

Is the Trinity Biblical? The Forgotten Truth - Nader Mansour

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The forgotten truth actually comes from a text in the Old Testament in Deuteronomy, where God warned His people in chapter 8 and verse 14, **“And it shall be, if thou do at all forget thy LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely *perish*.”**

Now this is the keynote that Moses spoke about in Deuteronomy where God was always saying remember and forget not. The one thing He warned His people about forgetting, is that they would forget who He was. If that were to happen, they would walk after them and serve them, and also worship them. In this study we will be talking about a special truth that touches on that very point.

We want to see what the Bible reveals about God, have we forgotten God, and have we fallen into the trap of walking after other gods, and are we serving them, and are we worshipping them? At the end of that verse, God testifies that if that were to happen, His people shall surely perish.

Now, God has given us a gift in Jesus and the Word says, **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not *perish*, but have everlasting life.”** John 3:16 We see the word perish in this verse. If we were to ask the question, “What is eternal life? Or what is the everlasting life He promises to give us? He came all the way from heaven to give us this gift. Eternal life is more than just living forever. The Bible answers the question for us in John 17. It gives us a very important answer. John 17:3 Jesus said, **“And this is life eternal, that they might know *thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent*.”** We only live forever as a by product of our relationship to God.

Jesus came to us to reveal who God is, the ONLY true God and Jesus, whom God sent. A relationship with those two Persons, is what eternal life is all about. So, in this study, we are going to see what the Bible reveals about the only true God, and Jesus Christ; because our eternal life depends on our having a correct understanding of those two Persons, and our having a relationship with them.

In order to do this, we must consult the highest authority on the subject. We don't want a second-hand report, based on what someone says, someone said or heard. The highest authority would be the only one Being who came all the way from heaven, for the very purpose to reveal God. John 1:18, **“No man hath seen God at any time; *the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared [him]*.”** Jesus came all the way from heaven to earth, to declare who His Father is.

In John 3:11, when Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus, He told him the same thing, **“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.”** So, in looking at this topic we are consulting the highest authority, Jesus, and what He said about God, and what He said about Himself, because our eternal life is hinged on that.

So, according to Jesus, which is the first commandment of all? When we ask this question, the common answer is, to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbor as our self.

One day Jesus was asked this question that is found in Mark 12:28-32, **“And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?”** Now this scribe has the job of copying down the Scriptures, and that is what a scribe’s job is. After copying down the Scriptures, time after time, this scribe came to understand what the true first commandment is, and what the whole gospel is based on. So, he decided to come to Jesus and test Him with that question, to see if He would give the right answer. The scribe already had the answer in his mind, and he was asking Jesus to test him. This is how Jesus answers, (29) **“And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments [is], Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:”** So, out of all the Old Testament Scriptures, Jesus identified the fact that the Lord our God is ONE Lord, as a basic foundational truth. Now based on this knowledge that the Lord our God is one, we are also to do something as He continues, (30) **“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment. (31) And the second [is] like, [namely] this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.”** Now, it’s interesting that Christ here tells us that the foundation for loving God is based on the knowledge, that He is only One. And this is what it means to love God with all the mind. In order to love God with all the mind, you must have some understanding of who He is. You cannot love someone you do not know. And so, before God requests that we love Him, we must first identify who He is. He says the Lord our God is one Lord. God used the same principle when He gave the Ten Commandments. Before He gave any command, He actually identified Himself. He said, **“I [am] the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.”** And based on that, He then gave them His commandments. It’s the same principle we see here. Now the scribe appeared to be happy with Christ’s answer, as he said in verse (32) **“And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:”**

So, the scribe understood the truth that Jesus had declared to him. They were both in agreement and Christ commends him in a subsequent verse and tells him that he is not far from the kingdom of heaven. Now when the scribe says there is one Lord and there is none other but He, and when Jesus says there is One Lord; who are they speaking about? Who is the One God they are talking about? Without speculating, we can have the answer in the Bible. Jesus tells who the God the scribe was referring to and who the God of the Jews is, in John 8:54, **“Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:”**

So, here we are finding the answer from Scripture. When the scribe said there is none other than He; Jesus identifies that the one he is talking about is none other than the Father. And the Father is the God of the Hebrews, and the Father is the one Being referred to when it says, the Lord our God is one Lord. Now we are going to see confirmation for that as we go along.

