

The Son of God
Part 9
By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is August the 17th of 2023 and this is the ninth, if you can believe it, in the series of the Son of God study. I'm hoping to get up to the lake in a couple days and be gone for probably 10 days or so.

0:00:19

So, I'm really hoping that this would come together and I could get it sent out so people would have it for their consideration as they choose. After researching and doing the Son of God 8 and musing on the early translations of Colossians 1:15 which I went through there by Tyndale and others it occurred to me that I hadn't taken the time to look at how Revelation 3:14 was translated at that time.

0:00:47

Revelation 3:14, if you recall, is one passage that has Christ's testimony, verifying what we are told in Colossians 1:15. There are renderings of the older texts which I think are quite definitive. Your own analysis may conclude something else, that is up to each individual to decide.

0:01:12

It is worthwhile, I think, considering the religious climate of the day when Tyndale and others brought this forward. The concept of the Trinity was well entrenched for over a millennia by the religious authority of the day. And it was the bedrock foundation of the Christian religious authority

0:01:36

Even today, adherence to the Trinity, is the dividing line between orthodoxy and the cults who reject the thought of the Trinity. The Churches of God teach a Binity, which is the Trinity minus one. best I understand it. But it is based upon, as well, just like the Trinity of the existence of co-eternal, co-equal Beings that have always existed from the beginning.

0:02:05

This is interpreted from the start of eternity. Eternity has no start or no end for that matter, but we'll overlook that concept, that's not the purpose of this study. I came across recently, a statement by George Orwell, of all people, the other day that really struck a chord for me, and I'd like to share that with you.

0:02:29

He said that all tyrannies rule through fraud and force, but once the fraud is exposed, they must rely exclusively on force. And if you look at the world in the way the corruption is being exposed today, then the natural course of that would be a far more forceful society, and we are seeing that transformation right now.

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0:03:01

The records that I looked at showed that Tyndale met his demise in a most unpleasant way. In 1536 he was convicted of heresy, strangled to death while tied to the stake and then burned at that same stake. He was betrayed to the authorities representing the Holy Roman Empire, a combination of the religious and secular players of the day.

0:03:28

His translation had the temerity to use Yehovah, the tetragrammaton, as God's name. And the authorities of the day took that to be a challenge to the hegemony of the Catholic church actually, and the laws of England that maintained the churches position.

0:03:55

Of course, I'm shocked. We all know what Mark went through when he brought God's name to the council of elders in the UCG (United Church of God) the reaction was remarkably similar and we don't have to think real hard to think which spirit would be operating in that case.

0:04:13

The source that I looked at mentioned that 83% of the Greek New Testament is from Tyndale's work, and 76% of the Old Testament, in the King James version, is also a product of his dedication.

0:04:33

In the resurrection, my plan has always been, personally to think, I must thank Abraham, whose blessings I have participated in, based on his obedience in believing God. And if the Tyndale account is valid, what he went through, I would certainly consider adding him to the list. His gift was an amazing thing.

0:05:00

You know, it brought to mind Isaiah 66, verses 1 and 2 where it says:

¹ Thus says Yehovah: "Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? ²For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist," Says Yehovah. "But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.

0:05:28

And I had to ask the question, did Tyndale tremble at God's word, given the hornets' nest that his work brought about? And I have to think, yes indeed he did. He had a love of the word of God, and despite the consequences, did what he did, gave his life really so that we could have, in some measure, what we have today.

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And I think a word of thanks to him, when time presents itself would certainly be something to be considered. In any event, I would like to read more of the early translations of Revelation 3:14 as we did for Colossians 1:15. They seem a good match to the Colossians 1:15 narrative.

0:06:20

And as a result of one of the recent messages one of the listeners sent something in, I think he said something far more plainly and clearly than I could have ever done. So, I would like to just read what his research actually showed.

