

Our Father and Our God

Part 2

By Boyd Yahn

Hello once again to everyone, it is November the 5th of 2023 and this is part 2 of Our Father and Our God series. In the first study under this topic, I had read all of Isaiah 45 and in that chapter alone, Yehovah had made the statement, "There is no God beside Him."

0:00:26

And we saw that in verse 5, verse 6, verse 14, verse 18, verse 21 and verse 22. Me, isn't us. There is a scripture that I personally committed to memory, that I can recall, that helps me to focus on that. And you will see that actually in Psalm 83, verse 18.

0:01:06

There's countless of them really, when one begins to start to pay attention to those things but Psalm 83:18 is very helpful for me personally, where it says:

¹⁸that they may know that You, whose name alone is Yehovah,

Yehovah does not belong to Christ, it is our Father's name. Then it goes on to say:

are the Most High over all the earth.

0:01:34

And Christ repeatedly said that the Father was greater than He. So, I don't think there is a case of mistaken identity there at all. In Isaiah 45, and we'll just look at one of those, because basically all say the same thing. In Isaiah 45 and we can just pick one at random here. Let's try verse 22 because it says the same thing. It says:

²²Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.

0:02:08

So, that naturally begins to conflict with our historical Binitarian understanding. I had to wonder, were there any other places in Scripture where this phrase, or the wording is actually repeated, making the same claim? Turned out, didn't have to look very far at all to find it. Just cast my eyes across the page to Isaiah 46:9, where it says:

⁹Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,

0:02:44

Well, that can't possibly be referring to Christ. Ah, there is no way with Christ repeatedly saying that the Father was greater than He. You know, just had to cross the page to

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travel, but that wasn't the end of it. Is it in other places in the scriptures? Well, turns out, if we go to Deuteronomy 32; Deuteronomy 32 and let's read verses 39 – 43. That's Deuteronomy 32, verses 39 – 43 Deuteronomy 39, verse 39 rather of chapter 32.

³⁹*“Now see that I, even I, am He, and there is no God besides Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; nor is there any who can deliver from My hand. ⁴⁰For I raise My hand to heaven, and say, “As I live forever, ⁴¹if I whet My glittering sword, and My hand takes hold on judgment, I will render vengeance to My enemies, and repay those who hate Me. ⁴²I will make My arrows drunk with blood, and My sword shall devour flesh, with the blood of the slain and the captives, from the heads of the leaders of the enemy.” ⁴³“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people; for He will avenge the blood of His servants, and render vengeance to His adversaries; He will provide atonement for His land and His people.”*

0:04:25

Pretty powerful words there about this Being and how He operates and the place that He functions from. The statement in verse 43, I don't know whether you picked up on that.

He will provide atonement for His land and His people.”

And we went through that in some detail in the Atonement message earlier this year. You know, verse 39.

I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; nor is there any who can deliver from My hand.

Verse 39

0:05:03

Can we look at that and begin to see the capacity and also the mindset of our Father? Today's Jesus that's preached to the world is a far cry from the Father and the revelation of Him that we see here.

0:05:27

There's another passage in the book of Hosea, where we see something again similar. It's amazing to me, once I actually started to look, something I never did, that's amazing in itself. Ah, been in the faith for 40 years, never looked; what's wrong with that picture?

0:05:49

So, if we go to Hosea 13 (verse 1) and let's actually read that. So, it says,

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¹ When Ephraim spoke, trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended through Baal worship, he died. ² Now they sin more and more, and have made for themselves molded images, idols of their silver, according to their skill; all of it is the work of craftsmen. They say of them, "Let the men who sacrifice kiss the calves!"³ Therefore they shall be like the morning cloud and like the early dew that passes away, like chaff blown off from a threshing floor and like smoke from a chimney.

0:06:31

You'd almost think that God has a bit of a problem with images and Baal worship.

⁴ "Yet (He says) I am Yehovah your God ever since the land of Egypt, and you shall know no God but Me; for there is no savior besides Me.

And do we not typically think only of Christ as our savior. And indeed, He is, we are told so in the New Testament. Yet, here we have God, our Father, claiming the same title. If He hadn't set it in motion, nothing would have happened.

⁵ I knew you in the wilderness, in the land of great drought. ⁶ When they had pasture, they were filled; they were filled and their heart was exalted; therefore they forgot Me.

0:07:23

Funny, how things are going real good in your life and it's pretty easy to forget the One who brought it about.

