

The Creed of Christ's Preeminence

Colossians 1:15-20 (NIV)

15a- He is the image of the invisible God

15b- the **firstborn over all creation.**

16- For by him all things were created:

things in heaven and on earth,

visible and invisible,

whether thrones [visible] or powers [visible]

or rulers [invisible] or authorities [invisible];

all things were created by him and for him.

Stanza 1

17- [And] He is before all things,

and in him all things hold together

18a- And He is the head of the body, the church

Central

Summation

18b- He is the beginning

18b-and the **firstborn from among the dead,**

so that in everything he might have the supremacy

Stanza 2

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.