According to Jesus, who is the Lord of heaven and earth? He came to reveal these truths to us, and He told us plainly in Matthew 11:25, **“At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.”** According to Christ, His Father is Lord of heaven and earth. His Father is the only true God.

What about worship? According to Jesus, who should the true worshippers worship? That’s a very important question to answer, because we know the issue in the last days, will be over worship. The devil is out on a mission to get people to worship him. In contrast to this, Jesus reveals who the

true worshippers, worship. In John 4:23 in addressing the woman at the well, Jesus said, **“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the *Father* in spirit and in truth: for the *Father* seeketh such to worship him.”** At one time the disciples wanted Jesus to teach them how to pray. He taught them to begin their prayer, how? Our Father, which art in heaven. This is an act of worship. Christ directed the disciples and everyone to follow, to worship the Father, because He happens to be the only true God. According to the scribe, there is no other God but He. When Jesus heard the scribe say that, He affirmed his answer.

What about the apostles? Did the apostles and New Testament writers, agree with this truth? We considered the highest authority on this topic, Jesus, and what He revealed is very plain. We do not expect to see the apostles disagree and they don't. James 2:19 **“Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.”** So, according to James, we should only worship one God. Who would He be speaking about? None other but the Father, as James would never contradict what Christ taught.

We will confirm that in the writings of Paul when he was writing to young Timothy in 1 Timothy 2:5, where Paul tells Timothy, **“For [there is] one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;”** Paul makes it plain that there is one God, and one mediator between the one God and man, that being Jesus. And the one God, Paul is referring to, is the Father, as he spells it out for us in 1 Corinthians 8:6, **“But to us [there is but] one God, the *Father*, of whom [are] all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom [are] all things, and we by him.”** When Paul said to us, he was including himself with the believers. So, he's saying to us who believe on Jesus, there is only one God for us, then he identifies who this one God is, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.”

Remember what we read in John 17:3, where Jesus said, **“And this is *life eternal*, that they might know thee the *only true God*, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”** Here we have just seen how the apostle Paul, brought out the same principle as Jesus, about the only one true God the Father, and Jesus says eternal life is hinged on knowing that.

Who is the head of all things? Paul gives us the answer and it should be in harmony with what we learned so far, and it certainly is. 1 Corinthians 11:3, **“But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman [is] the man; and the head of Christ [is] God.”** And this is of course, speaking of God the Father. So, we have ample evidence, beginning with the highest authority, Jesus, that there is but one God, and that is the Father. One individual Being, and true worshippers will worship Him.

But someone may raise a common objection. They will say that in Hebrew, we have a word that talks about God, and that Hebrew word is **Elohim**. And that Hebrew word happens to be plural. Therefore, God is more than one. Well, we need to see what the Bible says about that, because so far what we have found is very plain. The Bible said that God is only one; it is the Father. What does this mean? It is true that the word Elohim is the plural form of the word El. In Hebrew, we find something that is called the plural of majesty. What that means is, that a plural word is used to identify a single object, and it does not mean plurality, rather, it means greatness; that is the plural of majesty. Here is an example of that in Exodus 7:1, **“And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god (Elohim) to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.”** If you look it up in a concordance, the word god is Elohim, a plural Hebrew word. That does not mean God split up Moses into more than one person. Obviously not. Then what does it mean? It is a plural word that refers to a single individual,

Moses. So, if we keep in mind the 'plural of majesty,' then we understand that it denotes greatness. We see that again in the same book, Exodus 11:3, where it has been defined. "... **Moreover the man Moses [was] very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.**" So, Elohim can be used, not to denote plurality, but to denote greatness. That is how the word Elohim is used to denote the only one true God. It is not teaching us that God is more than one, but that God is very great.