⁷ "So I will be to them like a lion; like a leopard by the road I will lurk; ⁸ I will meet them like a bear deprived of her cubs; I will tear open their rib cage, and there I will devour them like a lion. The wild beast shall tear them.

0:07:50

This is our Father speaking. It appears He doesn't like idolatry. Again, He makes the claim. (In verse 4)

you shall know no God but Me

Well, that's interesting.

0:08:08

If we go back to Isaiah 44. It's amazing how many times that phrase shows up in the book of Isaiah. If we go to Isaiah 44, let's read verses 6 – 8.

⁶ "Thus says Yehovah, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, Yehovah of hosts:

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So, there we get verification, as it is in the New King James, the Lord of Hosts, there is no the in the Hebrew, Yehovah and Lord of Hosts are one in the same.

'I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.

0:09:00

Same expression.

⁷And who can proclaim as I do? Then let him declare it and set it in order for Me, since I appointed the ancient people. And the things that are coming and shall come, let them show these to them. ⁸Do not fear, nor be afraid; have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.'"

So, it all began, everything began with the one true God as Jesus Christ called Him.

0:09:44

What about in the little book of Joel? Let's go to Joel 2, and we are going to read verses 25 – 32. Again:

²⁵"So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the crawling locust, the consuming locust, and the chewing locust, my great army which I sent among you. ²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of Yehovah your God,

0:10:19

And it's interesting to me that in the Church of God community, when asked, "What is the Father's name?" It's more likely to produce a blank stare, than it is to produce an answer. Going on:

who has dealt wondrously with you; and My people shall never be put to shame. ²⁷Then you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel: I am Yehovah your God and there is no other.

0:10:44

Jesus Christ is not our God; God the Father is our God.

My people shall never be put to shame. ²⁸"And it shall come to pass afterward that I (The Father) will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. ²⁹And also on My menservants and on My maid servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

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0:11:12

The pouring out of God's spirit is commensurate with being called of God and being given spiritual understanding.

³⁰“And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of Yehovah. ³²And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of Yehovah

0:11:42

Well, it would probably be a good idea to know what that name is.

shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as Yehovah has said, among the remnant whom Yehovah calls.

This indeed, talks about Israel's restoration; but it also points out the fact that He is pouring out His Spirit on all flesh. Wouldn't that have something to do with the fall harvest; the third harvest of mankind to spirit life?

0:12:11

And notice how nicely verse 31 fits into the fulfillment of Psalm 110:1.

“Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

This is a time when Yehovah; and I accept that people, Yahovah, I mean, there's variations of that. Some prefer Yahweh, ah, I'm not smart enough to know which one of those is correct. You use the one that works the best for you.

0:12:44

Having read all these passages, the fog of Me, of who Me is, in Exodus 20, verses 1 – 6 seems to lift. So, let's take a look at that, let's just read it. It's certainly a passage that we would all know and understand; but there has been some confusion, based on our previous teaching of, who is Me? Well, I don't think that there is any doubt about that anymore, it certainly clears that up when we look at those scriptures as a whole.

¹ And God spoke all these words, saying: ²“I am Yehovah your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ³“You shall have no other Gods before Me.

0:13:37

The Father called Jesus Christ God, we know that, and we'll get into that in another message. But this is God the Father.

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⁴*“You shall not make for yourself a carved image—*

And we read about that in Hosea.

any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, Yehovah your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

0:14:12

And the spirit of the world is to hate Yehovah. But notice the change in attitude here.

⁶but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

We learn a fair bit of how He thinks, in this particular passage, when we consider who it is that’s actually speaking. He’s like, the One we are supposed to love and put above all else.

0:14:42

Christ did so, and instructed us to do the same. We should not be surprised by this, I would think. Unlike the religious leaders of Christ’s day, who He roundly condemned as hypocrites, when Christ stated the first and greatest commandment, “You shall love Yehovah your God, with all your heart, etc.” He actually meant that.

0:15:15

And so, here you have, in the New Testament, where Christ actually meant that, and then He laid out where the religious leaders of the day were actually at. Let’s go to Matthew 23, and let’s look at verses 13 – 15. So here is Christ’s assessment of the religious leaders of the day.

¹³“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. ¹⁴Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore, you will receive greater condemnation. ¹⁵“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

0:16:21

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Let's go down to verse 23. This is Christ's assessment of the religious leaders of the day.

²³“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law:

Isn't that such, as the Christian world call themselves, do? They pick and choose which part of the scriptures they are going to embrace. But you:

have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.

0:17:03

We don't pick and choose, the Bible is holistic. Let's go to verse 25.

²⁵“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, (you) hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.

