

## All Creation Through Christ

### Commentary for September 16, 2024 — We All Will Create as He Has Done!

In Colossians 1:15–17 (Concordant Literal Version) information about the creative acts of the person the apostle Paul earlier identifies as “**Christ Jesus**” (Colossians 1:1, 4), “**Lord Jesus Christ**” (verses 2–3), and as “**the Son of His Love**” (Colossians 1:5). Paul uses these terms to eliminate any doubt about the subject of this epistle:

“[Christ] **Who is the**

[1] **IMAGE of the invisible God,**

[2] **FIRSTBORN of EVERY creature, for**

[3] **in Him is ALL created,**

➤ **that IN the heavens and that ON the earth,**

➤ **the visible and the invisible,**

➤ **whether thrones, or lordships, or sovereignties, or authorities,**

[4] **ALL is created through Him and FOR Him, and**

[5] **He is before ALL, and**

[6] **ALL has its cohesion in Him.”**

• **Colossians 1:15–17 CLV<sup>1</sup>**

Note the last line at the end of verse 17, “[6] **ALL has its cohesion in Him.**” That means that all creation continues to operate and function, moment to moment through Christ.

Christ Jesus was, and is, a creator subordinate to God, His (and our) Father. As the Son, Christ was the “prime contractor” of all creation. God our Father **is in the creation business**. It is what He does. It will be OUR business when we become mature children of God.

### **The Example of Joseph the Carpenter**

Joseph was the legal foster-father of Jesus. Joseph’s name means “*He will increase*.” He was probably more than a carpenter attaching metal plows to wood frames, or making door jams. Rather, he was more of an artisan who was well educated in the Hebrew Scriptures. Joseph and Mary must have taught Jesus details about the laws of God, Temple rituals, the feasts, and learning to read the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament). We can know because of an incident that occurred when Jesus was age 12 (Luke 2:42) when Jesus stayed behind among the scholars, listening to them, and asking questions of Jewish scholars at the Temple:

**“And it occurred, after three days they found Him in the sanctuary [the outer area of the Temple], [1] seated in the midst of the teachers, [2] hearing them, as well as [3] inquiring of them. Now amazed are all those hearing Him at His understanding and answers.”**

<sup>1</sup> If you read this passage in the King James Version and other translations, you will find most all agree with the CLV.

**And perceiving** [seeing] **Him, they were astonished. And His mother said to Him, 'Child, why do you thus to us? Lo! your father and I painfully sought you.'**

**And He said to them, "Why is it that you sought Me? Had you not perceived that I must be among the things which are My Father's?"**<sup>2</sup>

**And they** [His parents] **DO NOT UNDERSTAND the declaration which He speaks to them.**

• **Luke 2:46–50 CLV**

This is not a "miracle story." It is a human story about concerned parents who have a gifted child. Their child learned the important things about God, God's creation of heaven and earth, and God's Laws and mercies toward mankind. In the future when all Adam's children are glorified and in the Kingdom of God, then we also will be **"like Christ."** We shall be like Him not only as He was in the flesh, but we shall also be like Him as He is now (1 John 3:2).

We should not be surprised that Joseph, the legal father of Jesus, was a model to his son about aspects of God, our Creator, on a small scale. We are told that Joseph was a carpenter. He was likely a craftsman of great skill with wood, or perhaps even a prime contractor to build and fulfill design specifications of complex structures for those who hired Him to make and build things for them. Joseph and Mary were both good role models, teaching Him about His heavenly Father. Jesus learned so quickly He surprised the learned scholars in Jerusalem.

It seems Joseph and Mary had several children, but apparently Joseph was not alive when Mary, her other sons, and perhaps her daughters attended public functions (the wedding at Cana, John 2:1–12), or when Jesus began his ministry:

**"And coming into His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, so that they are astonished, and are saying,**

- **'Whence** [from where] **has this one this wisdom and powerful deeds?**
- **Is not this the son of the artisan** ["carpenter," KJV]?
- **Is not his mother said to be Miriam,**
- **and his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?**
- **And his sisters** [plural, requiring at least two sisters], **are they not all with us?**
- **Whence, then, has this one all these?"**

• **Matthew 13:54–56, CLV**

Jesus learned. Note: "... **even He also, being a Son, learned OBEDIENCE from that which He suffered. And being perfected, He became the cause of eonian salvation to all who are **obeying Him**" (Hebrews 5:7–8 CLV). All **WILL** obey, all **WILL** be perfected, all **WILL** be saved. Each of us **WILL BE Creators** — just like our Father and our elder brother Christ Jesus.**

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<sup>2</sup> The well-known rendering of Luke 2:49 is: **"Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"** (New King James Version (1982) and in all older KJV editions. A similar English translation is in the *Douay-Rheims Translation of the Latin Vulgate* (1899). My quick search has not found any other translations who use the phrase **"My Father's business."** While this rendering is well known and liked by readers, most English Bibles translate it differently.