0:06:42

He posted Colossians 1:15, different versions, just to refresh ourselves on that. The Bible in basic English Translation, and it's available on the Blue Letter Bible, quotes Colossians 1:15, as saying:

Who is the image of the unseen God, (Referring to Christ of course) coming into existence before all living things.

0:07:08

The Bishops Translation, and these are all back, you know, in the fifteenth century.

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creatures.

0:07:21

The Geneva Bible.

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

0:07:29

And the King James, which of course Tyndale was involved in, or certainly laid the ground work for. It says:

He who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature.

0:07:44

The individual who commented added Hebrews 1:6 to that, which quotes:

But when He again, (The Father) brings His firstborn into the world, He says, let all the angles of God worship Him.

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Only God level beings are worthy of worship and here's a dictate from the Father, setting the ground rules of what the angels are to do with Christ.

0:08:18

And you can go through, and you can read the responses of the various demons that Christ encountered, they knew He was the Son of God and He didn't have to say very much and they just snapped right to attention. So, we can see that fulfilled in that way.

0:08:33

He goes on to comment. He said, He was firstborn before the world was created, and then Yehovah brings His firstborn into that world. The Word was made flesh, the Son was made flesh and dwelt among us.

0:08:49

He goes on to state that, the concept and the wording of that is so simple and so straight forward, that people just can't believe it. And I have to agree, it was stated so clearly, with what his commentary was, I thought I would share that with you, because it is far better than anything I could have done.

0:09:13

Going on, here's Revelation 3:14 in the earlier texts. We'll start out with Tyndale, because he lost his life over it. And it says:

¹⁴ And vnto the messenger of ye congregacio which is in Laodicia wryte: This sayth (ame) the faythfull and true witnes ye begynninge of the creatures of God.

0:09:44

In the Coverdale Bible of 1535, and these are all available on Bible Hub, you can go check that out yourself. It says:

¹⁴ And vnto the angell of the cogregacion, which is in Laodicia wryte: This sayth Amen the faithfull and true witnes, the begynnyng of ye creatures of God.

0:10:03

The Bishop's Bible of 1568 says essentially the same thing.

¹⁴ And vnto the Angel of the Churche which is in Laodicea, write: This saith Amen, the faythfull and true witnesse, the begynnyng of the creatures of God.

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0:10:13

And the Geneva Bible of 1587 says exactly the same thing.

¹⁴And vnto the Angell of the Church of the Laodiceans write, These things saieth Amen, the faithfull and true witsesse, that beginning of the creatures of God.

0:10:23

Well, can you imagine the kind of response that would get in the day that it was actually brought up. If we are to take what this is telling us at face value, as an image is not older than what it is an image of, and no Son is older than their Father, the one true God.

0:10:49

Christ preexisted all that was created through Him. Of course, you have to exist to have something done through you. But He did not preexist or coexist along with the Father from eternity. He was our Father's firstborn, as these early translations state. And it isn't hard to understand that these passages, if they even got to them back in Tyndale's day, didn't go over real well.

0:11:23

Our Father tasks His firstborn Son with different things, which we would expect actually. And as we've looked at, He sent Him to be born as a human, to do things He wanted done. There is a functionality that Christ has that, in my experience, hasn't received a lot of attention in the COG (Church of God) world.

0:11:46

And we read about that in the book of Galatians. We've touched on parts of that, but I would like to read that if I might. In Galatians 4. So, let's pick it up in Galatians 4 and we'll read verses 4 – 7. It says:

⁴But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, (He had His Son) born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, that we (The ecclesia) might receive the adoption as sons.

0:12:31

Well, is this not telling us about the program?

⁶And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" ⁷Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

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0:12:53

Christ has a very specific role in the program. God's Son works in those being made sons to reveal the Father to them whose will, they, the called, are to embrace and set their minds on. There is a spirit of Christ and there is a spirit of God. Both Christ and the Father dwell in the ecclesia.

0:13:28

And we read of that in John 14:23. Just to confirm that, John 14:23. Both the Father and Christ live in us.

