

The Son of God
Part 8
By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is August the 13th of 2023 and this is the eighth in the series on the Son of God.

0:00:11

To start this message, I have to reference the Son of God, seven message, where I misspoke around the 24 minute and 25 second mark. This was picked up by a listener and I am very grateful. We all try to speak clearly and without ambiguity, but unfortunately every pencil appears to have an eraser and I'm certainly no different.

0:00:33

What I said directly was, and I quote, "Christ said I sent my Son" when in fact He was narrating what the Father actually did, so, Christ said that in referencing the statement. But it has been corrected on the transcription, where Christ said that God said, "I sent my Son."

0:01:04

And that was referring to is something like John 3, verses 16-17 where Christ is speaking, He said it, but he said,

⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

0:01:30

So, Christ said that God said. And I apologize for any confusion that may have caused and I thank the person who picked that up so that we could correct that. On the transcript it is corrected at the 24:07 minute mark where it does say, "Christ says the Father sent His Son." So, please accept my apology once again for the faux-pax and any confusion it may have led to.

0:01:56

I'd like to also add another thought regarding the concept of ex-nihilo that pervades the religious world; where something is created from nothing. Back in the day as a young geologist and a young Bible looker, I found it necessary to look through and at the theory of evolution, to take it to task, as either evolution or creationism had to be wrong. They could not both be right.

0:02:25

In evolution, something had to come from nothing, since there is no God. But it did it really slowly; or there was a God that made it all happen.

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0:02:40

Since it is impossible for something to come from nothing; the very definition of ex-nihilo, that's what it is, this has to be another one of Satan's lies. Who would want us to think that something came from nothing, rather than from God? We shouldn't need to think too long or too hard to come up with the answer to that.

0:03:04

If we once again reference Job 34; Job 34, verses 14 and 15, which is a very powerful passage and it shows the capacity and the ability of our Father in ways I had simply not seen until I came across the passage and actually start to think about it. Where it says:

¹⁴If He (Referring to Yehovah) should set His heart on it, if He should gather to Himself His Spirit and His breath, ¹⁵all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.

0:03:43

We can see that life itself does not come from nothing; but rather from the Spirit and breath of Yehovah. We see that confirmed in Revelation 4; Revelation 4, verse 11. All life comes from our God; the God. I'll just find that here quickly, Revelation 4:11

¹¹"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created."

0:04:16

If God removed His breath and His spirit, there would just be a dust pile. So, everything comes from Him. And it becomes very clear, when we erase the ex-nihilo lie from our thinking progress, then we can begin to see the Father's involvement distinctly in the whole life process that is presented to us.

0:04:51

And we see a corroboration of that actually in Hebrews 11 (Verse 3) Again, it's amazing, we read these things and just don't stop to consider what it's saying or realize an application and actually we need to think more than we have, or at least I have, in the past. It says:

³By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

0:05:23

Okay, you cannot see the energy that created it all. We certainly can't. But by faith we understand that that happened, it didn't come from nothing. The things that are seen are not made from nothing, rather they are made from things that are not seen.

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0:05:44

God is an energy Being and that energy, along with the intelligence that guides it, flows from God exactly as Job 34 tells us. Einstein came up with $E = mc^2$, where E is energy and it gives us the pathway to this.

0:06:05

If anyone is adamant that what flows from God to impart all that is, is nothing, it might be interesting to see how that works out for that same individual when they explain that His power and His breath and His Spirit are nothing. I would expect that won't work out real well, but you can come to your own conclusions about that.

0:06:30

This entire series was brought about, or triggered by reading Colossians 1:15 and stopping to consider what it was really saying. And, you know, the more one looks at these types of things, the more understanding seems to come. And let's read that in the New King James. Where referring to Christ it's telling us directly:

¹⁵He is the image (A replication) of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

0:07:07

This is a definition scripture, because it tells us what Christ is. The world generally would read this, Christ is the third co-equal, co-eternal member of the triune God. How one goes from what it actually states to a rendering of the Trinity is totally beyond my paygrade; in fact, it makes no sense at all.

0:07:34

In the Church of God world, Christ is the second co-equal, co-eternal member of a Binity. And again, the transition from what it says here, to a Binity, completely eludes me.