The head of all things, we saw, is the Father, and Paul says it again in Ephesians 4:6 where he wrote, "**One God and Father of all, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all.**" This is the plain Bible teaching when it comes to the Father, the only true God. Now it's very important for us to have this understanding, in order to have a relationship with God, because our eternal life is based on knowing the only true God. We've identified who that is now, according to Jesus. But our eternal life does not stop there. It's also about knowing someone else. It's to know Jesus Christ, who He has sent.

So, the question is: Who is Christ? We found out from the scribe that God is the only God and there is none else. So, the natural question to come into our mind is: If that is true, who is Jesus Christ? How does He fit into the picture? We will find out the answer from the Bible. Matthew 16:13. One day Jesus asked His disciples a question. Matthew wrote, "**When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?**" Jesus was taking a poll of the disciples, to find out what the public was thinking about who He was. When the disciples would mingle with the people, they would voice their opinions about who they thought Jesus was, and Jesus wanted to know. Well the disciples told Him that some thought He was Elijah and some thought John the Baptist. Some even thought He was Jeremiah, Moses or one of the prophets. Some even dared to believe that He might even be the Messiah. These were all the different answers. Now today, we have the same question about Jesus, that we need to answer, because people today believe all kinds of things about Jesus.

If you ask some people, they will say He was a good man, and some may say He was a good prophet. Some say they are not sure about Him. Some say He is the messiah, and some say He is the Son of God. The point is, that there is so much confusion about the identity of Christ, that we need to find the answer from the Bible only. We will see from the Scriptures who Jesus said He is. In John 10:36 we are told, "**Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?**" Very plain, Jesus claimed to be the Son of God. If you ask most Christians, that would be the most common answer you will get. If you ask who is Jesus? They will say Jesus is the Son of God.

In this study we want to go a little deeper and see exactly what the Scripture means when it says Jesus is the Son of God. This point was so important that the Father from heaven identified this fact, with an audible voice. At His baptism, Matthew 3:17, "**And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**" We know that it was the Father that was speaking there. Now it's interesting that of all the things the Father could have said at the baptism of Christ, he chose to reveal this fact. That tells us that the Father regards this as something very important. It's not very often, that the Father speaks with an audible voice from heaven. How many times in the Scriptures is the Father identified as speaking from heaven with an audible voice? If you search the New Testament carefully, you will find only three specific occasions. For one, at His baptism as we have just seen. There is one other one that will happen in the future, that is found in Revelation.

The point is this, when you really think about it, for the Father to only speak from heaven three times, with an audible voice, then surely what He has to say must be very important. He doesn't entrust it to an angel or a prophet. He could have sent Gabriel to tell everyone that this is God's Son. He could even have sent a prophet, but He did not do that. It must have been so important for God to decide, "I will say it Myself." In Matthew 17:5 at the mount of transfiguration, Scripture says, **"While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."**

The third time is in John chapter 12:28 when the Greeks came to visit Jesus. The 28th verse says, **"Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, [saying], I have both glorified [it], and will glorify [it] again."** That is all the record that we have of the Father speaking audibly from heaven, in the New Testament. Two of these times, the Father said exactly the same thing. It tells us that it is very important information, because He said it and repeated it. It is vital because our eternal life is based on knowing exactly who Jesus Christ is. The confusion today about who Christ is, is evidence that Satan is trying to obscure this fact.

What about the disciples; what did they say about Christ? They certainly wouldn't contradict what they heard from heaven and what Jesus told them Himself. Peter in answer to Christ's question as to who the disciples say He is, in Matthew 16:16, **"And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."** And when Peter said this, Jesus said something very important to Peter. In verse 17 he said, **"... flesh and blood hath not revealed [it] unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven."** Then Jesus, speaking of Himself, said to Peter in verse 18, **"... upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."**

The foundation of the Christian church is based on this fact. The fact that the Father twice revealed in an audible voice from heaven, and by the apostle here as well. So, this is a very important aspect and we now want to look a little closer at the details of it.