²³Christ answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

0:13:55

And as we've covered before, this same spirit of Christ, Christ dwelling alongside the Father in those whom He has called at this time, to become Sons of God, was also in the prophets of old as we are told in the book of I Peter. So, Christ and the Father live in those who are called, again to make possible the process in which salvation will be done.

0:14:23

In I Peter 1; I Peter 1 and verses 10 and 11, we see this confirmed. It says:

¹⁰Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, 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 testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

0:14:53

So, it tells us that the Spirit of Christ was in the prophets as was the Spirit of God, and it's exactly the same for us. We are told in Galatians 4, the passage we just read, that it is the Father who sends the Spirit of Christ, so Christ can live in us. And as the Father is perfect, this is His will to do so, and how He has chosen to work in and through those whom He is doing a work.

0:15:26

Both the Father and the Christ are involved in that and it is God's will that it be so. We are told of the importance of this work in the Book of Romans. Romans 8 and verses 9 and 10 brings that out for us. Romans 8 and we will read verses 9 and 10. The Father's works through Christ, once again are seen here. Let me read that for you.

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⁹*But you (Referring to the ecclesia) are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.*

0:16:09

So, the Spirit of God our Father dwells in us.

Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ,

That is necessary as well,

he is not His.

That is very definitive.

¹⁰*And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.*

0:16:31

There is a presence of Christ in all who God is now or has worked. Years ago, when we were removed from UCG (United Church of God) I spent probably, a year and a half studying spirit, because you can read Romans 8, and the word spirit is used many times over, and it becomes obvious that if you apply one definition to it, it's hopeless. That the word spirit, which is pneuma in the Greek has many, many different facets to it. And we need to sort that and understand the different manifestations of the word so that we can actually make sense of Romans 8.

0:17:18

I don't profess to totally understand it, but there has been a lot of progress in that. One of the meanings of spirit is mental disposition. The way He actually thinks, so there is a literal Spirit of Christ in us, but there is also the mental disposition of Christ that must be formed and shaped in us.

0:17:44

Since He is the Son of God and always has been, what was His Spirit? Because it's not too hard to join the dots. If we are to be transformed into the Sons of God, which is what the scriptures actually say. Actually, we can read of that in I Corinthians 15; we'll just take a quick look there. I Corinthians 15 and verses 52 and 53, it says:

⁵²*in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.* ⁵³*For this corruptible*

And all of us, at least I can speak for myself, are corruptible.

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(And we) must put on incorruption,⁵⁴ ... and this mortal has put on immortality,

So, when God redoes our spirits from a process of still being corrupted in some ways; when He resurrects us, we will no longer be corruptible beings. We will be Sons of God in His family beyond corruption.

0:18:53

So, if He can take my spirit, which is corrupted, and turn it into something far different, ah, would He have a problem creating a spirit that wasn't corrupted? I don't see where that would be a problem.

0:19:16

Our spirit, our mental disposition, had better be headed in the same direction as Christ's. I'm not there yet, perhaps some of you are, that would be wonderful if that was the case. This begs the question then, since that is the program then where we need to have the Spirit of Christ, the mental disposition of Christ, can we see, as it were, the Spirit of Christ?

0:19:50

If we take the time to single out the meaning to mental disposition and add in another scripture, I think we have a window from which we can see out of. The Bible tells us something that I think is of great importance in this, and a principle perhaps we can use in our own study to begin to see the Spirit of Christ.

0:20:22

Matthew 12:34; Matthew 12:34, we'll take a look, there it is repeated in other places, but at the end of Matthew 12:34 it simply states:

³⁴ ... *For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.*

So, we can look at the words of Christ and we can see what is in His heart by the words that He speaks.

0:20:52

We have then opened the window to the mind or the Spirit of Christ, so that we, as future Sons of God, might emulate that. After all, we are told in Revelation 3:12, and we'll just read that again. Christ stating:

¹²*He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the*

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city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.

