

Victoria Fellowship Church
International & Interdenominational
Bible Study Worksheet – March 14, 2021

Theme: The Attributes of God Topic: The Attributes of God: Pre-eminent

Main Text: Isaiah 55:1-13; Romans 11:33-36

Key verse: Isaiah 55:8-9 *“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.”* (NKJV)

INTRODUCTION: Some religious and political dignitaries are addressed as ‘His Eminence.’ Some are even addressed as ‘His Most Eminent Highness.’ These titles are conferred by men on men. Some are taken up by the individual, all to suggest that they are famed or have superiority within a particular domain. And they try to look the part. But when it comes to God, He is Pre-eminent. To be preeminent means to surpass all others; the greatest, foremost, finest. It means to be more important or powerful than all others: having paramount rank, dignity, or importance; outstanding, supreme. It means to be absolutely first.

1. (a) Which of the words used to define preeminence, above, best describes God’s preeminence to you? (b) How does Psalm 89:27, Colossians 1:18; Revelation 1:8, help you to differentiate God’s eminence from those conferred on humans? (c) Compared to how we respect and honor the eminent personalities of this world, would you say our treatment of God shows that we believe He is pre-eminent?

In Isaiah 40:25 (MSG), God asks emphatically, *“So—who is like me? Who holds a candle to me?”* The eminent of this world often find out the hard way that they do not hold a candle to God. Examples include Pharaoh, when he asked, *‘Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go?’* (Exodus 5:2). Not until God judged him and his gods by killing all firstborns in Egypt, did he realize just who God is. Nebuchadnezzar was no different. Despite being forewarned, he still was full of himself. Sadly, it took him seven years of living in the wild and eating grass to acknowledge God as the Pre-eminent One (Daniel 4:30-37). And God’s pre-eminence can easily be lost on us unless we pause and ponder it. God surpasses all others in everything.

2. (a) In what ways are we, like Pharaoh or King Nebuchadnezzar, prone to lose sight of God’s pre-eminence? (b) Read Isaiah 55: 1-13; Romans 11:33-36; (b) What are some of the specific ways God’s pre-eminence is manifested or described? (c) How should knowing that God alone is pre-eminent affect the way we live?

The theme of the Book of Colossians is Jesus Christ, the Pre-eminent. In speaking about Jesus, Scripture says *“He existed before everything and holds everything together. He is also the head of the church, which is His body. He is the beginning, the first to come back to life so that He would have first place in everything. God was pleased to have all of Himself live in Christ.”* (Colossians 1:17-19 GW). Speaking of Himself, Jesus said, *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.”* (Matthew 28:18).

3. (a) Read Daniel 2:47; Ephesians 1:20-23; Colossians 1:12-19; 2:9: In what ways is Christ pre-eminent? (b) If Jesus Christ is pre-eminent as God is pre-eminent, does that mean He is in competition with God? Why or why not? (c) Hebrews 1:1-3; 7:22-25; Philippians 2:10; Matthew 28:18-20. What are some implications of Christ being pre-eminent?

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, there is none like You in heaven or on earth or beneath the earth. You are preeminent in every way. Be thou glorified. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.*