of angels. *The truth of the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ also motivates us to live a \_\_\_\_\_ life.* In Christ, we have been raised to heavenly places. This motivates us to \_\_\_\_\_ our minds on things above, not on things on earth. In Christ, we died and our life is hidden with Christ in God. This motivates us to put to \_\_\_\_\_ the deeds of the flesh. In Christ, we have been raised to newness of life. This motivates us to put on a “compassionate heart, \_\_\_\_\_, humility, meekness and patience” (Col 3:12). Our \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ is the basis of everything we are spiritually, and if we \_\_\_\_\_ in Him, He will empower us to live a holy and righteous life.