1 - Preaching The Origin, Identity & Nature of Jesus
Colossians 1:15-20

2 - **“Who do you say that I am?”** (Matt. 16:15)

Who Jesus is, is a matter of His origin and His nature.

When Phillip ***“preached Jesus”*** to the Ethiopian Eunuch, he confessed ***“I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*** (Acts 8:37)

During his time in the chariot, Philip preached the origin, identity and nature of Jesus.

3 - ***“****And* ***He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation****. 16 For* ***by Him all things were created****, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--* ***all things have been created by Him and for Him****. 17 And* ***He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”***

Colossians 1:15-17

4 - **Colossians 1:15-20
Who Jesus Is Seen In His Relationship to…**

* **God** - *“the image of the invisible God”* (vs. 15)
* **The Creation** - *“by Him all things were created”.* (vs. 16)
* **Church** - *“He is the head of the body, the church.”* (vs. 18)
* **Sinners** - Jesus *“reconciled all things to Himself” through “forgiveness of sins”.* (vs. 20; cf., vs. 14)

5 - **“He is the image of the invisible God”** (Colossians 1:15)

* “**IMAGE**” - Christ is **the visible representation and manifestation of God to created beings**; "***he that hath seen Me hath seen the Father,*" (John 14:9)**. (Vine's)
* **Hebrews 1:3**, “*And He is the* ***radiance of His glory*** *and* ***the exact representation of His nature****..*.”

6 - **“…By Him all things were created… all things created through Him…”** (Col. 1:15)

* Note Col. 1:16 defines “all things”.
* “… ***one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we through Him***…”
(1 Corinthians 8:6; John 1:3)
* “… ***and for Him***.” The purpose of Creation is found in Christ, who came to be served by those He not only created but redeemed by His blood. (Romans 11:36)

7 - **“He is before all things…”**

Jesus was ***“in the beginning”, “with God”***. (John 1:1)

* Before created matter & before time. (Jude 25)
* Lit., “***before the world was***…” (John 17:5)
* **Jesus’ claims**. (John 8:57-58; 17:24; Revelation 1:8, 18)

8 - **Jesus’ Nature**

Jesus is **divine**. **He is God** & of the Godhead.

* + **Jesus made such claims**. (Luke 22:70; cf., John 19:7; John 10:29-39; 17:21-22)
	+ **Jesus accepted such praise**. (John 20:28)
	+ Jesus **gave evidence**. (John 5:31, 36-39; 10:30-38; 14:9-12; Acts 2:22; John 3:2; 20:24)

Jesus is **eternal**. (Hebrews 13:8)

9 - **Jesus’ Nature**

Jesus is **man**. He came in the flesh.

* ***“The word became flesh and dwelt among us…”*** (John 1:14; 1 John 1:1-2)
* “… ***Being found in appearance as a man***…” (Philippians 2:5-8)
* “… ***He Himself likewise also partook of the same (flesh and blood)***” (Heb. 2:14-18; 4:14-16)

10 - **Jesus’ Nature**

Jesus is **Deity**. He is the Son of God.

Jesus is **man**. He came in the flesh.

***“For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form.”*** (Colossians 2:9)

Neither God devoid of human temptation and suffering, nor just a good man and teacher.

11 - **What is the application?**

1. We are to reverence and respect Jesus’ authority.
2. As His disciples, we’re to humbly follow Him all the days of our life. (John 10:27)
3. We must come through Him in prayer knowing He understands. (Hebrews 2, 4)
4. Honor the church that Jesus heads. (Col. 1:18)
5. Always seek to be reconciled to Him when we have sinned. (Col. 1:20; John 12:47-48)