

Spirit and Truth

Bible studies dedicated to helping the Bible student to know and worship God as He requires His followers to know and worship Him.

The true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. John 4:23,24

Lesson 5

JESUS:
THE CHRIST, ANOINTED GOD

In lesson 3 we learned that Jesus Christ is the *real* Son of God, the Only-Begotten from the body of the Most High God. Jesus is so intimately a part of the Father-God, He has been invested with the name of God, which means He has the full authority, power and status of God.

In lesson 4 we learned that the heavenly Father-God has given to His Son His own name and authority, they are equal in every respect.... except rank, for, the Supreme God maintains authority over His Son.

Our lesson today takes the above themes another step further. The great God of the universe now clarifies the ordination of His Only-Begotten Son, exalting Him before the heavenly host to a position where He is equal with Himself. Thus, to all of creation, the Father and the Son are both worshipped equally as God (John 5:23).

Another question, yet unanswered is -- why did Jehovah-God bring forth the Son of His own body and give Him His own power and authority when, He already had all that was needed to create and do all of the works He planned? --- Not quite, there was one thing He could not do! This topic and the ordination of Jesus, will now form the subject of our study.

THE AUTHORITY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF THE GODHEAD

The authority and credibility of the Godhead was challenged in heaven. Lucifer had conspired to promote insurrection and overthrow the government of God. It was for this moment and the events following that the foreknowledge of God led to the preparations He had put in place. We open our study with the general assembly in heaven, an assembly called by God that all may know and understand the truth.

1. What did God, the Father, declare about His Son to the assembly of the heavenly host?

Hebrews 1:6-10

Note: God said – This is My Son, the One whom I have begotten, I have *anointed* Him to be equal with Me, even to take My name and, by Him I have created all things (v.2). He is to be worshipped, as I am worshipped, by all the host of heaven and all of creation¹ (John 5:23).

God never made this declaration about any of the angels (v.5). He never called any of His created beings His Only-Begotten Son. Jesus was said to be "*made* so much better than the angels." This is not "made," meaning manufactured or created but, made, meaning appointed, or anointed.

The word "made" was translated from the Greek word GINOMAI (Strong's 1096), meaning: *to come into being; to cause to be; continue; be divided; be ordained to be* (v.9). Typically, the Strong's Concordance gives a number of applications for a given Hebrew or Greek word, much like a thesaurus reveals a wide scope of applications for a particular English word.

The underlined words above, as given applications for GINOMAI, support what we have seen in Scripture concerning Jesus, that is: *continual* – eternal; *divided* – brought forth; *ordained* – anointed.

Any suggestion that the word "made" could imply that Jesus was created is absolutely contrary to the rest of the Bible.

Being the *Son* (of God), Jesus had an inheritance --- He obtained a vastly more superior name than the angels; He was anointed as God, with God and given all of the attributes of God. The Father gave this inheritance to the only One, begotten of His own body. This exalted position could not be placed on a created being, for a created being could not qualify to be equal with God (Heb.1:4; John 1:1,2,14).

It is understandable how that some may feel it a denigration of the deity of Christ to say that, *Jesus received His position as God and with God from the Father*. But it should be remembered that the Bible does *not* teach a trinity of co-equal, co-eternal and co-existent

gods, where Jesus is one of them. God's word teaches that there is but one Supreme God and that one Supreme God had a Son. For that Supreme God to exalt His Son to a position where He is equal with Himself, to be God on behalf of Almighty God, to be worshipped as He is worshipped, is not a denigration of Christ but, is the greatest honour, name and glory He could possibly bestow upon Him! (Heb.1:6,8,9; Philip.2:9-11).

At the heavenly assembly, before the universe, God had established the authority of His Son as equal with Himself. There was now another point to clarify...

2. When the Father committed all judgement and power to the Son, and notified all creation to that effect, what was His purpose?

Hebrews 1:6

John 5:22,23

Note: That all would recognise and acknowledge the Only-Begotten Son of God, as God, with the Father (John 1:1,2,14).

LUCIFER WANTED THE POSITION OF CHRIST

Lucifer (after his fall became Satan) perceived the office of Christ as being a position that he, himself, could and was entitled to fill. Lucifer coveted the position out of selfishness and pride, for he certainly had no intention of offering himself as the saviour of the world, nor indeed, could he be such a saviour.

3. When God exposed Lucifer's coveted ambition, what did He say was the desire of this fallen angel?

Isaiah 14:12-14

Ezekiel 28:2

Note: "Mount of the congregation" also "stars" is the assembly of God's people, His Church, or the host of heaven and earth who worship Him (Mic.4:1,2; Zech.8:3; Heb.12:22,23; Dan.8:10; Rev.1:16,20).

