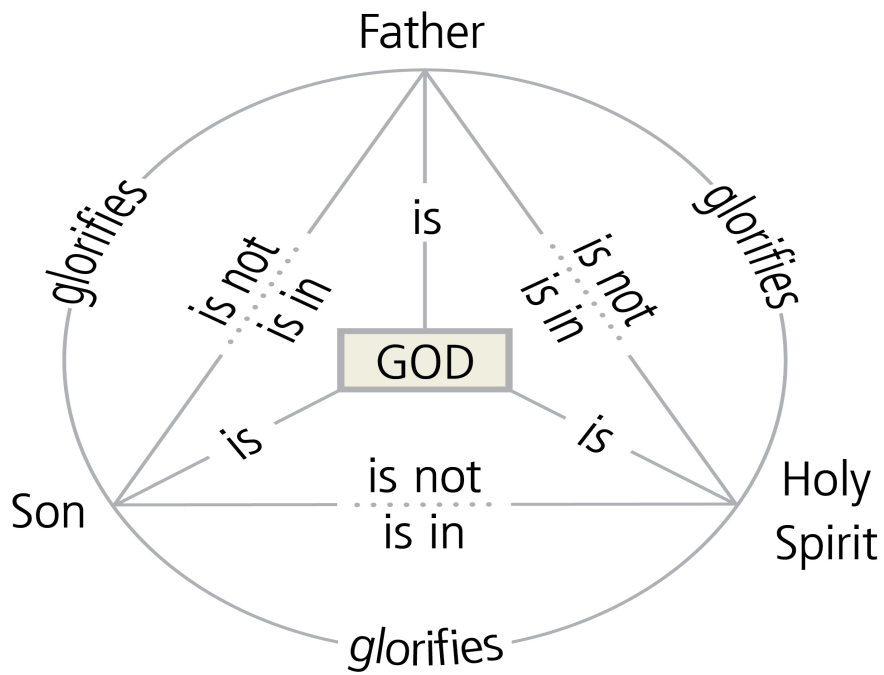
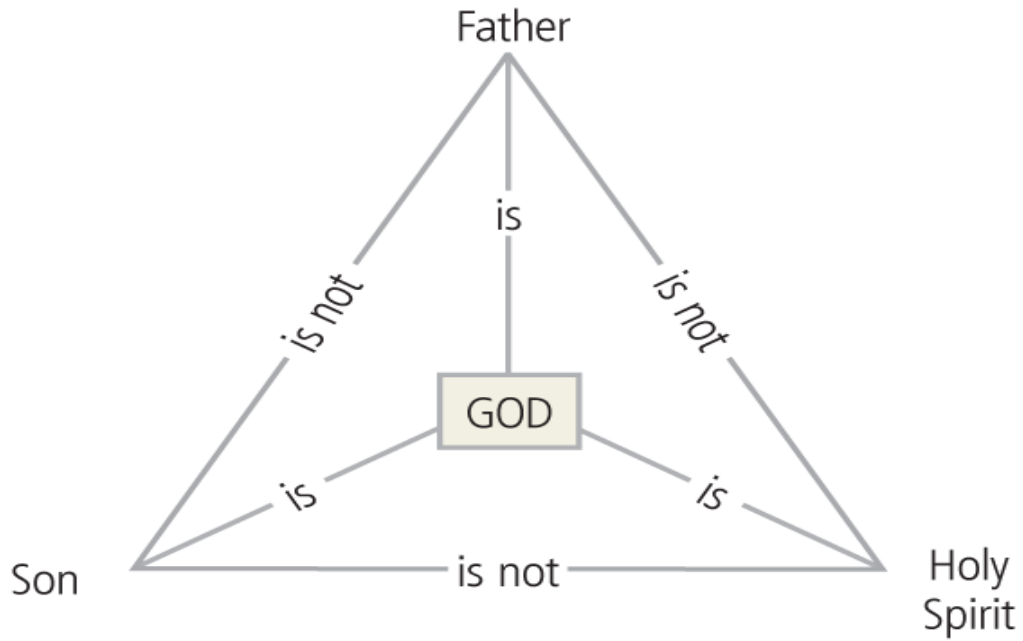


FIXING our EYES on JESUS: REVIEW



Comments on Biblical Authority, the TRINITY and the SON

The earliest historical doctrines that were attacked were Christology (3rd, 4th C) and Soteriology (5th C; 16th C etc.) followed during the Enlightenment (the long 18th C) by Epistemology. This recent attack reduced the Bible to myths, fables and upheld the Scientific method and reason as the modus operandi for understanding truth and living. True believers hold to 4 'I's of the sufficient, authoritative Scripture.

