dominion; "or principalities or rulers or powers," that is, those who exercise authority. Probably what you have here is four ranks of angels. What Paul is saying is, Jesus is responsible for every single thing being in existence in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, even including all these four ranks of angels. They would not even be in existence if it were not for Jesus Christ.

Then Paul goes on to stress it a little more. He says: "All things were created by Him." Jesus is not only the responsible cause for all creation, but He is the agent of all creation. He is the One who actually did the creating. He is the agent of the creation. "all things," or more literally, "the all things" were created by means of Him, and notice, "for Him." He is the goal of all creation. When Jesus created things He created them for Himself. As we are told in Rev. 4:11: He created them for His own pleasure. So, Jesus is the responsible cause for all creation; He is the agent of creation, the One who actually did the creating; and He is the goal of all creation. He created all things for His own pleasure, for His own enjoyment. Jesus, then, produced all the creation, and He produced it in the fullest sense of the word.

Now, I have a house in which I am privileged to live. We got it when we first started Biblical. The Lord worked things out for me and for the other members of the faculty that time in a wonderful way. But there was a builder who was responsible for building our house. Let me tell you something. I never saw that builder who was responsible for building that house out there driving one nail into that house. I never saw that builder who was responsible for building that house saw one piece of wood for that house, or do any of the plumbing or the electrical work or the painting or anything else. He had other people who were doing that. He was responsible for the house being built. Without him