

OUR ETERNAL HOME
Home for the Christmas, #5
Christmas Eve 2020
Pastor Dennis Clanton
Woodland Church

“May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins. Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together. Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything. For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross.”
(Colossians 1:12–20, NLT)

God’s purpose at Christmas was to meet us in our need; to redeem us; and to introduce us to Himself!

*“Giving thanks to the Father, who has **qualified** you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has **delivered** us from the domain of darkness and **transferred** us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,”* (Colossians 1:12–13, ESV)

We will give thanks to the Father for:

- a. **Qualifying us.**
 - b. **Delivering us.**
 - c. **Transferring us.**
1. **Jesus is our redeemer.**

“in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” (verse 14, ESV)

2. Jesus reveals God to us.

“Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.” (verse 15a)

3. Jesus is our creator.

“He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.” (verse 15b-16)

4. Jesus is our sustainer.

“God’s Son was before all else, and by him everything is held together.”
(verse 17, CEV)

5. Jesus is the source of our life.

“He is also the head, the [life source and leader] of the body, the church; ...
(verse 18, AMP)

6. Jesus is our satisfaction.

“For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,” (verse 19)

7. Jesus is our restorer.

“And by the blood of his cross, everything in heaven and earth is brought back to himself – back to its original intent, restored to innocence again!”
(verse 20 PT)

“So we are always confident, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord. For we live by believing and not by seeing. Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord.”
(2 Corinthians 5:6–8, NLT)