0:07:48

I don't know how one squares the two positions without an enormous amount of stick handling, for all you hockey players out there. I went to the concordance, because it's good to recheck and relook at things, I went to the concordance to find out, to find the word creation as it's used here in Colossians 1:15, to find out the Greek word used. And I couldn't find it.

0:08:13

Well, that's strange I thought, so, I grabbed my King James Version to see what I was missing, such that I couldn't find it. Well, it turns out the word used in the King James Version was not creation, rather creature.

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0:08:31

So, it took some time for my eyeballs to return to their sockets. This is even more definitive regarding what we've been looking at in this series. In the King James Version, it reads:

Who is (Speaking of Christ) the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature.

0:09:03

Well, that certainly cross-threads with our historical understanding, but that's what it says. And I'm going to include a link to the Bible Hub on this which will show a gazillion translations of that passage, to which I was just shocked.

<https://biblehub.com/parallel/colossians/1-15.htm>

0:09:23

Yet, the American King James Version says:

Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature.

So, it repeats that. And I thought, well, how about that. And what's fascinating to me, at the time I was looking at it, if you go on to the early modern, which is in the center column of the link of what I am going to send to you. The Geneva Bible of 1587 reads:

Who is the image of the invisible God, the first begotten of every creature.

0:09:53

So, that says very specifically and very definitively what we have tried to outline in this series. Going back further back yet, in the Bishop's Bible, of 1568, speaking of Christ, it says:

Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creatures.

0:10:11

Going back further, in the Coverdale Bible, of 1535, it says:

Which is the image of the invisible God, the first begot before all creatures.

0:10:25

And going back even further, the Tyndale Bible, of 1526, it says:

... the first begotten of all creatures.

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0:10:35

And this is referring to Christ directly, and I thought, wow, that certainly very definitely states what we have been looking at in this entire series. Curiously enough, in the Douay-Rheims Bible, which is a Catholic translation, Christ is referred to as the first born of every creature.

0:10:58

And in the Catholic Public Domain version it's worded exactly the same. The first born of every creature. And the Lamsa Bible, and the first born of every creature. And in the Godbey New Testament it says:

Who is the image of the invisible God, being the first begotten of all creation.

0:11:19

So, the very first thing that happened was the production of Christ, by the Father. And of course, that really cross-threads with what our historical understanding has been. Curiously enough, on the same length, the Berean Study Bible says:

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the first-born over-all creation.

So, if we take that for what it actually says, the first Being that God produced, was His Son. And that's rather revolutionary to what we have historically understood.

0:12:07

The first begotten of the entire creation was God's own Son, and all else built out from then on by the Father, through the Son. We read of that in verse 16. (Of Colossians 1)

¹⁶For by Him

0:12:24

Christ, the Father, but we'll get more definition here.

by Him all things were created

The Father created things of course.

that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through (Christ) and for Him.

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0:12:43

So, that's actually what it says and we see that confirmed directly, as we looked at before, in Hebrews 1; Hebrews 1 and verse 2, where we are told very directly, that it was the Son, through whom the Father made the worlds, exactly like it says in Colossians. Hebrews 1:2

:

² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things,

Sons are the heirs.

through whom also He made the worlds;

0:13:20

So, it plainly tells us that the two of them, made everything. The record is entirely consistent. And what I find fascinating, what we've been taught and what we've understood, what I understood and what I taught, is that if I was to read Colossians 1:15 in terms of what I understood and what I taught; it is He, Christ is not the image of the invisible God and He is not the first-born over all creation.

0:14:00

Those would be direct opposites, and when we see direct opposites, at least for me, I see team dark in action. It is the very antithesis of what the Bible states. He isn't the image of the invisible God and He isn't the first-born over all creation. When you see that manifesting itself in the teaching of the Binity and the teaching of the Trinity and the radical Unitarian position, where Christ did not pre-exist the creation of the worlds.

0:14:41

So, if we choose to believe Colossians 1:15 and what it tells us, it brings some things into focus rather quickly. So, that is a very interesting passage that I think we need to spend a little more time thinking about.