Another apostle, who was not initially a disciple, is the apostle Paul. What did he say about Christ? In Acts 9:20 it tells us, **"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God."** This is very interesting because here we have a record of Paul's very first sermon that he ever preached; and that was, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Paul just had that experience on the way to Damascus, when Christ appeared to him and he was converted. The very first thing that was impressed upon his mind, now that he was converted and believed in Christ, was to preach and declare the foundation of the Christian church. His very first sermon was on the Rock on which the church is built. He said that Jesus is the Son of God.

Now that is very interesting because today the same truth still stands. And that Rock, unless it is the foundation of the church today, that church cannot stand against the gates of hell. We are thankful to Paul, as most of the New Testament came to us through Paul.

It seems to be an important fact, it's important for heaven, it's important for Christ, and it's important for the apostles. But what about the Jews? Why did they want to kill Christ? Well, amazingly enough, it revolves around the same issue. John 5:18 says, **"Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God."** A very important verse. The Jews wanted to stone Jesus, not only because they believed He broke the Sabbath, He did something worse, in their eyes. He claims that God is His Father. They said this is blasphemy.

Now when Jesus made the claim that God was His Father, the rest of the verse tells us that they understood that, and the rest of the verse says it made Him equal with God. So, when Jesus claimed God was His Father, it made Him equal with God. They said this is blasphemy, because Jesus is a man and therefore cannot be God. They refused to accept Christ for who He really was.

The very important principle we see here is, the equality of Christ with God, is based on something. It's based on the fact that God is His Father. The fact that God is His Father and that Christ is the Son of God, is the foundation of the equality of Christ with God.

So, if the devil wants to attack the Divinity of Christ; what then would he attack? He would attack the foundation of that equality; that is the Sonship of Christ. It's not very strange that Satan challenged Christ in the wilderness, and he asked Him a question. Luke 4:3, **“And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.”** What was Satan attacking here? It was the identity of who He was. In doing that he wanted to attack the equality and the Divinity of Christ. He was really saying, ‘I don't believe you are the Son of God, prove it to me.’ It was only 40 days earlier that the Father said, “This is My Son.” He actually said it twice. How many times did Satan ask his question, ‘If you are the Son of God?’ He asked Him twice. Twice God said this is My Son, and twice Satan contradicted the Father. By his questioning he was trying to cause doubt in the mind of Christ.

Now we have established very plainly that Jesus is the Son of God. So, to make sure we have the right understanding, the next question is; if Jesus is the Son of God, how is He a Son? Does the Bible reveal to us how Jesus is the Son of God? There are many sons of God. For example, the angels are called the sons of God in the book of Job. We are also called the sons of God in 1 John 3:1, **“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.”** According to Scripture, by what process are we the sons of God? Romans 8:15, **“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.”** The inspired prophet Paul said we are sons of God by adoption. Adam was a son of God, as he was created. Since the fall however, when we accept Christ as Savior, we become sons by adoption.

But what about Christ, what category does He fall in? The most famous Bible verse reveals to us a most important Bible fact, John 3:16, **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”** The Bible tells us very clearly, that He is the only begotten Son. He is in a class all by Himself. He is not like the angels; created. He is not like man; adopted. He is the only begotten Son. And the Bible tells us by whom, He was begotten. John 1:14 says, **“And the Word was made 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.”** So, we learn Jesus is the Son of God, and that He was the only begotten of the Father.

The next question that should come into our mind is; When was He begotten of His Father? The Bible has answered our questions so far, does it give us the answer to this question as to when Christ was begotten? If we look in Micah 5:2, we find some help in answering this question. Micah is prophesying of the Messiah and where He would be born. **“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, [though] thou be little among the thousands of Judah, [yet] out of thee shall he come forth unto me [that is] to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth [have been] from of old, from everlasting.”** It was this verse that the elders quoted to King Herod when he asked them where the Messiah would be born.

