Announcer:
The Bible Institute of Los Angeles Inc. Half century old Christian training center of the West presents verse by verse with Dr. Louis T. Talbot, Biola Chancellor and one of America's great evangelical leaders. Now once again your radio Bible teacher, Dr. Louis T. Talbot.

Louis T. Talbot:
And thank you Mr. Announcer and good morning my radio friends and friends of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. This is Louis T. Talbot greeting you once again and thanking you for the privilege of entering your home that we might study together the epistle of Paul to the Colossians. I guessed that when the apostle Paul wrote this epistle that the believers who received it, the believers in Colossae, had gathered together in homes. I do not think that their church is as we understand church buildings to be. And so they met in the homes and so at this 11:00 hour we are meeting together just as those early Christians did.

I want you please to turn your Bibles please to Colossians chapter 1, while I make one or two announcements. Now last night I gave the commencement address to the graduating class of the Brethren High School in Long Beach and these exercises were held in the North Long Beach Brethren Church with Dr. George Peake as pastor. Some 60 young men and young women
graduated and the congregation that gathered to witness this happy scene must have numbered about a thousand people.

It was one of the most impressive graduation services that I have ever had the privilege to witness and the students in their testimony for Christ and devotion to him is everything that one could desire. Some of the students are entering the Bible Institute of Los Angeles in the fall. I want to say my dear friends that if any of you folks are looking around for a high school for your, your sons and daughters, a high school that has the highest standard in every way, you could not do better than send them to this high school. And if you would desire any information in regard to this school you may write me personally and I will be glad to turn the correspondence over to Dr. Charles Mays or to one other member of the faculty in connection with that school.

Now here is another announcement. This is Friday and very soon we'll have another Lord's Day with us and I trust that all of you folks will be in your own churches especially if you have a pastor who loves the word of God and teaches it. You know you just be there and you'll, you will, you'll encourage his heart. And the more that are there the more encouraged he will be. And with great encouragement he'll be able to preach in a very, very wonderful shape. Those of you have no home, church home, I wish to say that here at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles and the Church of the Open Door, that there are four services that is at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. there will be the regular services at the Church of the Open Door and then at 2:30 there will be the Bible Institute rally and at 4:00 there will be the testimony to Israel. Now those meetings are held at Sixth and Hope Street. And I do not have the time to give you the particulars in regard to those
services but you can consult the newspapers tomorrow, the church page and get the information for yourselves.

And then tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 at La Mirada there is to be a service beginning at 2:30. And if you consult the newspapers you'll find particulars given in regard to that program as well. Now my own personal ministry on the coming Lord's Day will be at the Grace Brethren Church at Anaheim. This church is located at 1 5 4 6 8 East La Palma and Forest F. Lance is the pastor. I'll be speaking there at 11:00 and also at 7:00 and I will be dealing with world conditions in the light of the Word of God. And so those of you in Anaheim, if you have no church home, we'll be glad to have you meeting with us tomorrow at the Grace Brethren Church. I will be giving prophetic addresses because my friends that this world is in a terrible mess and the only book in this world that sheds light upon the significance of it is the word of the living God.

Now so much for that, I trust that all of you folks my dear friend just remembering the request that I have made of you that at least that you write us once a month. And if you haven't gotten your letter for this month of June I wish that you would get it in today and our mailing address is the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Los Angeles 17 California. That's the only address that you need to place upon your envelope. Now your Bibles are open please to Colossians chapter 1 and you have noticed I am sure that we have now come to the doctrinal part of this great epistle, the doctrinal part which concerns Christ in all of his glory as the second person of the Trinity co-equal and co-eternal with God.
And my friends I am still wondering since I gave you yesterday's lesson, just how much you got from it because those verses in chapter 1 with which we were dealing yesterday and especially verses 15 and to 18 seem to transcend all language. Those few verses in that chapter 1 concerning who Christ is, that he is the image of the invisible God, that is he is the one who makes the invisible God visible to us, the first born from the dead, the first begotten of all creation and that in him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

My friends what a statement that is concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. You see that in those verses the apostle Paul is filling the horizon of those Colossians with the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ as the second person of the Trinity co-equal and co-eternal with God because the apostle Paul knew that that was the only antidote for the false teaching that had come among them because false philosophers and false cults and false systems had come among these Colossians. And my dear friends that the Apostle Paul knew that what he was writing here was the only antidote for all cults and for all systems not only for his day but right down to the day in which we are living.

