Reading Sunday 5 October 2025

Isaiah 65: 17 - 25 & Colossians 1: 15 - 20

New heavens and a new earth

17 'See, I will create new heavens and a new earth.
The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice for ever in what I will create,

for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.

¹⁹ I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people;

the sound of weeping and of crying

will be heard in it no more.

20 'Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years;

the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child;

the one who fails to reach a hundred

will be considered accursed.

- 21 They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
- ²² No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat.

For as the days of a tree,

so will be the days of my people;

my chosen ones will long enjoy

the work of their hands.

²³ They will not labour in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune;

for they will be a people blessed by the LORD, they and their descendants with them.

- ²⁴ Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.
- ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food.

They will neither harm nor destroy

on all my holy mountain,' says the LORD.

The supremacy of the Son of God

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.