Go down to verse 29

²⁹“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,³⁰ and say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.’³¹“Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

0:17:45

Christ knew who their father was. He roundly condemned them as hypocrites. And so, if Christ had said, “Love the Lord with all your heart and your soul”, and then didn't mean it, He would be a hypocrite. Would Christ have so roundly condemned them, while wallowing in His own hypocrisy? Well, how about no?

0:18:10

In Luke, the book of Luke 12, chapter 12 and verse 1. It says:

¹ In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first of all, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

Christ defined what the leaven of the Pharisees actually was.

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In joining the dots, if we as future sons of God have hypocrisy in us; we probably do, it might not be a bad idea to see where that might be and take some steps to fix that. The Father's only begotten Son didn't have any hypocrisy. And if the ecclesia wish to be Sons of Yehovah as well, the math isn't real hard to do.

0:19:21

If we go to Matthew 16; Matthew 16, and we will read verses 11 and 12. It adds another dimension to the level of the Pharisees. Matthew 16, verses 11 and 12. Christ saying:

¹¹How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? —but to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” ¹²Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

0:19:56

So, it's good for us to look at similar scriptures to get a more of an understanding of the spectrum; the more details we can gather together to increase our understanding. Getting back on topic here, if we go back to Deuteronomy 5; Deuteronomy 5, verses 22 – 29. Deuteronomy 5, verses 22 – 29. Now that we know who the Being was that spoke to Israel. It says:

²²“These words Yehovah spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. ²³“So it was, when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. ²⁴And you said: ‘Surely Yehovah our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God speaks with man; yet he still lives. ²⁵Now therefore, why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of Yehovah our God anymore, then we shall die. ²⁶For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God

0:21:35

Well, Christ is the Son of the living God, and always has been.

²⁶For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived? ²⁷You go near

They didn't want any of that action.

²⁷You go near and hear all that Yehovah our God may say, and tell us all that the Lord our God says to you, and we will hear and do it.’ ²⁸“Then Yehovah heard the

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voice of your words when you spoke to me, and the Lord said to me: 'I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They are right in all that they have spoken.

Again, the living God is the Father, and Christ is the Son of the living God and He always has been.

0:22:30

Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8 need to be kept in mind while we are looking at this whole process. Malachi 3:6 tells us that Yehovah doesn't change. And Hebrews 13:8 tells us that Yeshua, Christ, the Christ, also doesn't change. So, understanding that is foundational for us, if we choose to believe what they are telling us.

0:22:56

No one can force anyone to believe anything. The best any that look into the word of God is to point out what God says, where He says it, and let those in whom the Father and Christ live, process that.

0:23:19

Sadly, in the Church of God culture, and I'm sure in many other church cultures, "what to think" is the mantra, rather than "how to think." Indeed, it has been my observation, that is how the world's religions actually function as the step between humanity and their true God, their Creator.

0:23:42

Recently, I spoke to an individual who had been in the COG (Church of God) world for well over a decade, and before that in the Sunday keeping world, made the remark that they knew basically nothing of our Father. And seeing that in either world, it is all Christ centered. Doesn't that strike all of us a little bit odd?

0:24:08

We are to be in covenant with God the Father and we don't know much about Him, let alone love Him. Well, what seems wrong with that picture? Notice, in the book of John. John 14; John 14, verse 31 and then we will go on to John 15.

0:24:40

I found Mark's (Mickelson's) comments about the book of John very interesting the other day, that he seems to gravitate toward that, and there is so much information in the book of John.

0:24:50

Christ speaking here in John 14, it says:

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³¹*But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.*

Did Christ know that the Father was intimately involved in the development of His sons? Well, let's read that. (John 15:1-2) It says:

¹*"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch in Me*

In the body of Christ.

that does not bear fruit He takes away;

0:25:29

So, by circumstance, God will remove people from the body of Christ that are not growing or not gaining; we must bear fruit. This tells us something about the Father, that if He gives us an ability or capability of some kind, we had better be all about using it.

0:25:52

Again, in verse 2:

²*Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.*

Have you been pruned? Expect to be pruned, if we are of the body of Christ.

0:26:17

So, Christ told us that the Father is really involved in our lives if we are part of the ecclesia. We have confirmation of that in Philippians; Philippians 1 and verse 6 where it simply tells us:

⁶*being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you*

Who calls us?

will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

So, it merely confirms what Christ said, it is our Father that calls. Making Christ the Me of the decalogue, hides so much, and that is not an accident. Our opponent is well beyond the cunning we have historically attributed to him.

