

**Adult Christian-Ed. Hour**  
**1/18/15**  
**Christ and Culture Series**

Think about the giant list of cultural issues and trends that we brainstormed last week. Think also about the scope of Jesus' kingdom and reign from Colossians 1:15-20--"all creation", "all things created for Him and through Him", "in everything pre-eminent", "all things hold together", "all the fullness", "reconcile to Himself all things".

How does knowing and feeling the reality of Christ over "all things" affect the way we perceive our list of cultural issues?

Not only does Jesus have divine sovereignty and supremacy over all things in the scope of creation, He's also the sole authority over His church. In Colossians 1:18 we have a view of Christ as the "head of the body, the church". What purposes does the head have over the body?

How does this view of Christ impact

1. any inferiority to the culture we may feel?
2. any persecution from the culture we may experience?
3. any engagement or non-engagement in culture we might pursue?

**Read Hebrews 1:1-4, 8-12; 2:5-10**

Here in the first few chapters of Hebrews the author emphasizes the work of Jesus in both soteriological (doctrines of salvation) and cosmological (dealing with the whole created universe) terms. From the verses that we just read, categorize the statements about Jesus into

Soteriology (ex. justification)                      |                      Cosmology (ex. God's splendor in nature)

How are these two areas related? Do you think we tend to emphasize one over the other?

According to our text in Hebrews, do you agree or disagree with the quote below and why?  
"...this emphasis on a personal relationship can also be evangelicalism's greatest weakness because it may prevent us from seeing God's plan for us beyond personal

salvation. Genuine Christianity is more than a relationship with Jesus, as expressed in personal piety, church attendance, Bible study, and works of charity. It is more than discipleship, more than believing a system of doctrines about God. Genuine Christianity

is a way of seeing and comprehending all reality.” --from *How Now Shall We Live?* by Colson and Pearcey

Why would it be a mistake to think that we depend on Christ only for our purification (1:3b) and not for our very existence (1:3a)? What happens when our culture views Christianity as only pertaining to salvation but not pertaining to the whole cosmos?