

BIBLE STUDY

10/23/14

Talbert's chiastic arrangement of Colossians 1:15-20 for Students

- A. **Who is** the image of the invisible God (the visible of the invisible),
^a**the firstborn (preeminent One)** of (over) all creation (v. 15)
^b**because in Him were created** ^c**all things**
^d**in the ¹heavens and on the ²earth,**
visible and invisible, whether thrones or lords or rulers or authorities
all things were created through Him and for Him (v. 16).
- B. **and He is** before all things and all things through Him hold together (v. 17)
B/. **and He is** the head of the body, the church (v.18);
- A/. **who is** the beginning,
^a**the firstborn (preeminent One)** from the dead in order that He might
become
preeminent in all things (v.18)
^b**because in Him** all the fullness (of deity) was pleased to dwell (v. 19)
and through Him to reconcile ^c**all things** to Himself
making peace through the blood of the cross,
whether **things** ^d**on the ²earth or things in ¹the heavens** (v. 20).

Instructions:

- This text is considered a Christ Hymn. There are about 6 Christ Hymns in Scripture. We believe they were creeds sung by the church about Christ's incarnation. They were written approximately 20-25 years of Christ's resurrection, proving that the deity of Christ was a part of very early Christianity.
- Read through this chiasm 5 times; only AFTER the second time do I want you to take note of all the inserted letters and numbers.
- Note that the bold print accentuates repeated terms.
- Identify the numbers and letters from the top half with the numbers and letters of the bottom half.
- What two letters let you know the turning point in the chiasm
- What two lines describe Christ being God? Underline them.
- Circle "all things."
- What two lines remind you of Genesis 1:1
- How does the top half demonstrate that Jesus is the Creator? How does the bottom half demonstrate that Jesus is the Savior?
- How do the following verses from Isaiah remind you of Colossians 1:15-20?

Isaiah 43:1, 3 Thus says Yahweh, you Creator, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, Do not fear, for I have redeemed you...For I am Yahweh your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...

Isaiah 43:14,15 Thus says Yahweh your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel... I am Yahweh, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel...

Isaiah 44: 24 Thus says Yahweh, your Redeemer, and the one who formed you from the womb, I, Yahweh am the maker of all things, stretching out the heavens by Myself and spreading out the earth all alone...

- **Temptation**
- **Arrival in Galilee**
- **Sermon**
- **Various miracles**
- **Calling of Peter**

Luke 5:4-11

⁴ He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ Simon answered and said, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but ^[a]I will do as You say *and* let down the nets." ⁶ When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets *began* to break; ⁷ so they signaled to their partners in the other boat for them to come and help them. And they came and filled both of the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw *that*, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, "Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For amazement had seized him and all his companions because of

the catch of fish, which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also *were* James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men."¹¹ When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

- **Temptation**
- **Arrival in Galilee**
- **Calling of Peter**

Matthew 4:18-22

¹⁸ Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And He **said* to them, Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. He saw two other brothers, James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his

brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them.

²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

- **Temptation**
- **Arrival in Galilee**
- **Calling of Peter**

Mark 1:16-20

¹⁶ As He was going along by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸ Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. ¹⁹ Going on a little farther, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who were also in the boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately He called them; and they left their father Zebedee ...and went away to follow Him.

Luke 5:4-11

⁴ When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."⁵ Simon answered and said, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but I will do as You say *and* let down the nets."⁶ When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets *began* to break; ⁷ so they signaled to their partners in the other boat for them to come and help them. And they came and filled both of the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw *that*, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, "Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For amazement had seized him and all his companions because of the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also *were* James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men."¹¹ When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

Circle the texts in both columns that align with each of these headings and put the number beside each circle.

1. EPIPHANY (God reveals Himself in some way—by an appearance or a miracle.

2. REACTION (Sinfulness acknowledged)

3. REASSURANCE

4. COMMISSION

Question: Why should Luke tell the cameraman to zero in on Peter?
Why should Peter's story mimic in many ways Isaiah's calling?

Isaiah 6:1-10

...I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted... ² Seraphim stood above Him... ⁴ And the foundations ...trembled at the voice...while the temple was filling with smoke. ⁵ Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips,,, For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts." ⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal ...⁷ He touched my mouth *with it* and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven." ⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!" ⁹ He said, "Go, and tell this people...

LUKE 5:17-26

17 One day He was teaching; and there were some Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present for him to perform healing. 18 And some men were carrying on a bed a man who was paralyzed; and they were trying to bring him in and to set him down in front of Jesus. 19 But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus. 20 Seeing their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are released/forgiven you." 21 The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason saying, "Who is this man who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive/release sins, but God alone?" But Jesus, aware of their reasonings, answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts? 23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins have been forgiven/released,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? 24 But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive/release sins,"—He said to the paralytic—"I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home." 25 Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. 26 They were all struck with astonishment and began glorifying God; and they were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen remarkable things today.

ISAIAH 43:25

The Lord says,
"I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

ISAIAH 44:22

The Lord says,
"I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud and your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you."

ISAIAH 55:7

The Lord says,
"Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

PSALM 51:1, 9

Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions. Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

Luke 4:17-20

¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to release those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

LUKE 5:17-25

As Jesus was teaching, there were some Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting...and some men were carrying on a bed a man who was paralyzed; and they were trying to bring him in and to set him down in front of Jesus. But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd, they climbed up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, he said, "friend, your sins are forgiven/released you." The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, "who is this man who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive/release sins, but God alone?" But Jesus, aware of their reasonings, said, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'your sins have been forgiven/released you,' or to say, 'get up and walk?' but, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive/release sins." He said to the paralytic, "I say to you,

get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home." Immediately he got up...and went home glorifying God.

Luke 5:27-32

And Levi gave a big banquet for Jesus in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and other people who were reclining at the table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?" And Jesus answered and said to them, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

LUKE 7:36-50

³⁶One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, ³⁸and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." ⁴⁰And Jesus

answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

⁴¹"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.⁴²When they could not pay, he forgave/released the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?"⁴³Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he forgave/released the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵You gave

me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven/released—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven/released little, loves little." ⁴⁸And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven/released." ⁴⁹Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives/releases sins?"⁵⁰And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

LUKE 15:1-2

Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near him to listen to him. Both the

Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, "this man receives sinners and eats with them."

Luke 18:9-14

And Jesus also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; i pay tithes of all that I get.' but the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, "God, be merciful to me, the sinner!" I tell you, this man went to his house made righteous rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho. There was a man called Zaccheus; he was a chief tax collector and he was rich. Zaccheus was trying to see who Jesus was, and was unable because of the crowd, for he was small in stature. So he ran and climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to see him through that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said, "Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay [and eat] at your house." And he hurried and came down and received Jesus gladly. They all began to grumble, "He has gone to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." Zaccheus stopped and said, "Behold, Lord, half of my possessions I will give to the poor, and if i have defrauded anyone , I will give back four times as much." And Jesus said, "today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the son of man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."