

The Son of God
Part 6
By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is July the 3rd of 2023 and this is the sixth in the Son of God series. I'm up at the lake this day, this windy blustery day, so it seems a perfect time to just get off in a corner and be quiet and do this study and leave the kids and family for just a little while. Hopefully the howling winds will subside tomorrow and I'll be able to get out and entertain a few monsters if they are willing to be entertained.

0:00:35

When we finished up SOG 5, or Son of God 5, we looked at Christ making the statement that He had seen Satan fall from heaven, like lightning. And we read about that in Luke 10 and just as a review let's read Luke 10, verses 17 – 24. Christ had sent out the 70 to work the harvest

¹⁷Then the seventy returned (In verse 17) with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." ¹⁸And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

0:01:14

So, it's important to get the context here. He was pointing out to them that He had seen Satan fall, and He knew that the demons would be subject to Him as well.

¹⁹Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you,

Something that amazed them.

but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven." ²¹In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. ²²All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him." ²³Then He turned to His disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; ²⁴for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it."

0:02:32

Well, how would He make that statement? We need to think about that a little bit and I think that will become obvious as we go ahead here. Christ, of course, talking about seeing Satan fall from heaven like lightning was referencing Isaiah 14:12 where it says:

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¹²How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!

0:03:04

There was a time when Satan faced the music and was cast down. And that opens the door to consideration of just how much knowledge and memory of His life alongside the Father was, in fact, retained when He was made flesh.

0:03:28

The process of that is referred to us in the book of Philippians. Philippians 2, verses 5 – 11. If we just step back from that and look at what it's saying. It says:

⁵Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

So, we are indeed being made over in the image of God. And then it goes into a descriptor of Christ.

⁶who, being in the form of God,

0:03:58

He was God's Son.

did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

He was, in fact, equal with God in terms of existence.

⁷but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

⁸And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. ⁹Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

0:04:47

Notice Christ's willingness to be a servant of God regardless of the task the Father may assign. Is this what it means to love Yehovah your God with all your being? It would seem so. The Bible tells us that what Christ went through was off the charts.

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0:05:10

We read of that in Isaiah 52; Isaiah 52 and verse 14. Isaiah 52 and verse 14 where it says:

¹⁴Just as many were astonished at you, so His visage was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men;

So, Christ knew what He was going to go through and yet, as we saw in Philippians, he willingly did so.

0:05:44

And this was fulfilled by Himself. There is much personally I do not yet understand, yet Christ did this willingly and had He not, you and I would not have a savior and a way back to be reconciled to our Father and His Father.

0:06:04

In I Peter, I Peter 1 and 10 and 11, going back to what Christ referenced in Luke. In I Peter 1 it tells us, I think, something that is very, very important. That, you know, He said the prophets had desired to know these things and see the things the apostles did, but didn't see them and so we see a reference to that in I Peter 1, verses 10 and 11.

¹⁰Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully,

0:06:47

They wanted to see it, but didn't see it.

who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, ¹¹searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He (Christ) testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

0:07:06

So, Christ spoke through some of the prophets and that helps us know and fully understand how aware He was of the entire process that we have seen in place. So, in Psalm 22:9, Christ speaking through David, He said:

⁹But You are He who took me out of the womb; You made me trust while on my mother's breasts. ¹⁰I was cast upon You from birth. From my mother's womb You have been my God. ¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near; for there is none to help. ¹²Many bulls have surrounded me; strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.

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0:07:50

And if you take the time to look, cherubs, bulls of Bashan; cherubs look like bulls and there is no doubt who that is talking about.

¹³They gape at me with their mouths, like a raging and roaring lion. ¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it has melted within me.

Christ knew full well what He was going through, or going to have to go through, and He willingly did so.

¹⁵My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue clings to my jaws; You have brought me to the dust of death. ¹⁶For dogs have surrounded me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet; ¹⁷I can count all my bones. They look and stare at me. ¹⁸They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. ¹⁹But You, O Yehovah, (The Father) do not be far from me; O my Strength, hasten to help me! ²⁰Deliver me from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog. ²¹Save me from the lion's mouth and from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered me. ²²I will declare Your name to my brethren;

0:09:07

Already, He considered them brethren; they're future Sons of God. And it's interesting to say, "I will declare Your name to my brethren." And yet, as I mentioned, I think in the previous message, if you ask the people of the ecclesia, "What is God's name?", they're not certain. There's a reason for that.

in the midst of the assembly, I will praise You. ²³You who fear Yehovah, praise Him!