TRINITARIANISM:

Scripture reveals God as Himself in the OT and NT **as the TRINITY** describes the DOCTRINE that acknowledges there is only one God (repeated throughout Scripture: Exo. 20:3; 34:14; 2 Kings 9:15; Ps. 83:18; 2 Sam. 22:32; Is. 44:6; 45:22; 1 Tim. 2:5,6; Titus 2:13) Who exists in the unity of three eternal and coequal Persons with the same attributes (essence – Is. 48:16; Mt. 28:18-20) equally worthy of adoration, worship and faith and Who carries out works consistent with His Person. ***The Biblical doctrine of the unity of the Godhead contradicts and exposes the following heresies:***

- 1. Arianism:** The heresy that denies the divinity/deity of Christ (250 – 336 B.C.) that maintains the Son was created by the Father.
- 2. Monotheism:** The belief that there is 'only one God' and expressed as a belief in one God as distinguished from 'polytheism' – the belief in the existence of many gods.
- 3. Tritheism:** The belief that the three persons of Trinity are three separate or distinct gods (like three separate humans, Peter, James, John).
- 4. Modalism:** The belief that the persons of the Trinity represent only three modes or aspects of the divine revelation, that they are not distinct and co-existing persons in the divine nature. (Sabellianism/Patristianism)
- 5. Atheism:** The unbelief/disbelief in the existence of GOD or any gods.

CHRISTOLOGY

The doctrine of the deity/humanity of Christ is clearly taught in Scripture on this basis:

1. The Bible directly states Jesus is God – John 1:1, 13:3, 17:5, 20:28; Romans 9:5; Phil. 2:6; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 1:3, 8; 1 John 5:20; 1 Tim. 3:16.

2. The Bible carries equally compelling indirect statements:

a. **The names of God** are often applied to Jesus. (Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Immanuel, The LORD (Yahweh) our Righteousness, God and Son of God.

b. **The Bible ascribes** the characteristics of deity to Jesus Christ:

eternal, omnipresent, omniscient, immutable

c. **Jesus Christ is equal** with God the Father:

***He is worshiped as God (John 20:28) and His name is assigned equal standing with God the Father in the church's baptismal formula (Acts 2:38) and apostolic benediction (Matt. 28:16-20)

d. **Christ Jesus performed works** which only God can do:

***He is creator, upholder of all things, forgives sin, raises the dead (He being the first) and executes judgment.

e. Jesus Christ **Himself claimed** deity.

***He taught His disciples to pray in His name

***He claimed that He and the Father were one, that He was the Son of God (John 10:30, 36; 14:9; 17:11)

***He claimed that to know Him was to know God (the Father), to see Him was to see God, to receive Him was to receive God, to believe Him was to believe in God and to honor Him was to honor God, while to hate Him was to hate God! (John 8:18; 14:7; 12:45; 14:9; Mark 9:37; John 12:44; 14:1; John 5:23; 15:23)

Because the SON is God's FINAL WORD in the LAST DAYS...

I He is above and beyond (superlative) all previous and future **PROPHETS**

He is ROYAL **HEIR of all things** Who will someday REIGN as the LORD'S anointed: *"Ask of me and I will give you the nations as your inheritance – the very ends of the earth as Your possession: Psalm 2:6-9* (The Psalmist comments on the Coronation of the Son and His installation on Zion)

He is CREATOR Who was with God 'in the beginning' about Whom John in Jn. 1:1-3 says Jesus Christ is '**the WORD was WITH God and WAS God** Who brought all things into being...apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. (The written WORD and LIVING WORD are **inerrant, infallible, Spirit-led/filled.**

He is the BRILLIANCE of God's glory – RADIATING HIS HOLY character and Righteous person.