You know that the cults as I pointed out to you yesterday they do two things. First they attack the person of Christ and secondly they attack the work of the Lord Jesus on Calvary. And when you have folks coming to your door with literature, and you should take some, find out my dear friends first of all what is the teaching of that system concerning the person of Christ and also the work of Christ on Calvary. If you should study the heart of about 16 cults that are growing and developing in these United States of America you will find that the attack that is being made is on the person and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ. And I want to say my dear friends, just in
passing, that we here at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles are putting into our correspondence school curriculum a special course of study entitled The Cults in the Light of the Word of God, and possibly some of you folks would like to take that correspondence course. And if you are interested and would like to have some information in regard to the courses you may write to us and we will be glad to send you the information. The courses by the way are not very expensive.

But coming back to Colossians chapter 1, the apostle Paul knew that the presentation of the person of the Lord Jesus Christ was the only answer to the false teaching including the false philosophy that was threatening to destroy the bright testimony of these Colossians. I want now my friend's to, that we should look at that verse 15 again, verse 15 of chapter 1. And there speaking of Christ the apostle Paul says, "Who is the image of the invisible God," that is Christ is the, is the visible, or rather Christ he makes visible the invisible God.

You remember that Jesus says, "No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him," and my dear friends, if you want to know who God is and what God is like you look into the face of the Lord Jesus Christ. Because when you see him you see God. And that is the only way by which you may know God and see God and to know anything in regard to what God is like. And when you study the gospel according to John especially, that deals with the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ as God manifest in the flesh, listen to what he says and every word that falls from his lips is God speaking, every act that he performs is the act of God. Look into his face and you see the invisible God made visible. And then Paul goes on to say in that verse 15, he says he is also, "the first born of every creature," that
is in his resurrection he is the first fruits of them that sleep and that he is the head of this new creation of which every believer is a part.

I want to say to you my dear friends again for emphasis that every man who does not accept the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior forever passes away into destruction into the lake of fire because the day is coming and it is rapidly approaching when everything that is not built upon the Lord Jesus Christ will become like chaff before us on the threshing floor. You know that the old creation is going to pass away and God is through with it, and he is bringing into existence a new creation and the Lord Jesus Christ laid the foundation of that new creation in his death and in his resurrection. And my friends that when God gives this world a thorough housecleaning all that is going to be left is the new creation in Christ and Christ is the head of the new creation. The old creation is under doom my friend, it's under judgment, and God is through with it so that when the Lord Jesus Christ was raised from the dead that God began a new thing, that is to dominate the universe and God has taken the believer of this day and put him into Christ giving the company of believers to Christ as his body and as his bride. And with Christ they're going to dominate for all the eternal ages and God's new creation consists of the head Christ and we are the members of his body. You know my dear friends that that puts the believer, does it not, in a glorious place.

Now I want you to look at that verse 16 again. You know the apostle Paul, "He is the image of the invisible God and the first born of every creature," so the apostle Paul says in verse 15. Now he is going to make very clear just what he means when he says that Christ is the, is God made visible, that is he is the, he is making visible the invisible God. For he says in verse 16, "For by
him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him," and that means my dear friends that the Lord Jesus Christ is the creator, the one who said back there in the first chapter of Genesis, "Let there be light, let there be light, and let there be a universe," was none other than the second person of the Trinity. You know that the Lord Jesus my dear friends, the second person of the Trinity is the creator, not the Father and not the Holy Spirit. It is the Lord Jesus, the second person of the Trinity by whom all things came into existence.