0:21:34

The ecclesia will bear the name of our Father and the new name Christ will give us. By looking at what Christ actually says, we can see His Spirit directly. For what is in His heart, the very core of His being, is revealed by the things He said and of course did, as there was no hypocrisy in Him.

0:22:05

And we can see that Paul understood that; that's entirely consistent. Let's read Romans 12:1 and 2. Paul got it and I think we need to get it exactly the same. It says:

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God,

Pleasing in His sight really.

which is your reasonable service. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,

0:22:44

Well, from a corrupted mind to the mind of Christ, to the Spirit of Christ. That is part of the reason He dwells in us.

that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

0:23:00

Well, we need to actively look to see what the Father's will is. If we go to Matthew 22, because we are going to look at some of these things and we can then begin to examine and look at Christ's spirit. What was His mental disposition? If we go to Matthew 22, and we'll read verses 36-40. Christ was asked, he said:

³⁶“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?”

0:23:40

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

³⁷Jesus said to him, “You shall love Yehovah your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

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0:24:01

Well, if we go to Luke 10 and verse 27. Luke 10 and verse 27, we see the same thing recorded.

²⁷So he answered and said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,” and “your neighbor as yourself.”

And this is a lawyer quoting, so, he understood it.

0:24:28

We see the same thing exactly in Mark 12:30; Mark 12:30, let's just go there to, to confirm this, because this is really the most important feature of a Son of God that they do those things. And verse 29 of Mark 12.

²⁹... “The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, Yehovah our God, Yehovah is one. ³⁰And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.

0:25:08

Christ's Spirit was to do exactly this. Is this where your spirit and my spirit are? Have we arrived as it were? Or are there a few technical adjustments that yet need to happen? I know my answer and it's likely you do as well, your answer.

0:25:43

So, we begin to get some insight into the mind of Christ, the Spirit of Christ; and that was to love the Father with all His heart, all His strength, all His soul. That was the Spirit of Christ.

0:26:06

If we go to John 14:28 we're going to see another representation of Christ's Spirit. He says:

²⁸You have heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away and coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ‘I am going to the Father,’ for My Father is greater than I.

0:26:34

When we are raised as Spirit Beings, Sons of God, do you suppose it might not be a bad idea to be of the same spirit of Christ? Christ recognized the Father was the greater. Can we begin to see the Spirit of Christ?

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0:27:00

Let's go to John 8; John 8 and verse 29. John 8, verse 29 we read, Christ speaking:

²⁹And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."

The Spirit of Christ was to always do the things that please the Father.

0:27:28

We see that repeated in different ways as part of Christ's testimony. Let's go to John 4 and verse 34.

³⁴... "My food is to do the will of Him

Remember Romans 12.

who sent Me, and to finish His work.

0:27:52

Well, is our food to do the will of Him, who reveals what the will of Him is all about to us. Have we arrived in that way? I have not. Are we making inroads in that direction? Ah, I would suggest, we better be.

0:28:18

John 5:30 christ said:

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.

The record is very consistent; but if we stop to reflect on what is in God's heart, Christ's heart, I'm sorry, that is a reflection of the Spirit of Christ, the way He thought. You notice the Father is always first and foremost in His mind, as You shall love the Lord your God, Yehovah your God.

0:29:07

Is that where your and my spirit is at this time? We can see, just as another example, in John 6:38.

³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

The Spirit of Christ, in this regard, stands plainly revealed.

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0:29:41

Is this the Spirit of a Son, or the Spirit, the mental disposition, of a co-equal, co-eternal? That's something the we each, individually, need to understand and try to decide actually. If we go to John 6:65. Again, we want to look past the statement to the mind of the Spirit who produced the statement and we can begin to see things perhaps we've just have not seen before. John 6:65 says:

⁶⁵... "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."

0:30:26

Did Christ have a clear view of who the Boss is? If we go back to verses 44 and 45. Again, entirely consistent with this.