"The sides of the North" is the city, or dwelling place of God (Ps.48:1,2; 1Kings 8:30; Eze.44:4). Hence, the true and rightful King of the North is Christ (Rev.19:16). The false, or invading king of the North is Satan, or a satanically motivated body seeking authority to which it is not entitled. Notice that God's people are counselled to have no part of the land of the false king of the north, which is this world with its sinful practices (Zech.2:6,7; Jer.23:7,8; Jer.50:9).

"I will be *like* the most High" – Lucifer knew that He could not be *the* Most High, it was so far out of his reach there was no point trying for it. But, on the other hand, he saw that Jesus had a position of appointment and reasoned that it could just as well have been himself, appointed with God to be worshipped *like* the Most High, instead of this "Son of God." Satan coveted the position of Christ².

The message of Ezekiel 28 exposes the sin harboured in the heart of Lucifer, the sin that led to his rebellion and attempted overthrow of the government of heaven (Rev.12). To hide his own lust for power, He claimed that the directives of God were not for the good of His created children, but, were the instruments of draconian rule and God did not love His people as much as He claimed (example of this reasoning: Gen.2:16,17; 3:1–6). While this passage is directed toward one named as the *king of Tyrus*, it is clear that it is not a man to which it refers as no man has ever been the *covering cherub* (v.14–16). Also, a man born after the Noachian flood could not possibly have been in Eden (Gen.2:8; Eze.28:13).

God pointed out to the assembly of the heavenly host – That no-one but Jesus, could hold the position as the Son of God. "To which of the angels did He say, thou art My son, this day have I begotten thee?" — Not one! (Heb.1:5).

God knew that it was the covering cherub, Lucifer, that was inciting unrest among the angels over the authority of Jesus. Lucifer was jealous of Christ and hated Him; he would not have this "Man" to reign over him (Luke 19:14). Blinded by his jealousy, Lucifer claimed that he was more worthy of the position and argued that he would do a better job! (typical Satanic deception John 8:44). For this reason, the Father reinforced the Godship of His Son and ensured that everyone clearly understood their own position, including the angels and the covering cherub (Heb.1:6,7,13,14).

If Christ had been one of a trinity of gods – Lucifer would not have considered there would be much possibility for taking the position of one of them, for the same reason he did not challenge the position of Almighty God. As one of a Trinity, Jesus would not be the Son of God, His position would not have been an appointment of God and there would have been no need to clarify the position of Christ at the general assembly.

WHY GOD NEEDED CHRIST

From our previous lesson we have seen that God is greater than Jesus and has even performed all of His creative works through the word of His Son. God willed the creation and the Son spoke it into existence, hence Jesus' name -- the "Word of God" (Psalm 33:6–9; Heb.1:2; Eph.3:9; John.1:1–3,14; 5:17).

It would be reasonable to ask the question – As the Father-God had all the creative power necessary to bring the universe into existence, why was it necessary to bring forth Jesus, from His own body, and then have Him do all of the works of creation, when He could have done it all Himself?.... The answer LOVE.

God wanted to give unmistakable evidence of His unselfish love for all of His created children. But how could Jesus show that love in a way that the

Father could not?

Until the satanic rebellion and the fall of the human race that love was never tested. It was not until God was called upon to give something that was in proportion to His exalted Majesty that He was able to demonstrate His *infinite* love. He gave *Himself* for the fallen race! And How did God give Himself?, in the person of His Son, His exact duplicate (Matt.1:23; lesson 3).

Jesus was brought forth for one specific reason --- to be the solution for sin (1John 3:8). By His work of redemption, Jesus would put to rest every accusation made against God; He would show forth the love of God under conditions that would prove that love unquestionably. Thus, the Father would be glorified, for all creation would truly know that God is love.

This objective was realised by Christ in the fulfilment of three definite functions. These functions being:

- 1) To die and take the penalty for sin for those who would turn from sin.
- 2) To be Priest, Mediator and Reconciler for the repentant sinner.
- 3) To be as God, representing God, fulfilling the functions of God, including, being the Counsellor and Guide for every created being and in particular, the fallen race.

4. What decree did the Father (LORD) make concerning His Son?

Psalm 2:7

Note: This statement is used by some New Testament writers in a context that emphasises the purposes God had in Jesus. Looking at these references, we begin to understand why Jesus was brought forth....