Now this verse definitely says that. It says, "for by him were all things created whether in heaven or in earth," or anywhere else in this great universe. Christ is the creator and you have it also stated in the first chapter of John, and you have it also in the first three verses in the first chapter of Hebrews. Let me just for a moment turn to John chapter 1 verses 1 to 3 and there you read this statement, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The same was in the beginning with God, all things were made by him and without him was anything made that was made. My friends the Son is the creator. Now I think that you have the order in this, that the Father planned all things with respect to his Son, out of love for his Son, and the Lord Jesus Christ put all those plans into operation as creator and he did so by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Father, God the Father planned, the Lord Jesus Christ exercised the plan, and he exercised the plan, plan in the power of the Holy Ghost so that my friends the Father planed all things and it is brought into being by the Son through the power of the Holy Ghost. And that's the Godhead, the members of the Godhead working together.
My friends I want you now to look at Colossians chapter 1 verse 16. Just note this again in order that you might see the order that he has set forth in that verse. Paul says in verse 16 this, "By him were all things created." And then at the end of the verse he says, "All things were created by him and for him." In other words everything is for Christ. I think probably it just means this, that the Father planned creation for the glory of his Son and then he gave to the Son the new creation, all that Christ might be glorified, and my friends you and I are a part of that new creation. I haven't any doubt that creation was planned to show the glory, show forth the glory of the, of Christ the Son. I haven't any doubt that if we saw the glory of creation as it really is. My dear friends one of these days we're going to see it. And the creation my friends includes more than, than just this earth. Oh, the magnitude of this universe! One of these days we're going to see just how, just how extensive God's universe is. But you know some little time ago an astronomer in Canada, he was talking about this earth and he, he related, he illustrated this little earth on which we live in relation to the great universe of God. He likened this earth to a single grain of sand at the root of a single blade of grass in all of the Canadian prairies.

Think of it! He likened this earth to a single grain of sand at the base of a single blade of grass in all of the prairies of Canada. Oh, the magnitude of the universe of God! And my friends since they have gotten this new planet, this new telescope with an enormous size at Mt. Wilson, they have been able to penetrate into the universe to a greater degree than astronomers have ever been able to, to do right up to this time. And they have come to see that there are universes, there is a universe that extends far beyond the greatest universe, the greatest telescope is able to make known to us. And my dear friend I want to ask you, do you know who made all that?
Do you know that the one who made this universe and keeps everything in order is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ? And I believe that in that coming day when our eyes are going to see things as we do not, cannot see them now, when this body is regenerated and renewed and we'll get new eyes and we'll get new ears that we will be able to see the glory of the universe and how that the universe just reveals the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. You know that the, the apostle Paul says, "All things were made by him, and for him, and for him," to reveal the glory of his Son. You know that I believe that in the coming ages when we are with Christ we'll see in every part of this universe something that will just reflect some of the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. You know that I read some time ago the story of a very, very noted artist and he had an only son that he loved very, very much and he used to be oftentimes with this son and he studied the features of the son's face. But he never painted a portrait of that son although he was a celebrated portrait printer. But he painted many scenes and many faces in those scenes, but in every face, in every form, in every scene that he painted he wove into it somewhere a feature of that son.

And you could look over the scores of paintings that came from his brush during all of his lifetime and see in every one of them something of the likeness of the son that he loved. And I want to say my friends that I think that God the Father has done that in all creation. I think that there is something that glorifies God's Son, for Christ is the Son of the Father's love and the Father loves him and does everything for him and everything was brought into existence, everything that he used, it was brought into existence according to the plan of God for the glory of the Lord Jesus, that the Father has now since the creation given to the Lord Jesus Christ the highest place in this universe and given him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, and my dear friends that there is deep meaning in all that. Because
you and I are vitally, by the baptism of the Holy Spirit, united to the mystical body of Christ, of which Christ is the head.

My friends what a wonderful thing that means for a believer because we belong to his body and we belong to him; we're united to him just as this physical body of yours is united to the head. Not only are the believers called the body of Christ but they're also called the bride of Christ. And you know that he's coming to take the church to himself one of these days. And he is going to take the church to be his very own. And we're going to be co-heirs with him, co-heirs. That means that everything my dear friends that the Lord Jesus Christ owns, that you and I are going to own; we're going to be co-heirs with him. Have you ever stood out on a clear night and looked into this great universe with its wheeling planets whirling through immeasurable space? And to see the myriads of suns and look at the Milky Way and remember that that Milky Way is made up of millions and millions and millions of suns? Have you ever looked at that my dear friend and realized that you're a co-heir to all of that? And the remarkable thing about it is my dear friends that we don't have to pay any taxes on it.