0:09:34

This is Christ talking about His Father and His God.

All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, and fear Him, all you offspring of Israel! ²⁴For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; nor has He hidden His face from him; but when He cried to Him, He heard. ²⁵My praise shall be of You

0:09:56

Christ's praise of the Father and His God.

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in the great assembly; I will pay my vows before those who fear Him ²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him will praise Yehovah. Let your heart live forever!

So, it's amazing to me that Christ knew the full extent of what He would go through and prophesied about it through David.

0:10:19

Where else might we look to gather insight into Christ's recall of His former glory and what He was all about? Where else could we look that would give us some clues as to peering through that? Well, how about John 8. The book of John was a very important passage because it was kind of a, written much later, he bound many things and brought forth things for clarification.

0:10:58

In John 8:42 Christ said to them:

⁴²... "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God,

He was begotten of God.

nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. ⁴³Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. ⁴⁴You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him . When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. ⁴⁵But because I tell the truth,

0:11:50

Which of course Christ always did.

you do not believe Me.

They would sooner believe the lies of Satan.

⁴⁶Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth,

Which He always did.

why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷He who is of God hears God's words; therefore, you do not hear, because you are not of God." ⁴⁸Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a

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demon?”⁴⁹ Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. ⁵⁰And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. ⁵¹Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.” ⁵²Then the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, ‘If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.’

0:12:54

Well, talk about, in their view, somebody exalting themselves; and yet the Father told Him what to say.

⁵³Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?”⁵⁴ Jesus answered, “If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. ⁵⁵Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you;

0:13:23

So, Christ obviously did not lie, or He would have been under the influence of Satan and He sinned and He couldn't be our savior.

but I do know Him and keep His word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.”

Christ pointed out that Abraham had interaction with Him. Well, that went over really well.

⁵⁷Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?”⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”

0:14:05

I exist, or I existed. Christ stated that He had existed before Abraham, so He was able to comment on Abraham's reaction as we read in verse 56. He knew it because He was there to see it. The locals had a bit of a problem with that; with such a statement. They knew what He was saying and we can see their reaction and it is shown to us in verse 59.

⁵⁹Then they took up stones to throw at Him but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

The locals of the day are not alone in their assessment

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0:14:55

What else did Christ say about Himself? Well, let's take a look at Luke 6:5. Luke 6:5, what did Christ say about Himself?

⁵And He said to them, "The Son of Man

Or the Son of God, we know those are interchangeable.

is also Lord of the Sabbath."

0:15:18

Well, that must have been quite a statement back in the day for them to hear that. But that's what He said; He was the Lord of the Sabbath. He repeated it, it's recorded in Matthew 12:8, it says:

⁸For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

0:15:43

And it's also mentioned in Mark 2:28. The word for Lord here is G2962. It is Kyrios, translated as Lord or Master. Going on the same thing on Bible Hub, Helps, Word Study, Kyrios means properly; a person exercising absolute ownership rights, Lord, or denotes an owner, a master exercising full rights.

0:16:20

Well, as you can imagine, that claim went over real well back in the day. The implications of such a statement are far reaching. As a fleshly being, which He was made by the Father, all the ramifications of keeping the Sabbath perfectly fell on Christ. It might be helpful to know fully what that meant if one was prophesied to die sinless, don't you think?

0:16:46

Christ was challenged on this very thing by those who claimed to know what Sabbath keeping was all about. The students challenging the Master, or Lord of the Sabbath doesn't strike me as being particularly wise, but that's what they did. So, if we go to the book of John; John 5 and we will read verses 5 – 18, keeping in mind that Christ was the Lord, Master of the Sabbath.

0:17:25

He knew how to perfectly keep the Sabbath, the dos and the don'ts, something that I wish we all knew in a better way. John 5:5 states:

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⁵Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." ⁸Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." ⁹And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." ¹¹He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" ¹²Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" ¹³But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. ¹⁴Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." ¹⁵The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. ¹⁶For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath.

0:18:55

So, Christ as the Master and Lord of the Sabbath performed what was fitting on the Sabbath.

¹⁷But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

Showing that He's been actively involved for as long as he has been around.

¹⁸Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.

And if God was the Father, He was the Son of God. They couldn't handle that.