⁴⁴No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

A capacity the Father has given Him.

⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore, everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.

0:31:01

Christ understood how it works, do we understand how it works? Verse 37.

³⁷All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

Again, showing Christ's deference to who the Boss really is.

0:31:24

Again, did the Spirit of Christ have a pretty good idea of who the Boss was, even if He was the Boss's Son? John 12; John 12, verses 49 and 50. John 12, verses 49 and 50.

*⁴⁹For I (Christ speaking) have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.
⁵⁰And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."*

0:32:14

As a future Son of God, you don't suppose the same mindset should be in us? That we speak what the Father speaks and we speak the truth? John 13, and let's look at verse 16.

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¹⁶*Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.*

0:32:47

Christ understood well who His master was, and He also understood that the Father had appointed Him to be our master, to teach us who the Boss really is. We can read of that in Matthew 23; Matthew 23 and we can read verses 8-10. Matthew 23 and verses 8-10, where it says:

⁸*But you, (Speaking to the ecclesia and the multitudes.) do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. ⁹Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. ¹⁰And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ.*

0:33:47

The Son of God has been commissioned to teach the future Sons of God. There is one that is our Father, and He is in heaven, and we're not to assume that title at all. We have one Father and one God; the true God that Christ points us to. Christ's Spirit was set to lead us to the Father.

0:34:16

There's a reasonable chance that, as future Sons of God, we might be doing exactly the same thing to the people we encounter and have interaction with. Let's take a look at another example, let's go to Matthew 6. Matthew 6, and we'll look at verses 9 – 13. A familiar passage actually, to anybody who has had any understanding or at least knowledge of what the Bible says in various places. Let's read that. Matthew 6, verses 9-13.

⁹*In this manner, (Christ teaching the masses) 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.*

There is an evil one.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

0:35:24

Christ pointed people to the Father. Christ's desire is that the Father's kingdom come, and that the Father's will be done in heaven. He was totally at one with the program. This passage is mouthed by millions and I really have to wonder if those doing so, you know they know the passage, I've seen it quoted many times at funerals and gatherings

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of that kind. I really have to wonder if they have an inkling of an idea what they are really asking for? They will find out; you can be sure.

0:36:15

But this is an expression of Christ's spirit, His desire for this to be done. Is our spirit in harmony with this as well? Or do we kind of like aspects of this world? Where are we at with that, is our spirit in harmony with what Christ showed us?

0:36:43

We really have to look at that because there's some instruction later on in the book of John, I John 2:15. It says:

¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

0:37:07

And that in the passage that we just read, Matthew 6 (Verses 9-13), it was Christ's spirit, His will, that the Father's will be done on the earth, and that the Father's kingdom comes. And He said, even with the Passover, I won't eat of it or drink of it again until in my Father's kingdom. You can see how He was terribly focused with the Father's will, as we should be as future Sons of God ourselves.

0:37:47

Did Christ have a love of the world He was born into, or a love of the Father? We can see His Spirit in the writings He so provided to us. As a future Son of God, where does our love abide? While reading the words of Christ, I would suggest that you look past the words, to the mind and Spirit that produced them. For such is where God's ecclesia need to go.

0:38:30

And while we're doing so, it's not a bad idea to assess whether Christ's spirit is that of a co-equal, co-eternal, or that of a Son. For in so doing we may have additional clarity in what we've been looking at, and what those older translations actually point to, in this series that we have been doing, since it is just not what we have historically understood. But if we look to the Spirit of Christ in the writings, we should be able to see exactly where He was at and know that is where we must go. Let this mind be in you, that was in Christ Jesus.

0:39:26

So, if we are to become future Sons of God, we need to follow the example of the Son of God so that we can join that community when it is God's time to make that happen.

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0:39:35

I hope all of you are enjoying your summer as it's been running by here, but thank you for listening and we'll get back to you here in due course.