And when they tell him that the Messiah will be born in Bethlehem, that according to Micah is not the beginning of His existence. Actually, it says His goings forth are from old, the days of everlasting. If you look up those words 'goings forth,' they actually mean origin or family descent. It is telling us His origin is from back in eternity, a point much further back than Bethlehem. Bethlehem is not when Jesus was begotten of the Father. His family descent is from the days of eternity.

Now we need to see what else the Bible reveals about this. God selected the wisest man that ever lived, outside of Christ, to record for us this vital information. King Solomon tells us in Proverbs chapter 8:22-30. He wrote, **"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. (23) I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. (24) When [there were] no depths, I was brought forth; when [there were] no fountains abounding with water. (25) Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: (26) While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. (27) When he prepared the heavens, I [was] there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: (28) When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: (29) When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: (30) Then I was by him, [as] one brought up [with him]: and I was daily [his] delight, rejoicing always before him;"**

Someone here is speaking through the wise man Solomon. He is speaking of an event before creation. Twice we are told that before anything was created, "I was brought forth." Who is speaking in this verse? If you look at the context of this chapter, you will see it is talking about wisdom. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 1:24, 30 who wisdom is, (24) **"But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."** (30) **"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:"**

So, Christ is speaking through the wisest man, Solomon, of an event that occurred before the earth was created. And these scriptures tell us twice of this event. **I was brought forth. I was brought forth.** Who is speaking in these verses? Well the context of the 8th chapter of Proverbs, is about wisdom, and Paul tells us who wisdom is. It is Christ, the power of God and the wisdom of God. So, Christ under the title of Wisdom is speaking through Solomon. Twice He said, I was brought forth. Brought forth simply means born or begotten. Twice the Father said in an audible voice from heaven, this is my beloved Son. Twice we read He was brought forth. Now Jesus said this happened in the everlasting of the past. In the beginning, before the earth ever was created, He was begotten of the Father.

By the time of creation, we learned from these scriptures that Christ was there assisting the Master Creator. So, when creation took place, there already was a Father and there was a Son; and we will see a little later what that means. What does it really mean that Christ is the Son of God? What significance does that hold for us, for the person of Christ? Does it help us understand who He is and the attributes He holds?

How did the Father create everything? This question is asked because in the passages written in the chapter on wisdom by Solomon, we were able to see when God was creating the earth, "I was by Him." The Father is recognized as the creator of all things, but scripture says all things were created by who? The answer is in Ephesians 3:9, **"And to make all [men] see what [is] the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by**

Jesus Christ:” All things were created by Christ. This is confirmed in Colossians 1:16, 17, **“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: (17) And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”** The context preceding these two verses shows they are speaking of Christ. They are very important verses, because they tell us that everything in the universe was created by Christ. But, He was before all things were created. Two things we learn from this, 1. That He was not created, because He created everything, and 2. Christ existed before everything was created.

We also learned that Christ was born, begotten, came forth from the Father, and that it was through Christ, that the Father created all things. He pre-exists time and matter. He pre-exists everything, and it's very important, all things were created by Him and for Him, Everything, was created for Christ. You see the Father loved His Son so much, He made a whole universe for Him. But the time would come when some of those creatures in that universe would fall. And because everything in the universe was created for Christ, He said I will go and save them. And that's when we read John 3:16, that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.

So, in looking at these truths that we have studied, we must put them in context, as to what they mean for us living in this period of earth's history today, and how these truths are practically related to us. God is inviting us to have eternal life. He wants us to have a relationship with Him, the only true God and His Son, the creator of all things, our Savior.

When did Christ become the Son of man? We have found that Christ became the Son of God, so far back in eternity, before all things were created. But when did He become the Son of man? When did that happen? The apostle Paul tells us in Galatians 4:4, **“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,”** The words “made of a woman” mean born of a woman. Jesus became the Son of man by birth, 2,000 years ago. Jesus was already the Son of God, by birth, from the eternity past. He is the only Being that is in the fullest sense, both the Son of God and the Son of man.