He is the EXACT IMAGE/REPRESENTATION of His NATURE (essence)

He UPHOLDS all things by the WORD of His POWER (CF Heb. 11:2)

He '**made purification for sins**' (He in His BODY - **ATONED for sin by the ONCE-FOR-ALL-BLOOD SACRIFICE, satisfying God's righteous demands for my debt of sin.**)

He **SAT DOWN at the RIGHT HAND of the MAJESTY on high** (given the FATHER'S place of honor to occupy) because He completed the work the Father gave Him to do (John 17) and continues to do.

CONCLUSION:

1. We must begin with what God has spoken in order to KNOW what God means and is saying TODAY about the SON, the SECOND Person of the Holy Trinity! \$\$\$

2. He is ABOVE and BEYOND all angels because of His superlative name.

The issue remains and BEGS the Question: Did any ANGELS, who mediated the Old Covenant, ever receive the title, 'Son'?

We must begin at what God said of ANGELS in order to KNOW what God means truth A few things they are:

- ✓ spirit beings created by God (Job 38:4, 7; Ps. 148:2, 5; John 1:3; Col 1:15, 16)
- ✓ on a 'higher' order than human beings
- ✓ described as 'wise to the extreme' (2 Sam. 14:20)
- ✓ without physical or material bodies (made spirits and ministers of a flame of fire – Heb. 1:7) and they are servants and in their work, appear on earth in different ways under the hand of God:
 - ✓ sometimes sitting – Judges 6 they eat, they
 - ✓ sometimes standing – Isaiah 6
 - ✓ sometimes to resemble women – Zechariah 5
 - ✓ sometimes men – Genesis 18:2
 - ✓ sometimes as 'messengers' they are made winds
 - ✓ sometimes as 'flames of fire' before the throne of God's glory
- ✓ they have personality – they 'long to look' (1 Peter 1:12)
- ✓ they are obedient servants/messengers of God, sometimes seen by few, other times very public:
 - in the OT to Abraham and other choice saints
 - announcing Christ's forerunner's birth – Luke 1:13
 - announcing Christ's birth–Luke 1:13; 1:32 and Mt. 1:20; 2:2 and to Shepherds on Judean hills – Luke 2:9-13
 - at Christ's temptation – Matt. 4:11
 - in Gethsemane – Matt. 22:43
 - at Christ's empty tomb – Matt. 28:1-7; Luke 24:4
 - at Christ's ascension – Acts 1:1-11
 - in heaven, magnifying and worshipping the Son: Rev. 1:1; 22:16
 - accompanying Christ at the Air Rapture – 1 Th. 4:16
 - accompanying Christ at the 2nd Arrival, Mt. of Olives – Mt. 25:31 and called upon to worship the Lord Jesus
- ✓ they are innumerable:
 - 1 Kings 22:19 - 'the host of heaven'
 - Ps. 68:17 – 'thousands upon thousands'
 - Daniel 7:10 – 'myriads upon myriads'
 - Luke 2:13, Heb. 12:22, Rev. 5:11 affirm their numbers
- ✓ they 'long to look' (1 Peter 1:12)

A few things they are not:

omni-anything! – they are servants of the LIVING GOD!; They are not OT 'angel of the LORD' who knows what God knows; God never called them 'my beloved SON'; some fell.

The SUPERLATIVE SON's Ancestors

Why Matthew and Luke recorded Mary and Joseph's Genealogies

In Hebrews, questions are answered by **OT SOURCE REFERENCES:**

The Abrahamic Covenant – covered in these verses:

Gen. 12:1-3; 12:7; 13:14-17; 15:1-21; 17:1-21; 22:17-18

- ✓ a great **NATION** (Israel) would come out of Abram – **SEED**
- ✓ a **LAND** (Canaan) was promised to Abram's seed
- ✓ **a blessing was promised to Abram personally** – **BLESSING**
- ✓ Abram's **NAME** would become great (Matthew's genealogy)
- ✓ Abram would be a **BLESSING** to others
- ✓ Those who blessed Abram would be blessed
- ✓ Those who cursed Abram would be cursed
- ✓ IN Abram **ALL the nations** would ultimately be blessed (12, 22)
- ✓ Sarai would bear a **SON** to Abram (15, 17)
- ✓ Their descendants would become slaves in Egypt (15)
- ✓ Other nations would also come from Abram (17)
- ✓ His name would be changed from Abram to Abraham (17)
- ✓ Sarai's name would be changed to Sarah (17)
- ✓ **Circumcision would be the VISIBLE TOKEN/SIGN** of the AC (17)