0:27:12

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When it says, 'He's more cunning than any of the beasts of the field, it means He's more cunning than the beasts of the field and I for one, realize at this point, we better pick up our game and start paying attention.

0:27:31

We can go to Philippians 2, verse 13

¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

And as we did in the last message, God and our Father are substitutable.

¹³ for it is our Father who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Is it possible we've been too busy playing church to think about what this is saying? What do you think?

0:28:04

And you know, there is another aspect of God that we need to consider and we find that again in Isaiah. In the book of Isaiah, this time in chapter 48. So, let's go to Isaiah 48, where we will read verses 1 – 13

0:28:23

Isaiah 48, verses 1 -13. We need to consider this and think about it.

¹ "Hear this, O house of Jacob, who are called by the name of Israel, and have come forth from the wellsprings of Judah; who swear by the name of Yehovah,

Well, they must have known who He was.

and make mention of the God of Israel,

0:28:54

So, there is no question. You know it's strange to me, Acts 3:13, there's verses in the scripture that don't need interpretation, it tells us stuff. And for whatever reason, we overlook it, we avoid it; we simply don't believe what it tells us, and I don't know why that is, but that's certainly the case.

0:29:25

Going on:

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and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth or in righteousness; ² For they call themselves after the holy city, and lean on the God of Israel; Jehovah of hosts is His name: ³“I have declared the former things from the beginning; they went forth from My mouth, and I caused them to hear it. Suddenly I did them, and they came to pass. ⁴Because I knew that you were obstinate, and your neck was an iron sinew, and your brow bronze,

0:29:56

The Father knew Israel’s attitude

⁵even from the beginning I have declared it to you; before it came to pass I proclaimed it to you, lest you should say, ‘My idol has done them, and my carved image and my molded image gave command to them.’

Any excuse at all to write God out of the picture, is capitalized on.

0:30:25

So, God laid it out what they would do ahead of time, so they couldn’t claim their own genius in figuring it out.

⁶“You have heard; see all this. And will you not declare it? I have made you hear new things from this time, even hidden things, and you did not know them. ⁷They are created now and not from the beginning; and before this day you have not heard them, lest you should say, ‘Of course I knew them.’

⁸Surely you did not hear, surely you did not know; surely from long ago your ear was not opened. For I knew that you would deal very treacherously, and were called a transgressor from the womb.

0:31:12

That God, He’s pretty smart.

⁹“For My name’s sake I will defer My anger, and for My praise I will restrain it from you,

So, God is holding back His anger about Israel, but not forever. Let’s Go on.

so that I do not cut you off. ¹⁰Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. ¹¹ For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do it; for how should My name be profaned?

And here is a very important thing.

And I will not give My glory to another.

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0:31:59

If Christ and the Father were a Binity, how was that even possible?

¹²“Listen to Me, O Jacob, and Israel, My called: I am He, I am the First, I am also the Last, ¹³ Indeed My hand (Yehovah) has laid the foundation of the earth, and My right hand has stretched out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand up together.

0:32:22

Again, we see exactly the same phrase as we saw before. Yehovah tells us He will not give His glory to another, since He is over all, so is His glory. It's not a one off. If we go to Isaiah 42; Isaiah 42 and let's take a look at verse 8.

⁸ I am Yehovah, that is My name;

It's not Our name, it's My name.

and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images.

0:33:04

Again, we see it repeated. We are told that Yehovah is our Father's name. It would seem He's quite partial about that; you and I should be thinking along the same line. Do we, or should we as sons refer to Him by His name when we are talking to Him? Do you think He would look upon that with favor?

0:33:34

Yehovah will not give His glory to another. Christ said the Father was greater than He. Would it not follow, since that is true, if Christ's testimony is reliable, that the glory Christ has now, would be the same as before the world began and it would not be the same as Yehovah's, His Father.

0:33:55

How can you have two Beings, who are really one Being, with the same glory, with differing glories? The co-eternal, co-existent Binity concepts breaks down at every turn. The glory that Christ returned to after His resurrection was that of God's Son, His firstborn Son actually.

0:34:23

And we read of that in John 1:14, where it speaks to that directly.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

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So, there was a glory about Jesus Christ as the firstborn of God. The Father's glory exceeds that of His Son, for our Father is the Creator of all.

0:35:00

Where do we read in the Bible of the glory that Christ was given before the foundation of the world? The timing in this passage, in my mind, is completely unmistakable, where we are simply told, and I haven't thought of it in these terms before, and we have used the scripture. But think of it in terms of, this is the glory that Christ had before the world began.