Jesus - Died To Remit Sin

5. What did the Father do that was seen as a fulfilment of His purpose in giving His Only-Begotten Son?

Acts 13:29-33

1John 3:8

6. What was ordained of Christ before the creation of this world?

1Peter 1:19,20

Compare Revelation 13:8

Note: Before the creation of the earth, Christ was ordained to be the *divine sacrifice* for the sins of the fallen world. By such a plan, God and Christ foreordained that all of the created beings be holy and without blemish (Eph. 1:3,4; 2Tim. 1:9; Rom. 8:29), but sin entered, and God's/Christ's salvation plan must now take effect lest all be lost. Sadly, so many of the people for whom Jesus died, will, and have, rejected God's merciful, kind, loving and generous offer of a life free from sin (Matt. 7:13,14).

7. When God and Christ took counsel together to re-establish peace in the universe, what was determined?

Zechariah 6:13; Acts 2:23

Note: God foresaw the rise of sin and it was determined at the counsel between them both, that Jesus would be delivered up as the Divine sacrifice for the redemption of every repentant sinner (Col. 1:20-23).

8. As an outcome of God's and Christ's salvation plan, what invitation is offered to every repentant sinner?

Isaiah 27:5

2Corinthians 5:18-20

Note: To be reconciled to someone is to make peace with them. Jesus is the *propitiation* for our sin (1John 4:10), or, in other words – to reconcile us to God, that is to – conciliate, remove wrath, make friendly, bring into harmony with God. And how does He do this? – His death pays the penalty for sin, while His power gives us strength that sin may be removed from our lives (John 1:29). Thus we stand faultless before the presence of His glory (Jude 24).

9. What did Jesus say was the reason for His coming into this world?

John 12:27,32,33

Note: The cause from which Jesus prayed for release, was the trial

of the "hour" of His bearing the sins of the world and the sacrifice of Himself to pay for those sins (Mark 14:34-36,41; Heb.9:26).

Jesus - Priest and Mediator

10. Jesus was called (appointed) to act in a specific position by the One who said - "Thou art My SON, today have I begotten Thee." What was that position to which He was called?

Hebrews 5:1-10 (note vv. 4,5,6)

Compare Hebrews 8:1

Note: Jesus was *called of God* to be Priest and Mediator for every repentant soul. As our High Priest, Jesus offers the blood of *His* sacrifice as an atonement, that is, in lieu of the blood of the guilty sinner (1Pet.3:18), thus the penalty is met and the repentant sinner lives. Jesus stands between judgement and the sinner and His righteousness is given to the humble, contrite soul seeking to be free from his sin (Heb.4:14-16; 9:11-14, 24).

While the Father loves us so much, He cannot allow sin to remain. Thus, in God's mercy and grace, Jesus fulfils His purpose in reconciling the sinner to Himself. This, Jesus does by removing the sin from the sinner, a process whereby the sinner is enabled to cease from doing sin (2Cor.5:18-21; 2Tim.1:9). Those who choose to hold onto their cherished sins cannot be, likewise, reconciled to God (2Cor.13:5).

11. Who mediates on man's behalf before the mercy seat, where God is enthroned?

1Timothy 2:5

Jesus - As God

12. When God anointed His SON and declared Him before the heavenly host, what statement did He make that showed His SON to be unique and that even the angels could not fulfil His position?

Hebrews 1:5

Note: While the heavenly host and all of God's created beings are called the sons of God, they are sons by creation and adoption (Job 1:6; Ps.82:6; Eph.1:5; Rom.8:14,15), however, there is *only one Begotten Son*. There is only one who is truly of the same substance and nature as God. This One, God has anointed (v.8,9) to be equal with Himself.

13. Having stated that Jesus is the only born Son, the firstbegotten before creation commenced, what did God say was the position of His Son with respect to the angels and, for that matter, with respect to all created beings?

Hebrews 1:6,8

Compare John 5:23

Note: To be worshipped as God.

14. God, the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, exalted His Son to a position far above every other. How does Paul express the level of honour and glory the Son may bring to the Father?

Philippians 2:9-11

Note: It glorifies God when we see Him in His Son. Christ is such a perfect duplicate of the Father that God has anointed Him to be God with Him and receive praise and worship (John 1:1,2; Rev.5:11-13).

15. How does the only true God (John 17:3) show that the glory and worship given to His Son is the same as if the worship were to be given directly to Himself?