The Davidic Covenant – David from JUDAH'S SEED

2 Samuel 7:8-17 and 1 Chron. 17:7-15 – God's PROMISES to David

- ✓ no request to build a house for me! I called you to shepherd
- ✓ I will make a great **NAME** for you like the greatest in the earth
- ✓ I will designate a **PLACE** (Jerusalem) for my people and **PLANT** them so they will never be disturbed again
- ✓ I will make your **HOUSE** (dynasty) with a **SON** from your body
- ✓ I will establish his **THRONE** (dynasty) and build a **HOUSE** for my Name
- ✓ I will establish the **THRONE** of his kingdom forever
- ✓ I will be his Father; he will be my son
- ✓ I will never take/not remove my faithful love from him
- ✓ Your kingdom will endure before and your throne forever

The One called 'SON' must be of Jewish seed, able to bless Israel and deliver His nation from the bondage.

FIXING Your EYES upon JESUS
The Better NAME: Hebrews 2:5-9

Class FIVE

I Preparation

1. Typical human characteristics.

Everyone of us who knows our family of birth, may have been told we resemble another family member – those characteristics handed down (like the curve in my thumbs just like my dad's). Other things may be less obvious. For a moment, think of some distinctive (physical, emotional, personality etc.) you have inherited from your family of origin. Some of you may have known the grace of adoption; what do you see in your children reminiscent of yourself or your husband?

2. Atypical humility.

The most amazing – and humbling – fact about God's Son is the incredible st_____ he made when He came to earth. It is startling to think that the God of the Universe, sent His Son to earth: the One who created and sustains all things, is born in the im_____ of man.

II Particulars:

While those hearing this book read would be familiar with the importance of angels to their national 'constitution' (the Old Covenant), they had no completed Word. On the other hand, we the people of the last days, hold in our hands the full, fin_____ and fi_____ Word of God in our own language. The fifth verse closes the topic of angels and now p_____s us to a discussion related to the 'lik_____' of the Son to man.

1. From the closing verse on the angels, what disqualifies them from being better than the Son? (5:9) What
2. What and whom do you suppose the author is describing when he refers to the one the Father has chosen to rule 'the world to come'? When will this One rule the whole world while all things will be in subjection under His feet? (Could Acts 1:7 be a clue?)
3. You have already looked at Psalm 8 in your Work Sheet. What contrast does David depict for us between man and God in this entire Psalm?
4. What point is the Psalmist trying to with his query 'What is man, that you remember him?'
5. From verses 6 to 9, what is significant about the things the author's quotes from Psalm 8 concerning the nature of man? Concerning the person of God's Son, Jesus Christ relationship with mankind?
6. What victory does David unfold in verses 8 as 'already' but 'not yet'?

III LIFE IMPACT

The Jewish nation was expecting the Messiah. From Genesis 12 to the end of M_____, four leadership groups of Israel - prophets, priests and judges and kings - knew the promised R_____ would someday come. Moses's wr_____ of Him, Aaron s_____ on the people's behalf would point to Him and Joshua trusted Him to take them to the l_____. Though the Israelite leaders knew of Him, they refused to listen and obey. Because the promises to A_____ and D_____ had been made, the Father sent Him because of the pro_____ He had made to A_____ and then to D_____.

But when the anointed One came, the Jewish leaders tripped over Him because they didn't expect _____.

When hard times hit those professing to believe in Jesus, Messiah, some neglected what they had heard about the Messiah and drifted away, choosing rather to regroup with the Jewish Traditions and way of living life. It felt safe for those who doubted .

1. Why is it easier for some people to deify angels than admit to the fact that God became a man?
2. What errors occur when people think more of angels, demons and the devil, than thinking worthy thoughts of God and His Son?
3. The sense of 'sight' is important in this book and verse 9 offers two views of Jesus for those first listeners as well as us with our own copy of Scripture. What are they?
4. **Why**

IV For CONSIDERATION and DISCUSSION

In the present culture, it is hard to talk about man's natural sin

The TRUE Family of God

Class SIX

The FAITHFUL One: Superlative Apostle and Priest

Class SEVEN

Second Warning: Don't Harden your Hearts!

Class EIGHT