0:35:34

And you know, in Christ's prayer in John 17:5, He said, "Father, restore Me to the glory that I had with you before the worlds began." So, we can learn here, in Colossians 1, verses 15 and 16, and just think of it in a different way. Speaking of Christ:

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God,

0:36:02

This is addressing the glory that He had.

(He's) the firstborn over all creation.

The first Being that the Father brought in to the whole creative process, it simply tells us that was His son.

¹⁶(And by that Son) all things were created 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 Him and for Him.

0:36:34

It tells us the glory that the Father gave Christ when He brought Him into existence. And in Hebrews 1 it further describes the glory that was given to Christ in Hebrews 1, verse 3.

³who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power,

That's a lot of glory and we are told specifically what that is. Going on:

when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

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0:37:26

So, Christ was returned to the position of glory that He had. Do we see a confirmation that Christ's prayer, of John 17:5, was, actually answered in the scriptures? And again, I'd never seen this before, so I pass it on for your consideration. Where would you turn to see whether or not Christ's glory, which He possessed before the worlds began, was indeed, returned to Him, and that the Father answered that prayer?

0:38:06

It is in the scriptures. Ephesians 1, verses 15 – 23 gives us that answer. Ephesians 1, verse 15.

¹⁵Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷that the God (Our Father, the Father) of our Lord Jesus Christ,

No question.

the Father of glory,

0:38:48

Where does glory come from? No surprise, it comes from the Father of glory, who gives it out as He sees fit.

may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

0:39:29

And we read in Colossians where He was before, and this is clearly speaking of a different time totally. This is after He was resurrected as we just read

² He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

Where did He put Him?

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far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. ²²And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the ecclesia,²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

0:40:10

Well, there's the answer. Did God answer that prayer? Yes! In Colossians 1:19 says:

¹⁹For it pleased the Father that in Him ...

So, our Father, our God, it pleased Him that Christ was going to be the head over the ecclesia. That's what our Father actually wanted. And this is very important that we understand this.

0:40:48

Colossians 1, verses 15 and 16 and Ephesians, verses 15 -23 show us the glory He had before the worlds began. And Ephesians shows us the Father returning Christ to that same position. Yet, it is not the glory of the Father, who is His head. This is important to understand as the Father of glory gives the glory to His sons as He wishes to do so.

0:41:21

He did that for Christ when He made Him and then returned Him to that position. And in the book of I Corinthians 15 we learned why that might be something we want to sit up and pay attention to, where this is directly spoken of. And in I Corinthians 15, we'll read verses 35 - 49.

0:41:44

³⁵But someone will say, (Paul speaking.) "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?" ³⁶Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies.³⁷And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain. ³⁸But (Our Father) gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.

0:42:23

So, the glory that the ecclesia will have in their resurrected state is in a body provided for, and considered by our Father. Christ will resurrect the ecclesia, the Father will give them the body that He so desires, just as He did with Christ. Going on:

³⁹All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and of birds. ⁴⁰There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the

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terrestrial is another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

0:43:14

Now get this.

⁴²So also is the resurrection of the dead.

There are going to be various conditions and levels of glory, that are handed out by the Father in the resurrection.

The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory.

0:43:41

And there are different classifications of glory, or different levels of it.

It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

Given by our Father.

There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

0:44:09

Can we see the level of involvement our Father has in this whole process? He is totally involved.

⁴⁵And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is (the Lord) from heaven.

0:44:44

God's own Son.

⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly.

We're going to be, if we are part of the ecclesia, raised to a level of glory, similar to Christ's. We are made in the image of Christ.

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⁴⁹And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.

0:45:23

That's quite remarkable. The image of the heavenly man has tremendous glory and that is promised to the ecclesia as well. It is our Father that will decide the level of glory that each one of His sons will have in their resurrected state. And once we understand that process more clearly, does it not give some element of emphasis, if you will, when we read the passage that we read in I Corinthians 2, verses 9-12?

⁹But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which (Our Father) has prepared for those who love Him." ¹⁰But (Our Father) has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of (Our Father) ¹¹For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of (Our Father) except the Spirit of (Our Father).

0:46:44

It is revealed to us by Him.

¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from (Our Father), that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by (Our Father).

0:47:00

Are we beginning to see our Father in a completely different light? And we're actually told, told if we choose to believe that, when that condition will come into place. And I'll just leave that thought with you and if you look in the book of Daniel, Daniel 12:1.

¹"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.

The Father tells us many things. Do we always believe Him when He does? More to come in part 3.