0:19:44

In John 7; John 7, we'll read verses 14 – 29.

¹⁴Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. ¹⁵And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?"

0:20:04

We know the reason why.

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¹⁶Jesus answered them and said, “My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. ¹⁷If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from Yehovah or whether I speak on My own authority. ¹⁸He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. ¹⁹Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?” ²⁰The people answered and said, “You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?” ²¹Jesus answered and said to them, “I did one work, and you all marvel. ²²Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. ²³If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the Law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath? ²⁴Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.” ²⁵Now some of them from Jerusalem said, “Is this not He whom they seek to kill? ²⁶But look! He speaks boldly,

0:21:20

If you're the Lord of the Sabbath and know what the Sabbath is all about, I would imagine He would speak quite boldly.

and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ? ²⁷However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Messiah comes, no one knows where He is from.” ²⁸Then Jesus cried out, as He taught in the temple, saying, “You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. ²⁹But I know Him, for I am from Him, And we have talked about that.

and He sent Me.”

0:22:01

We see a similar encounter mentioned in the book of Matthew. Matthew 12 and verses 1 – 14. The Lord of the Sabbath was constantly challenged by those who saw a threat to their authority and their place.

¹ At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. And His disciples were hungry, and began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. ²And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, “Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!” ³But He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: ⁴how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? ⁵Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless? ⁶Yet I say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple.

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0:23:05

So, that's something that Christ also said about Himself.

⁷But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice, 'you would not have condemned the guiltless. ⁸For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.' ⁹Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue. ¹⁰And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"—that they might accuse Him. ¹¹Then He said to them, "What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? ¹²Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." ¹³Then He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and it was restored as whole as the other.

0:23:56

And the Pharisees were just delighted that that happened; well, actually.

¹⁴Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.

0:24:07

In Mark 2:27; Mark 2:27 we read another statement that is interesting to me.

²⁷And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.

So, Christ was Lord of the Sabbath and He understood that when the Sabbath was created and put into place, it was made for man. And as one of the authors of the Sabbath, the other being the Father, however that played itself out, Christ knew that the Sabbath was something created by God as a gift to man.

0:24:47

Most today, I think, would regard it as an unnecessary burden placed on man by God. It points back to the maker and sustainer of all things who wants children of God to dwell with Him in eternity. It is a weekly reminder as a path to that end. And we read of that in Isaiah 58, verses 13 and 14. And the world, just generally, does not believe it, doesn't think God means it. Isaiah 58:13.

¹³"If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of Yehovah honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, ¹⁴then you shall delight yourself in Yehovah; and I will

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cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

0:25:50

The world does not believe that or it would obey it and keep it and God made such a day to bring people into blessing and remembrance of who He really was. So, you would naturally expect that would be given to His people whom He chose to reveal Himself to and turns out that's exactly what He did. For He wanted the nation to fall within His blessing and boy when we look at what's happening to who we understand Israel is today, they're paying an awfully high price forgetting their God.

0:26:31

If we go to Exodus 31, verses 12 – 17.

¹²And Yehovah spoke to Moses, saying, ¹³“Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am Yehovah who sanctifies you. ¹⁴You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. ¹⁵Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to Yehovah. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. ¹⁶Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. ¹⁷It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days Yehovah made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.”

The world today does generally not hold this to be true or relevant in any way.

0:27:48

Well, what else did Christ say about Himself? Well, how about John 20, verse 17. John 20, verse 17. Mary Magdalene had seen Christ after He had been resurrected and in verse 17.

¹⁷Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’”

0:28:23

Christ regarded the ecclesia as His brethren not as their God; exactly what a Son would do and He stated that His God and His Father were exactly the same as Mary Magdalene's. Christ identified that Being as the Only True God in John 17:3 and there was only one.

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0:28:53

Paul spoke this plainly in I Corinthians 8:6. So, if we go to I Corinthians 8:6 you know that Christ was all about pointing people to who they were to be in relationship with. The Father wants to be regarded as the Father and He also wants to be regarded as our God and that's plainly stated in I Corinthians 8:6.

⁶... for us (The ecclesia) there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.

0:29:38

That's fairly plainly stated and we see something similar in James 2:19; James 2:19 which helps round out our understanding. If I can just find James here, sorry about that. James 2:19, it tells us there:

¹⁹You believe that there is one God.