0:14:59

Christ was repeatably referenced in the New Testament as the Son of God, something the Father himself testified directly to, and there was no mistaking the identity Let's just look at a few of those so we can begin to see that is scripturally supported, very firmly actually.

0:15:24

Matthew 3, verse 17, and we read at Christ's baptism:

¹⁷And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son,

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The one whom was sent from God, made flesh.

in whom I am well pleased.”

0:15:44

We see a reference to that in Matthew 17 and verse 5.

⁵While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”

0:16:04

Well, what about Luke 9:35; Luke 9:35 says:

³⁵And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him

And we also see that in II Peter; II Peter 1:17, if I can find it. II Peter 1 and verse 17.

¹⁷For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

0:16:43

So, we can see that the Father testified that this was His Son, that in fact He was sent. And this is pretty serious stuff. I have never joined the dots, if we can say it that way, but suddenly some scriptures begin to fall into place and make, ah, they just came into focus.

0:17:07

In I John 5:10, let's read that.

¹⁰He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God

Who said He sent His Son.

has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹²He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. ¹⁴Now

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this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

0:18:00

If we go on to verse 20 it says:

²⁰And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; (The Father) and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

So, this is pretty serious stuff.

0:18:24

While we are in I John, if we go to I John 1, and we have read this before, I John 1:1-3, it bears repeating.

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—

So, obviously referencing the Word.

²the life was manifested,

This Word was manifested in the human realm.

and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—³that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

0:19:13

So, it was His Son who was made flesh and we see that in I John 3:8 repeated. Where it says:

⁸He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested,

In verse 3, it was, or verse 2 of I John it was the Word was manifested, there is no difference.

that He might destroy the works of the devil.

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0:19:41

And notice here, it says the devil has sinned from the beginning. No, if we go to Ezekiel, he was perfect in his ways prior to that; here we see that he sinned from the beginning. And this expression, in the beginning, or from the beginning, we need to stop and really think about that because it is the same line of reasoning exactly that is used in the references of John 1:1 in the Church of God.

0:20:16

In John 20, verse 17, as we've looked recently, Christ identified two hats worn by the Father. He is our Father and He is also our God, like Christ; and we are called brethren by Christ. We literally are His brothers, showing us Christ is a Son, has always been God's Son.

0:20:48

We have one Father and we have one God. If we have two God's, we might want to think about that. The same Being occupies the same role of both our Father and our God, the one true God. And He carries those titles, He is our Father and He is our God.

0:21:19

The passage that we read earlier in Job 34:14 and 15 shows us the Father's direct involvement, as our Father and our God, in each of our own lives. His spirit and His breath enable us to have life. The spirit and breath do not come from Christ; they come from our Father, Yehovah, however you may pronounce that, the YHVH. the tetragrammaton.

0:21:48

Interestingly enough, Christ also wears two rather distinct hats. For He is referenced both as the Son of God, and that's testified to by the Father as we have looked at. And He very often referred to himself as the Son of Man.

0:22:08

And this is where I think it gets very interesting. A phrase concordance can be a wonderful thing when looking at such things and I find it a great resource. Christ referred to himself as the Son of Man as well as the Son of God, reflecting those two hats directly.

0:22:29

He did so in different ways. Let's look at those that reflect real present time situations. Hopefully, you will see exactly what I mean by that. If we go to Matthew 8; Matthew 8 and we look at verse 20, Christ said:

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²⁰... *“Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.”*

0:22:55

So, when He was here as a physical human being, He referenced himself as the Son of Man, in real time. Matthew 12:40; again, we see something similar.

⁴⁰*For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

Notice, it's current, it's in real time, in the present tense.

0:23:27

Matthew 26:45 is another example of that. He says:

⁴⁵... *“Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners.*

0:23:42

We see exactly the same thing in Mark 8:31; Mark 8:31 where He says:

³¹*And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and three days rise again.*

0:24:03

I'm not going to belabour this, we'll just look at one more, there are many more that you can find yourself if you have a phrase concordance. Ah, you will find that very helpful. Mark 10:45 says:

⁴⁵*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”*

0:24:22

Again, there are many more such references, but I hope the point is well made. There are other passages however, that Christ stated, that are decidedly different from those we just looked at. The use of the phrase, as a title for Christ, becomes apparent as we look at them.