Exodus 20:3

Isaiah 48:11c

Note: As we learn and understand more of the *oneness* that exists in the relationship between the heavenly Father and His Son (John 10:30), these statements from our two texts reveal how God truly regards His Son. Jesus is the duplicate of the Father, thus, in honouring the Son, the Father is also honoured. The qualities that attract love, praise, gratitude and worship toward Christ are the same qualities that exist in the Father, because they are one in character and mind. The oneness

existing between the Father and the Son, two distinct and separate Beings, becomes clearer when we see that Yahweh's claim to exclusive worship embraces the worship directed toward His Son. – *Thou shalt have NO other gods before Me, and – I will not give My glory to another.*

16. Isaiah portrays the exalted, Godlike functions of the Son of God, by the titles He shares with the Supreme God. Which of these exclusive titles describes a personal and ongoing contact with His created children?

Isaiah 9:6

Isaiah 28:26,29

Note: In the purpose for bringing forth Jesus, He was to fulfil the functions of God; one of these functions is to counsel His people and guide them into truth (John 14:16; Isa.30:21; Psalm 32:8; Pro.1:23; Num.14:28).

THE SOLUTION TO THE SIN PROBLEM

17. Jehovah (God) made it possible that He, in the *form* of Jesus Christ, could come to this world. Why?

1John 4:9,10

Note: The love of God found the solution to the sin problem. Even before we were created, the Father's love sought fulfilment and delight in love returned to Him from His created children. Those who would stray, He would win back to Himself with love (Jer.31:3; Rom.2:4 Rev.4:11; Isa.53:7).

Before any creating took place, God knew that sin would enter and mar His beautiful universe. The Creator now had a problem before He had even started – how was He to remedy the sin!?

There were a few options open to Him: –

1) When sin entered, He could wipe out everybody and start again, and so repeat this build and destroy cycle whenever sin raised its head again. However, this He could not do – because all people would not have sinned and He loves His created children as He loves His own Son (John 5:20; Prov.8:17; Ps.146:8; 1Cor.8:3).

2) He could destroy only the rebellious ones and let the faithful continue. Similarly, this he could not do either, because the surviving creatures would serve Him out of fear, dread, or compulsion; whereas He desires the service of love. As we delight in love from our own dear ones, so He delights in the return of His love from His loved ones (Deut.10:12,13; Matt.22:37; Isa.43:7; Rev.4:11; Eze.18:23,32; 33:11).

3) Both of these options were unwanted and out of character with the kingdom of love God was about to set up, for nothing shall hurt in all His holy mountain. Sin could not be allowed to exist in such a place, therefore all who practice sin cannot live and abide there (Rev.21:27). The only plan that would work to redeem the sinners has two parts –

a) The Creator pay the debt, or penalty for the violation of the code that upholds love and life (Rom.5:5–8).

b) Provide power to His fallen children, power that will strengthen the mind against sin and thus befit them for a place in His kingdom (John 1:12; 2Tim.4:18; Rev.19:7,8; Eph.5:26,27).

What a miraculous display of love when He chose the last of the three options.

In adopting this salvation plan, God was then faced with another consideration.... how to implement the plan! --- The second part would present no problem to God, but, for the first part, how was He going to die and yet live at the same time!??.... There was more at stake than the life of the fallen people....

18. If the heavenly Father, Jehovah, the God of Creation, were to die, or cease to exist, even for a short period of time, what would be the effect upon all of creation?

Colossians 1:16,17
Nehemiah 9:6

Note: All things are upheld by the Creator. If He should cease to exist all of creation would cease to exist. This may be illustrated by the fact that if Jesus is not risen from the dead then neither will anybody else be raised (1Cor.15:12-23; Col.1:18).

19. So God must live to sustain life and the universe. What is another reason why Jehovah-God could not die?

1Timothy 6:15,16

Note: The only Potentate, or supreme Ruler, is God. It is only He who has intrinsic life, life inherent in Himself and not received from any other source. Only Jehovah-God is absolutely immortal. Christ has this *same* quality, or essence of immortal life, but He *received* it from His Father (lesson 4).

20. What was Jesus able to do that the Father was not in a position to do?

John 10:17,18

Note: The previous question showed that the Father is the source of all life, He is *absolutely* immortal, thus He is not able to surrender His life. However, Jesus having been *given* His life, was in a position to voluntarily lay it down and thus die!

Being a duplicate of the Father, Jesus revealed what God would do, out of love, for the fallen people. He would die. The death of the One, begotten of the Father, was, as it were, the death of the Father Himself³.