So, the ecclesia of the day believed that there was one God. That's one God and the Father, exactly as Christ pointed out to Marry,

You do well.

That you understand that.

Even the demons believe—and tremble!

0:30:29

So, Christ knew that there was one God, the demons knew, Paul knew and Christ always pointed to the one God, His Father. And He directed future sons of God to Him. Notice Matthew 5; Matthew 5 and verses 44 – 48 where we see an example of that. Matthew 5, verse 44 – 48.

⁴⁴But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵that you may be sons of your Father in heaven;

0:31:20

And does God not do some of those things to the people who simply don't know Him?

⁴⁵that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do

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more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? ⁴⁸Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

0:31:54

The ultimate benchmark is our Father. And we read in Revelation 3 I believe, 3:12 our Father's name is to be written on our foreheads. He wants His Son's to be perfect, as He is. That is the goal and Christ was indeed that; He was our example.

0:32:19

The ultimate benchmark is our Father, and yet what do we hear today? People have a relationship with a Christ, that is a false Christ and you can see Satan's old switcheroo there. And it's every place, we are starting to understand how he does things.

0:32:43

We are to become Sons of God as Christ was and is, perfect like their Father, or like our Father. We see examples of the true Christ pointing to the Father in Matthew 6, verses 1 – 4.

¹ "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ²Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ³But when you do a charitable deed,

0:33:34

You know, He is preaching to a lot of people here.

do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

He was directing all the people in the audience and some were the ecclesia and some were not. There's no difference.

⁴that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Is the Father directly involved in the lives of the people that He creates? Absolutely!

0:34:02

We'll go down to verses 6 – 13.

⁶But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to

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Me, ah, nope.

pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. ⁷And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸“Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. ⁹In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹Give us this day our daily bread. ¹²And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours (the Father) is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen!

0:34:56

Well, how about verses 26 – 36

²⁶Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? ²⁸“So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But seek first the kingdom of (The) God,

0:36:00

To be born as a Son of God and His righteousness, to be exactly like our Father.

and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Sorry, that should have been verses 26 – 34.

0:36:21

Ah, Matthew 7:11, we read something similar.

¹¹If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

And it goes on and on and on.

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0:36:38

Christ, the biblical Christ, always pointed to His and our Father. Once we understand this, the false Christs immediately stand out in perhaps ways we have not fully considered before.

0:36:58

Let's read John 6, verses 37 – 44. Again, just to reinforce this concept of what the true Christ always did. John 6, verses 37 – 44.

³⁷All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees (looks on) the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day." ⁴¹The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven."

0:37:50

They sure didn't like that.

⁴²And they said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus therefore answered and said to them, "Do not murmur among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day."

0:38:12

Christ said that He understood those who are to enter the kingdom of heaven or the kingdom of God, are those who do the will of the Father; and that those who do not and rather practice lawlessness, will end up in another place. He understood, and we have looked at that in John 12:50 recently, that His brothers and sisters are those who did what He, Himself, did.

0:38:38

I mean, really, how many beings would you personally grant eternal life to that you were going to have to fight eternally with? My guess would be not too many. Let's read of that in John, pardon me, Matthew 7, verses 21 – 23 where that was plainly pointed out to all who would listen.

0:39:11

Christ said:

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²¹*“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, (Or the Kingdom of God) but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.*

Perfectly in harmony with John 12.

²²*Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’*

²³*And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’*

0:39:33

Well, there’s a lot of people who don’t believe that, and there is a lot of people who are going to get the surprise of their life. Those who practice lawlessness, Christ simply says. He will cast them out, and that is not believed generally today.

0:39:56

Since it has been appointed to Christ by the Father to raise the dead to eternal life, it isn’t hard to imagine that there will be some sorting necessary, and that sorting indeed, will occur.

0:40:10

And perhaps we should just read of that again in John 5, verses 25 – 30. John 5, verses 25 – 30 is talking about that sorting that will indeed take place, and it is done on the basis of lawlessness. John 5:25

²⁵*Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. ²⁶For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, ²⁷and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice ²⁹and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation ³⁰I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.*

0:41:11

That’s pretty clear. Christ referenced Himself as the first and the last, and this is distinct from the description of the Father. But if Christ is the express image of the Father, as we are told, this should not surprise us. Christ referenced Himself, referenced of Himself as the first and the last in three places in the scriptures. We’ll look at those.

