

# **JESUS IS ALL**

**THE POEM FOR THE COLOSSIANS**



# **JESUS IS ALL**

**To understand who we believe Jesus is**

**For those who know Him have renewed confidence in Him**

**For anyone who doesn't yet know Him as Lord and Saviour  
to have an opportunity to do so**



15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over **all** creation. 16 For in him **all** things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all** things have been created through him and for him.



17 He is before **all** things, and in him **all** things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.



19 For God was pleased to have **all** his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself **all things**, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.



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**THIS IS WHY WE DO ALL WE DO!**

# HE IS THE POINT

**So many live life asking 'what is the point?'**

**We all have an innate sense of transcendent reality and a sense of purpose beyond ourselves**

**Jesus has always been, is and always will be the point!**



1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus  
by the will of God, and Timothy  
our brother, 2 To God's holy  
people in Colossae, the faithful  
brothers and sisters in Christ:  
Grace and peace to you from God  
our Father



# THANK GOD

**Written from prison (debated time and location) where Paul (likely with Timothy) was held for preaching the gospel**

**Written to people he had not visited at a church that was planted (started) by his friend Epaphras**

**He starts the letter with a long prayer of thanks for the faith and love being lived out among them**



3 We always thank God, the  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
when we pray for you, 4 because  
we have heard of your faith in  
Christ Jesus and of the love you  
have for all God's people





Pergamon

Smyrna

Ephesus

Sardis

Laodicea

Hierapolis

Colossae

Pisidian Antioch

Lystra

Iconium

Derbe

Antioch

Damascus

Jerusalem

MEDITERRANEAN SEA





# PAUL THE POET

**The purpose of writing was to address struggles with false teaching questioning the supremacy and deity of Jesus**

**Much of the letter is Paul's typical instructive manner but here he includes a 'poem' summing this Christological doctrine up for them (and us) in a memorable way**

**Lord Jesus: Creator and Redeemer of all**



15 He is the exact living image [the essential manifestation] of the unseen God [the visible representation of the invisible], the firstborn [the preeminent one, the sovereign, and the originator] of all creation.



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**THIS IS ALL WE ALL NEED TO UNDERSTAND  
STILL TODAY**



# **JESUS IS ALL**

**People want to know where we come from and how we came to exist - Jesus**

**People want to know what happens when we die and what the future holds - Jesus**

**He is the Alpha and the Omega (Revelation 1)**



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# **CHAPTER 1: JESUS WAS THE ALL FROM BEFORE THE BEGINNING - ALPHA**



1 In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and  
the Word was God. 2 He was with  
God in the beginning. 3 Through  
him all things were made; without  
him nothing was made that has  
been made.



# **JESUS THE ALPHA - "Αλφα**

**In Genesis 1 God says 'Let US make humankind in our own image' - Jesus in creation**

**Before the beginning of time He was the Great I Am - the one who exists**

**We believe the world's existence is due to the creative will and love of the triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit**



17 And He Himself existed  
and is before all things, and in  
Him all things hold together.  
[His is the controlling,  
cohesive force of the universe.]



# JESUS IS LORD

**Jesus allowed others to worship Him as Lord (Matthew 2:11, Matthew 21:9, Matthew 14:33, Matthew 28:9)**

**Jesus is documented in John's Gospel as making 7 'I Am' statements about himself - a clear claim to be God**

**This was ultimately the claim and 'accusation' that saw Him crucified by the Sanhedrin and by Pilate**



***“Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day.”***

**‘ANTIQUITIES OF THE JEWS’ - BOOK 18, CHAPTER 3  
JOSEPHUS FLAVIUS, CIRCA 93AD**



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**AND THE 'TRIBE OF CHRISTIANS' IS  
CERTAINLY STILL NOT EXTINCT!**



# **STANDING THE TEST-IMONY OF TIME**

**Innumerable people's lives have testified to the power of God revealed in Christ - beginning with the first Apostles who nearly all died for their testimony and those here today**

**Our years and our annual calendar are shaped around the life of Jesus - His power at work in our weakness**

**2025 years (approximately) ago everything changed!**



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**THE CREATOR STEPPED INTO HIS CREATION**



14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



# **IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU, JESUS**

**The Word = The Logos = Jesus the Messiah**

**The incarnation, life, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth are the crux of all history and reveal Him to be our ALL in ALL (Colossians 3:11)**

**His current place (within our concept of time) is as the head of His church - the source and life**



18 He is also the head [the life-source and leader] of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will occupy the first place [He will stand supreme and be preeminent] in everything.



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# **CHAPTER 2: JESUS IS ALL IN THE NEW CREATION BEYOND THE END - OMEGA**



20 and through [the intervention of] the Son to reconcile all things to Himself, making peace [with believers] through the blood of His cross; through Him, [I say,] whether things on earth or things in heaven.



# **JESUS PAID IT ALL**

**God dwelt among us in all His fullness - somehow both fully God and fully human - in order to reconcile us to Him**

**Our Lord and Saviour has not only revealed who He is through His word, He has revealed Himself as one of us**

**When Christ breathed His last upon the cross, He declared 'Tetelestai' - it is finished/accomplished/fulfilled - all done**



21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. 22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation



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**JESUS GAVE ALL OF HIMSELF FOR YOU**

**HE DESERVES OUR ALL**



# JESUS THE OMEGA - Ω

One day we will all stand before the judgement seat of Jesus (Revelation 20:12)

He is the centrepiece of heaven and forever we will know that Jesus is all

There is salvation and eternal life for those who have trusted in Jesus and given Him their all



17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: 'Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.



# **JESUS IS ALL**

**Jesus was, is and always will be the centrepiece of creation**

**At Elim Aberystwyth we are seeking to be 'a people who are Christ-centred'**

**Is Jesus the centre of your life today?**