What riches of the love of God have been shown toward us through Jesus Christ (Eph.2:4,7). What love, when He would continue with the creation of heaven and earth, knowing what lies ahead... the rejection, humiliation and death of the Son of His bosom (John 1:18).

21. As the Creator would later become the Saviour, who was it that performed the actual act of creation?

Colossians 1:15–17

Compare John 1:1–3,14

Note: The only sacrifice that would be sufficient to atone for the violation of the law of life, was the life of the Law Giver. Jesus willingly took that position, ordained from before the foundation of the world. As the express image of the Father, He alone could be the *Divine sacrifice*. Thus, He fulfilled the Father's purpose – to be the Saviour of the world (2Tim.1:9). Recognising what heaven gave to redeem the fallen is unmistakable evidence both, of the gravity of sin and the magnitude of the love of God for the lost generation.

How many of us appreciate, to our fullest capacity, just what the Creator did to save us? He gave the greatest that heaven had to give – Himself (Rom.8:32; 2Peter 1:3). It was God's purpose to show us Himself through His Son, Jesus (2Tim.1:9) and once we begin to awaken to the reality of this miracle of love, we will, in humility, come to the foot of the cross. Filled with contrition and repentance, there, we shall pour out our heart in overwhelming thanks and love toward God (Psalm.51:17).

JESUS - THE CHRIST - THE ANOINTED

The Father's appointment of His Son as the One anointed, set apart and foreordained is also confirmed in His title. The very name of His title, or office, carries with it the Authority given Him of His Father. -- Messiah, Messias, or Christ, all mean the same thing -- "anointed." And anointed means to consecrate, set apart, appoint or dedicate.

Messiah ... MASHIYACH Hebrew (Strong's 4899) (Dan.9:25,26).

Messias MESSIAS Greek (Strong's 3323) (John 1:41).

Christ CHRISTOS Greek (Strong's 5547) (Rev.11:15; Matt.16:16).

Thus, we see, the exalted position of the Son of God, given Him exclusively of the Father, is contained in His title. He is the Christ, the One anointed, consecrated, to be the Saviour of the world and the glorious image of the Father-God.

22. To deny that Jesus is the literal Son of God is to deny that Jesus is the Christ! What does God say about he who refuses to accept that Jesus is the Son of God, Whom He has anointed His Christ?

1John 2:21-23

Compare 1John 4:15

Note: This is very serious and unmistakable language from the mouth of God. Jesus is the Christ because He is the Son of God and anointed to His position. Holding the Trinitarian belief, it is impossible! impossible! to acknowledge and accept that Jesus is the real Son of God; in calling Him "Christ", a Trinitarian contradicts his own doctrine. The best a Trinitarian can do is to say that, Jesus is playing the role of a Son, or, He became God's Son at Bethlehem. Will God accept that? – In the light of clear evidence of Scripture, He will not! – *In the time of our ignorance God winked at, but now commands all men to repent* (Acts 17:30). Once we learn the truth, He commands that we reverence and worship Him as He really is (John 4:22-26)....

23. What did Jesus' disciples believe about this One whom, today, we call "Christ"? And what did Christ, declare about their comment?

Matthew 16:16,17

Note: Could God and His Son be confused and all Trinitarians be right?

24. For what purpose has God given us the Scriptures.

John 20:31

Compare John 5:38,39

Note: God will reveal to us, as He did to Peter, the truth about the only true God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent. God's word is our only reliable counsel (Psalm 119:24; Pro.6:22,23. woman = church Jer.6:2).

CONCLUSION

Before ever the earth was, or before *anything* was created, Jesus was brought forth, a duplicate of the Almighty God and exalted to a position to be God with God.

In the purpose of God, Jesus was to be the solution for sin. In so doing, He would show the Father to be so filled with love, compassion and mercy, that He would pay the infinite price for the redemption of His fallen children....The Infinite One would give His life that His beloved children might live. Yet God could not die... Jesus did what the Father could not do... surrender His life.

We have briefly touched on the revelation of the love of God in the One who is the fullness of the Godhead. By the grace of God, in lesson 7, we hope to look deeper into this miracle of love manifested through the death of His Son. Christ's anguish in Gethsemane and finally His death on Calvary showed what the Father would have done had He been in the place of His Son!

These things are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that believing, ye might have life through His name.
John 20:31.

We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted -- the Christ.
John 1:41.

Superscripts -- See appendix A

Prophesy Again Australia



Website: www.prophecyagain.com.au

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCar1jSxa_tu9HuSkyDcNsmA

Email : truevine@email.com

Address: PO BOX 644, Buninyong, Victoria, Australia,