0:24:45

And let's consider some of those and note the transition from a real time reference, which we just looked at, to a future application. This is something I just never paid any attention to or considered the significance of it.

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0:25:02

Matthew 13 and verse 41. So, here we see a reference of Christ referring to himself as the Son of Man. He says:

⁴¹The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,

So, here we have Christ referencing himself, in the future, as the Son of Man in a prophetic sort of way.

0:25:32

Matthew 16 and verses 27 and 28. It says:

²⁶For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

So, you can see as we go through this, it is in fact a title and far more than a real time reference.

0:26:04

Matthew 19:28 Christ again speaking.

²⁸... I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

0:26:26

We can begin to see that, where that is a title that He has. Matthew 24, verses 27 and 30. Matthew 24:27

²⁷For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Verse 30

³⁰Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

0:26:59

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Again, not to belabour this, but I think it's very important that we begin to understand this. Mark 14 and verse 62. We see something similar. He says:

⁶²... *"I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven."*

0:27:21

Well, just a couple more here, we could go on for a long time. Luke 9:26; Luke 9:26.

²⁶*For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.*

0:27:42

Now, I'll just give you these; you see exactly the same thing. Luke 12:8, 17:24. 18:8. Now let's just look at a couple more here. Acts 7; Acts 7 and verse 56. This isn't a one off, I mean it's all over the place. When Steven looked up, he said:

⁵⁶... *"Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"*

0:28:16

So, He is still the Son of Man and we see that all the way down to Revelation 14:14. And this will be the last one, I promise, but there's so many, you can look at them yourself.

¹⁴*Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.*

0:28:41

These are but some of the references where Son of Man is reflective of a title that Christ bears. And this ties in wonderfully well with Colossians 1, verses 18 – 20. In fact, it fits it absolutely perfectly in my view. Where it says:

¹⁸*And He (Speaking of Christ) is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,*

0:29:11

The Son of Man

that in all things He may have the preeminence.

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The Father wanted Him to be the first physical human being resurrected to spirit life as a Son of God so that He also carried the title legitimately of the Son of Man as well as the Son of God.

¹⁹For it pleased the Father (And that would be our Father) that in Him all the fullness should dwell,

0:29:45

The Father sent His Son to be born as a physical human being so that He might bear the title of the Son of Man as well as the Son of God. He wears both hats. And yet we must be mindful of the distinction between the Son of Man and God the Father. And we read of that in Matthew 12. Ah, just a quick reference here. Matthew 12, verses 31 and 32. Matthew 12, verses 31 and 32 Christ speaking, He said:

³¹Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. ³²Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit (That's the Father), it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

0:30:41

There are levels of accountability, again attesting to the fact the Son of God is not God the Father. In the Bible, mankind is referred to as the son of man, well, what a surprise. Let's go and take a few examples of that to look at. Numbers 23; Numbers 23:19.

¹⁹God is not a man, that He should lie,

God doesn't lie.

nor a son of man, that He should repent.

0:31:23

So, mankind is referred to as a son of man in this case. We, see the same thing exactly in Psalms. David was well aware of this. Psalm 8:4, ah, we'll just take a quick look at that. Psalm 8:4 where David says:

⁴what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?

0:31:51

And we also see the same thing in Psalm 146; Psalm 146 and verse 3. Again, we are not going to belabor this, I think the point is well made. It says, Psalm 146, verse 3.

³Do not put your trust in princes, nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help.

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0:32:17

Isaiah 56:2; Isaiah 56:2, it continues on in this theme. Isaiah 56:2

² Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who lays hold on it; who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

0:32:37

So, you and I are sons of man. If we are one of God's ecclesia, we are being transformed into Sons of God, where fullness will be reached in the resurrection to spirit. At that time, we will be immortal and incorruptible, actual sons of God, the transition to new life complete.

0:33:04

The answer to who the ecclesia actually are, is a Son of God in the making. Do the ecclesia keep this background a reality in the forefront of their minds every waking moment? Should they? What would your neighbor think if you told them, you were on your way to becoming a Son of God? Would they, by your example have an easy time believing that, or have some difficulty with it?

