

Searching for The Truth in YHVH's Word

Rick Matthews

Introduction: Jn. 4:23 says but the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

And Jn. 4:24 God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

For hundreds of years Christians have been searching for the truth or correct interpretations of YHVH's word in The Bible. Many different denominations, having varying views on scripture. In the COG's there have been many groups that have splintered off from others, because of differing views and interpretations of YHVH's word. In groups that I personally belonged to or affiliated with we were taught that Christ was not the God of the Old Testament, of example, and no one has ever seen or heard the Father, and YHVH cannot be in the presence of sinners. In the past year or so, the controversies have been directed toward, whether or not Christ is 1. Co-Eternal, with YHVH, and 2. Was he (Christ) created. In this study, we will take an in-depth look at the scriptures in an effort and desire to find out what scripture really says about these topics, to better understand the relationship between YHVH and Christ and YHVH's plan of Salvation for all of mankind.

1. Was Christ Co-Eternal with YHVH?

John 17:3 – The Only True God and Jesus Christ

"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

- Christ **distinguishes YHVH as the only true God**, setting Himself apart as a distinct being.
- If Christ were co-eternal with YHVH, He would not have referred to YHVH as the *only* true God.

Micah 5:2 – Christ's "Goings Forth" from YHVH

"Out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

- **"Goings forth" (*motsa'otayv*)** → Indicates **Christ has an origin from YHVH before time began.**
- **"From everlasting" (*mimei olam*)** → This phrase does not mean infinite co-existence with YHVH but signifies **an ancient and pre-temporal event of Christ being brought forth.** The Hebrew *olam* often refers to an indefinite past but does not necessarily imply eternity without origin.
- The **use of "goings forth" in the plural** suggests **multiple manifestations of Christ throughout history, beginning with His initial generation from YHVH before creation.** This reinforces that His preexistence was active and purposeful rather than static and co-eternal.

- This aligns with **Proverbs 8:22-25**, where Wisdom (linked to Christ) was "brought forth" before creation, confirming that His existence was initiated at a specific point in the ancient past rather than always existing independently of YHVH.

"Out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

- **"Goings forth" (*motsa'otayv*)** → Indicates **Christ has an origin from YHVH before time began.**
- **"From everlasting" (*mimei olam*)** → Does not mean Christ is self-existent but that He was brought forth before creation.

2. Christ Was Brought Forth Before Creation

Proverbs 8:22-25 – Christ as Wisdom Brought Forth

"YHVH possessed me in the beginning... Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth (*cholalti*)."

- **"Brought forth" (*cholalti*)** → Indicates **being generated, not created from nothing.**
- **Generation requires an event, meaning Christ's existence had a definite point of origin from YHVH.**
- **This confirms Christ's preexistence but distinguishes Him from being co-eternal with YHVH.**

3. Christ as the Only Begotten Son

John 3:16 – "Only Begotten Son"

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten (*monogenes*) Son."

- **μονογενής (*monogenes*)** → "Only begotten," meaning:
 1. **Uniquely generated** → Christ was **brought forth in a way no other being was.**
 2. **One-of-a-kind Son** → Distinct from both **created beings and adopted sons (believers).**
- Since being *begotten* or *brought forth* implies an event, this reinforces that Christ was generated at a particular point before creation.
- This matches **Micah 5:2 and Proverbs 8:22-25**, showing **Christ was brought forth from YHVH before creation.**

4. Christ Had Glory Before the World Began

John 17:5 – Christ's Request for Restored Glory

"And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."

- Christ is asking for something **He once had but temporarily set aside**.
- This implies He **previously possessed divine glory** but willingly gave it up.

Philippians 2:6-9 – Christ Emptied Himself of Glory

"Who, being in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied Himself... Therefore, God highly exalted Him."

- "Emptied Himself" → Christ **set aside His pre-creation glory**.
 - "Highly exalted Him" → YHVH later **restored and increased His glory**.
 - This matches **John 17:5**, where Christ asks YHVH to **return the glory He had before creation**.
-

5. Christ as the Firstborn Over Creation

Colossians 1:15 – "Firstborn Over All Creation"

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn (*prōtotokos*) of all creation."

- *πρωτότοκος* (*prōtotokos*) → "Firstborn" meaning:
 1. **First in time** → The first one to be brought forth.
 2. **First in rank** → The heir with preeminence over creation.
 - **Christ was brought forth before creation** (*Proverbs 8:22, Micah 5:2*).
 - **He was given preeminence over all things** (*Colossians 1:15*).
 - This shows that **Christ is the heir of creation, ruling over it**.
-

6. Christ as the Firstborn from the Dead

Colossians 1:18 – "Firstborn from the Dead"

"And He is the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might have preeminence."

- **Christ was the first to be resurrected to eternal glory.**
- **This connects to the saints, who will be resurrected at His coming.**
- **Just as He was firstborn over creation, He is firstborn over the new creation.**

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 – "Christ the Firstfruits"

"Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

- **Christ leads the way in the resurrection.**
- **Believers will follow Him in their own resurrection.**

7. Final Summary

- **Christ was brought forth from YHVH before creation.**
- **Being brought forth (generated) requires an event, confirming Christ had an origin.**
- **He had glory before the world but set it aside to fulfill His mission.**
- **He is the firstborn of creation and firstborn from the dead.**
- **He is the heir of all things and will establish the Kingdom at His return.**
- **The saints will reign with Him, and YHVH will ultimately dwell with mankind.**

Authors Note: So, this study looked at **1**. Whether Christ was **CO-Eternal** with YHVH, and scripture clearly shows that they are **not** CO-Eternal or a binity.

2. Whether he was **Brought Forth**, or **Created**? While I think it is important to study to find ourselves approved of YHVH, and while I feel it is important to focus on the distinction between YHVH and Christ in order to have a clearer understanding, as I said the relationship between the two, regardless which seems to be more Biblically correct, Brought Forth, or Created, both are backed by scripture, it doesn't diminish Christ's role in YHVH's plan of salvation. And since "**brought forth**" often carries the connotation of being generated or proceeding from (as seen in **Proverbs 8:22-25**), it aligns with the idea that Christ originated from YHVH in some way before creation. It was an event that happened. On the other hand, "**created**" typically implies something that did not exist at all and was made from nothing, although the scriptural language in these terms seem to be different, they both describe Christ's pre-existence and relationship with YHVH. This approach allows for a scriptural discussion that respects both perspectives while

maintaining the focus on Christ's divinely appointed role as the **firstborn** and **heir** to creation, which fully aligns with YHVH's purpose.