



Biblical Authority —

“Who’s Number One in the Universe?”

Use the following discussion questions in your Sunday school class, small group, or family devotions. Read the article “Who’s Number One in the Universe?” on page 80 of *Answers* (Vol. 4 No. 4) before answering the questions.

1. What does the larger context of Colossians 1:18 tell you about the importance of applying the preeminence of Christ to your life? _____

2. The *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* says the word *firstborn* in Colossians 1:15 is to be taken “hierarchically . . . the unique supremacy of Christ over all creatures as the Mediator of their creation.” It is a word referring to rank and position rather than order of birth. How does your understanding of the word *firstborn* affect the meaning of this verse? _____

3. Since the Creator in Genesis 1:1 is said to be God, how does this relate to Paul’s assertion in Colossians 1:16 that Christ is the Creator of all things? Compare this with Matthew 1:22–23. _____

4. Do “invisible” things (verse 16) that Christ created include all spiritual beings, even though some are now fallen? (Notice the terms “thrones, dominions, principalities, or powers” in Ephesians 6:11–12.) How does Colossians 2:10 affect your level of confidence in Christ’s headship? _____

5. Paul concludes this section of thought (1:15–19) by stating that “all the fullness” dwells in Christ. How does this phrase summarize and encapsulate the preeminence of Christ? (See Colossians 2:9.) _____

6. How has this word study enlarged your view of Jesus Christ? What changes might this produce in your walk with the Lord? (See Colossians 3:1–4.) _____