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0:41:42

Revelation 1:11; Revelation 1:11, Christ speaking

¹¹*Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last; ...*

He repeated that in verse 17.

¹⁷*... Fear not; I am the first and the last ...*

And He also referenced it in His notation to Smyrna in Revelation 2, verse 8.

⁸*... These things says the First and the Last, who was dead,*

There is no question who that is.

and came to life:

0:42:23

Our Binitarian background has clouded and obscured this distinction. And it's helpful to remind us of that distinction if we look into Revelation 1:4 and 5 we can see a reference here to the Father. It says:

⁴*John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from Him*

And this is a very important phrase.

who is, and who was, and who is to come; and from the seven Spirits who are before his throne;

0:42:54

This is very clearly a reference to God the Father

⁵*and*

In comparison.

from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, and the first born from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, ⁶and has made us kings and priests unto His God and Father;

The same God and Father that we have.

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to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

0:43:24

In verse 11, ah, pardon me, Revelation 11:17 we see that same phrase and it's important that we consider that when we're walking through our own study. Revelation 11:17 says:

¹⁷... "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, (That's the Father) the One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned.

0:43:55

And that same expression, "Who is, who was and who is to come" is also referenced in Revelation 4, verse 8.

⁸The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,

No question who that is.

Who was and is and is to come!"

0:44:19

When both are mentioned, as in Revelation 1, verses 4 and 5, there is no mistaking who is who. And notice in verse 5 Christ is again referred to as the faithful witness. And He is also mentioned in that capacity in Revelation 3:14.

0:44:42

How many of Christ's words, even among those among the ecclesia are simply not believed? Is this reflective of an evil heart of unbelief that is the natural result of Satan's broadcast. Believe his lies; don't believe God.

0:45:02

If we go to Revelation 1 and pick it up in verse 11. Revelation 1, verse 11. We'll read through verse 18. The speaker is undoubtedly Christ.

¹¹Saying, I am Alpha and Omega,

Christ referred to Himself as the Alpha and Omega.

the first and the last: and, what you see, write in a book, and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia; to Ephesus, and to Smyrna, and unto Pergamos,

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and to Thyatira, and to Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and to Laodicea. ¹²Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned, I saw seven golden lampstands; ¹³and in the midst of the seven lampstands one like the Son of man,

0:45:43

So, the one speaking was the Son of man. And he referred to Himself as the Alpha and Omega. If we go back to Revelation 1:8, notice it says:

⁸I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, says the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

It is in red letters but verse 8 is the Father. Christ used the same title to apply to Himself in verse 11. If we look up the word for first in Revelation 1:11 it is the word, G4413, and it is protos. It means the first, the chief, the principle, the most important. And in Helps Word, in Bible Hub, protos is the speculative, or superlative form, I'm sorry is the superlative form of G4253, meaning what comes first, is number one.

046:50

Since God the Father has always existed, Christ coming forth by being begotten of the Father fits perfectly with Colossians 1:15 and Revelation 3:14. Revelation 3:14 says:

¹⁴ ... 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:

The firstborn in Colossians 1:15 is prototokos, a similar word, it's G4416 and it means, the firstborn or the eldest, the first in time, the preeminent, the first among others. And I thought, well, that fits very nicely with what we have been presenting in this series.

0:47:38

Christ is the firstborn; He is begotten of the Father way back in eternity. If we look up the word for last and it's Greek 2078, it means the last, the extreme, the final, the furthest, the extreme end, and it's the same in all three references used in Revelation where the phrase, first and last, is used.

0:48:02

I'd like to leave you with this thought, something Christ said, and yes, He meant it. Just another thought, and we've looked at other things Christ actually said about Himself. Do we believe it or do we not? Matthew 12, Matthew 10, I'm sorry, Matthew 10, we'll read verses 32 – 42. And it's interesting to consider this in light of our Church of God culture and practice.

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0:48:36

So, I leave you with this ponder for you. Matthew 10, verse 32.

³²“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. ³⁴“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; ³⁶and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’ ³⁷He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

0:49:29

Well, those are pretty profound statements that Christ said of Himself.

³⁹He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it. ⁴⁰“He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. ⁴¹He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward. ⁴²And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

0:50:09

As again, how do we see this passage in the light of the Church of God culture and practice? Christ meant it! It is something to ponder.