You know that we have a little house and you have a little house and you have to pay a tax, but brother look at that great universe. I am very much in sympathy with a colored fellow that was walking along a country road and he was singing and it was at night and the sun had just gone down and the heavens were all ablaze with the glory of the Son and the stars were beginning to come. The evening star was visible and then he could see just little pinpoints sticking out everywhere in the universe above and the old fellow was just singing to beat the band. And someone said to him, "Why Sam, you seem to be very happy." "Oh yes," he said. "I've just been
looking at all my, my real estate and I never get any tax for it." My friends that's the only thing you know that you and I possess that we don't have to, can't get any taxes on. All the universe speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ and all the universe is vocal with songs about him and we the church, we're the nearest company to him.

You know my dear friends that all the universe all moves in symphony, you know that? And do you know that as the universe moves with symphony astronomers tell us that there is a, there is music connected with that movement? We're going to have our eyes unstuck one of these days. We're going to have new eyes and brother you're going to have new ears. And when you get up there in the heavens you are going to find all the universe of God in a great symphony. My, what a wonderful time is ahead of us brother. Cheer up if you're down in the dumps. Why, the translation may take place today! And if you do, if it does my dear friends you will pack your troubles in your old kit bag, but brother you will leave the bag behind and you'll be caught up to meet him. And you will know more in one minute than I can tell you in a thousand years, even though I would just go on speaking on Colossians.

Now coming back to verse 17 here is the apostle Paul saying something else about God's glorious Son, I want to look at it. Verse 17, "He is and he is before all thing," he is." I want you to note that little word 'is.' You know if you had written that statement my dear friends you would've used the word 'was.' And you would make that verse 17 read on this [inaudible], "He was before all things." But this is in the present tense in the original, and that can only be spoken of of deity. You cannot speak of anybody in the past tense and use the word 'is.' You have to use the word 'was.' But not with God, my friend. There is no past, present, and future with God.
There is no past, present, and future with the second person on the Trinity either. You know eternity is the eternal now, the eternal present with him. You remember how that when Jesus spoke to the disciples he says, "I am." When God revealed himself to Moses and Moses said, "Whom shall I tell them down there in Egypt that you are?" and God spake out of the burning bush and says, "You tell them that I am has spoken unto thee." That God did not say, "Tell them that I was spoken unto you," or "I will be," but rather "I am." There is God who speak, who lives in the eternal present.

And when the Lord Jesus Christ said before Abraham was, "I am." He was reaching back into the Old Testament and he was taking the very words that God spake out of the burning bush and applied them to himself. He says before Abraham was, "I am." My friends that is another statement that the apostle Paul makes in regard to the eternal deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now I have got time my dear friends for one other moment and I haven't gotten anywhere near the end of this yet, but look at verse 17. "And he is before all things." Now that speaks of his pre-existence. He was before all things. Do you know my dear friends that the Lord Jesus Christ in this world was perfectly human? He was just as much a man as I am, just as much a human as you are. But he is the only one of all the human race that ever knew a pre-existence. Nobody ever came into this world who knew anything about pre-existence, neither Moses, nor Abraham, nor David, nor any of the other great ones.

But of the Lord Jesus it says, "He is before all things." You can go back into the past eternity, go back billions of years before the word of creation was spoke, spoken, and my friend there he is. He is before all things and by him all things consist. You know that that word 'consist,' my dear
friends, means 'hold together.' Have you ever wondered what keeps the planets in their relation to the sun, whizzing through space? Do you know why it is that this old earth never pulls away from the sun? My friends the one who keeps, who created it all, also he causes it to consist, that is to hold together. What a wonderful savior we have. Thank you for listening and goodbye and God bless you all.

[Choir Music]

You've been listening to your radio Bible teacher Dr. Louis T. Talbot Chancellor of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles Inc. Address all mail to Dr. Louis T. Talbot 558 South Hope Street, Los Angeles 17, California.

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