0:33:40

Or would they, as the real Son of God found out, have some kind of issue with even thinking or saying such a thing? How do you think that would play out specifically, for you? How would that roll? Do you think it would make a difference in your spiritual life if we kept in the back of our mind that we are in transition from being a son of man, to becoming a Son of God?

0:34:18

This world currently is in transition, since that's the current buzz word to becoming at one with their father; while we are called to become at one with our Father. So, do you think it would be some kind of help or assistance to you personally if you kept in mind that you are a Son of God, in process of His ultimate fulfillment.

0:34:52

If we really are Sons of God in process, and I think the Bible is very clear about that, we're learning, we're growing, we're overcoming, we're becoming at one with our Father and His Son, like Christ prayed we would. Let's just read that because I think it's a useful reminder of the program. This is what it's all about.

0:35:14

John 17 and verse 20-22 is quite clear. Christ said:

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²⁰"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

Kind of looking down through the mists of time to our day.

²¹that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

He sent His Son.

²²And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

0:35:47

Multiple beings, who are at one with our Father and Jesus Christ, His Son. So, would we follow God's instructions, if we are part of the ecclesia, would we actually do that? Let's go to Luke 11 and let's just read some of that instruction. Christ is telling us here, Luke 11, verse 9.

⁹"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you;

Do you believe that?

seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

0:36:40

We must seek, we must knock and it will be opened to you. So, there's understanding we just don't have, but if we want it, we can go to our Father, who will in fact, provide it. Going on:

¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds,

0:36:58

Was He lying about that?

and to him who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? ¹²Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? ¹³If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, (Your children) how much more will your heavenly Father (Our spiritual Father) give the Holy Spirit

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Which only comes from the Father. Although, it might be given through Christ, the Holy Spirit is generated by the Father.

to those who ask Him!"

0:37:44

When I read this passage, I wondered through my person Rollodex to search for the answer. When did I, specifically, do this? Not in a roundabout way, but specifically. Had I asked God the Father to give me more of His Holy Spirit? When did I do that?

0:38:17

And since that time, out of curiosity, I've asked several people the same question, and received answers from a spectrum from, I do that every day, on one end, and on the other end it's, say what? It was a totally foreign concept to them. They had been, I guess, given God's Spirit and figured that's all they need. Ah, no! Where do you fall on that spectrum?

0:39:00

You might find that a question worth considering. As our Father is the Holy Spirit and He has a Holy Spirit, and again I'll interject, if we actually want to become at one, and Christ tells us that the Father willingly gives of Himself to His Sons that ask. And He can choose to give it to us, why wouldn't we do that, maybe on a constant basis?

0:39:35

Or are we content that we are just attending the right church. I mean is that all that matters? I'd like to finish up with this question, or thought. In reading the New Testament, all of Christ's testimony, Christ constantly refers to His Father, which is exactly what one would expect from a Son whose God was also His Father.

0:40:08

Whenever Christ mentions His Father, it naturally follows that He is His Son. If Christ pre-existed as a co-eternal, co-existent Being, one would expect that to be reflected in His sayings and teachings, of which there are none I can find.

0:40:37

Recently I asked the question to those assembled, that if Christ had existed as a co-eternal, co-existent Being, and only referenced Himself as the Son of God in the New Testament, would that in fact be deceitful, where He was He something in the past, but He's hidden that past, and only referenced Himself as being the Son of the Father? Would that be deceitful?

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0:41:09

And it was very interesting, some were shocked that the question was even asked, but everyone will have their own answer to that question. And some of the answers that came forth here were really quite interesting. Your answer, of course, will be your own.

0:41:31

But it is an interesting question to ask, is it not? And anyone out there, if you can find a scripture, where some of the teachings and references of Christ point to Him being co-existent, co-eternal Being with the Father, as we historically taught and understood, please send it to me, I would like to read it, because I cannot find that.

0:41:59

All the references that I've found is always Christ referencing Himself and His Father, which is entirely consistent with Colossians 1:15. So, bye for now, hope you are all doing well and having a great summer, or winter for those of you in Australia and we'll get back to you in due course. Bye for now.