The Pre-Existence and Divine Sonship of Christ: A Scriptural Study

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When Did Christ Become the Son of YHVH?

There is a debate among some that Yeshua became the Son of YHVH at His resurrection. However, Scripture reveals a much earlier origin. The evidence supports the belief that He became the Son of YHVH when He was brought forth by YHVH before creation—not at His resurrection. His resurrection served as a confirmation of His divine identity as the Son of YHVH, not the initiation of it. It also confirmed His role as the Son of Man, having been born in the flesh and faithfully fulfilling all that was written of Him—points which are addressed more fully in later sections.

Brought Forth Before Creation — Sonship Established

Proverbs 8:22–25

"YHVH possessed me at the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I have been established from everlasting, from the beginning, before there was ever an earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth."

The Hebrew word for "brought forth" here is *chulalti* (חוֹלֶלְתִּי), meaning to be born, brought forth, or caused to come into existence. This verse shows that Messiah had a beginning, having been brought forth by YHVH before the creation of the world. This was the moment He became the Son of YHVH, according to the witness of Scripture.

The Sent Son — Commissioned Before Birth

John 3:16-17

"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. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

John 6:38

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

Galatians 4:4

"But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law."

Isaiah 48:16

"Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord God and His Spirit have sent Me."

The language of sending implies pre-existence. Yeshua was not merely born into a mission—He was sent on one. These verses emphasize that He had a role and identity before His physical birth.

The Son of Man — Born in the Flesh, Exalted in Purpose

Daniel 7:13-14

"I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."

Matthew 26:64

"Yeshua said to him, 'It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Luke 19:10

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

1 Peter 2:22

"Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth."

While the title "Son of Man" emphasizes His humanity, it also highlights His redemptive mission. He was born of a woman (Galatians 4:4), lived a sinless life, and walked among men, fulfilling the prophetic expectation of one who would come to redeem.

Fulfillment of Prophecy — The Promised One Revealed

Luke 24:44

"Then He said to them, 'These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you,

that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me."

Isaiah 7:14

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

Micah 5:2

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

Isaiah 53:3-5

"He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed."

Psalm 22:16-18

"For dogs have surrounded Me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots."

From His birth to His death and resurrection, the life of Yeshua was the direct fulfillment of ancient prophecies—validating His identity as the promised Messiah and Son of YHVH.

The Word and the Beginning of Creation

John 1:1-3, 14

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ... And 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."

This passage reveals that Yeshua, as the Word (Greek: *Logos*), existed "in the beginning" with God (YHVH) and was instrumental in creation. His identity as the "Word made flesh" links His divine pre-existence directly to His incarnation.

Connecting Wisdom to the Word

Proverbs 8:30

"Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him."

Colossians 1:15-17

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him 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. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."

The characteristics of Wisdom in Proverbs 8—being brought forth, rejoicing in creation, and being beside YHVH—parallel what John 1 reveals about the Word. Colossians confirms this connection.

Additional Witnesses to His Pre-Existence

Hebrews 1:1–3

"God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high."

John 17:5

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

Revelation 3:14

"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God.'"

Philippians 2:6-11 — Exalted Because He Humbled Himself

"Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Yeshua every knee

should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Yeshua the Messiah is Master, to the glory of God the Father."

Conclusion

The testimony of Scripture clearly affirms that Yeshua existed with YHVH before the creation of the world and was brought forth as His Son prior to His incarnation. He was the Word and Wisdom of YHVH, sent into the world to redeem mankind. His role as the Son of Man highlights His identification with humanity, while His fulfillment of prophecy and divine commission points to His exalted origin and purpose. The resurrection served not as the beginning of His Sonship, but as the affirmation of it—proving that He truly was who the Scriptures had long foretold.