

<p>Texts—chronological order of their writing »</p>	<p>Colossians 1.15-20</p>	<p>Philippians 2.6-11</p>	<p>First Timothy 3.16b-c</p>	<p>Hebrews 1.1-4</p>	<p>John 1.1-5, 14</p>
<p>Introduction / Context</p>	<p>¹³⁻¹⁴ For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.</p>	<p>⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,</p>	<p>^{16a} By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness:</p>		
<p>Cosmic Significance</p>	<p>Lord of the Cosmos</p> <p>¹⁵⁻¹⁶ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 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 through Him and for Him.</p> <p>¹⁷ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.</p>	<p>Fully God, fully man; Exalted by the Father</p> <p>⁶⁻⁷ ...who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. ...</p> <p>⁹⁻¹¹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.</p>	<p>Incarnated; Vindicated by God; Ministered to by angels</p> <p>^{16b} He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels,</p>	<p>As Creator, heir of all things; As sovereign, Lord over all things; Exalted</p> <p>^{2b-3a} whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. ...</p> <p>^{3c-4} He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.</p>	<p>Eternal with the Father; Creator of all</p> <p>¹⁻² In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.</p> <p>³ All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.</p>
<p>Church Significance</p>	<p>Lord of the Church</p> <p>^{18a} He is also head of the body, the church;</p> <p>¹⁹⁻²⁰ and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.</p>	<p>Humble servant; Obedient to death</p> <p>⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ...</p>	<p>Proclaimed; Believed; Ascended</p> <p>^{16c} Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.</p>	<p>As the Son of God, reveals God; Redeemer</p> <p>^{1-2a} God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, ...</p> <p>^{3b} When He had made purification of sins, ...</p>	<p>Revealer of life; Light shining in the darkness</p> <p>⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.</p> <p>⁵ The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. ...</p> <p>¹⁴ And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.</p>