When Jesus was to come to earth; did He just inhabit a body and come? What is the only way that someone can become a human being? They must be born. Jesus did not break that rule. In order to be a human being, He had to be born like us. That is what assures us that He is really one of us. The only way He can be the Son of God, is because He was born of God. He is literally the Son of God, just as He is literally the Son of man.

What about the Old Testament people; did they recognize that God had a Son? Isaiah 9:6, **“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”** Isaiah knew that to us a Son is given. There was only one Son in existence then that could have been given that could save us. That was the Son of God.

Isaiah's not the only one, for one day a heathen king recognized that fact. It is so sad that there are people today with their Bibles in their hands, who fail to acknowledge that fact. Here we have an example of a heathen king, Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, recognizing something very important. We read in Daniel 3:25, **“He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”** It is very interesting that this heathen king knew that the God of the Hebrews, had a Son. How in the

world did this heathen king know, that God had a Son? The answer is simple. The three missionaries in the fire were doing their job being missionaries. They had told the king about the redeemer to come; the Savior of the world. That our God will send His Son to redeem mankind. When the king had the three young men thrown in to the fire; then seeing a fourth, he reasoned that this must be the Son of God, and He certainly was the Son of God.

Proverb 30:4 **“Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what [is] his name, and what [is] his son's name, if thou canst tell?”** Here we see all these acts of creation; gathering the wind in his fists; binding up the waters, etc. The wisest man Solomon, is giving credit to two Beings, and he asks this rhetorical question that really is common knowledge, and who does not know it? He asks what is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you can tell? A very important point, He doesn't identify these Beings here by name, but he identifies them by relationship, showing us that the relationship is real. If there is a Son, He must also have a Father. Solomon is telling us that there is both a Father and a Son, involved in the work of creation. It confirms what we studied before; that Christ was begotten, He was brought forth and it was through Him, that God created all things.

So, we see that in the Old Testament, that there is evidence that God had a Son. Another one in Psalm 2:12, **“Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish [from] the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed [are] all they that put their trust in him.”** Kiss the Son. Who's Son? It's the Son of God. Kiss the Son in Hebrew means to reverence, to honor the Son. He is the one who will give life to all that trust Him. Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him. That is speaking of Jesus Christ, the Son of God who came to earth.

What about in the days of Christ? Why did the Jews finally kill Jesus? What was it that pushed them over the line where they said that's it, it's for this reason we will kill him? Well, it could be for no other reason than the most important thing. Matthew 26 63-65, **“But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God. (64) Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. (65) Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.”**

It was on this charge that the Jews took Jesus to Pilate. Jesus could not deny who He was. The High priest asked, are you the Son of God? When Jesus said, Thou hast said; Jesus was admitting that He was the Son of God. So, Jesus died, rather than denying He was the Son of God. The question for all of us is, 'Are you willing to do the same?' The day is soon coming when people believe that Jesus is the Son of God, they will be placed in a similar position. Anyone who believes this truth will be a target of Satan.

How did the people mock Jesus on the cross? The same way the devil tried to do it in the wilderness, Matthew 27:39-43, **“And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, (40) And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest [it] in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. (41) Likewise also the chief priests mocking [him], with the scribes and elders, said, (42) He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. (43) He**

trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.” If thou be the Son of God. Who inspired the crowd to say these words? None other than Satan when Jesus was coming out of the wilderness, hungry and thirsty. Satan said, “If thou be the Son of God.” That was to mock the fact that Christ is the Son of God.

So far, we are finding that it is very important that Jesus is the Son of God. The Father spoke it from heaven twice. The devil fought it all through the life of Christ and finally, on this point, brought the charge of blasphemy against Christ, which of course was a false charge.

What about when Jesus was on earth, did He teach this same fact? Did He actually teach that He came forth from the Father; that He was begotten? We already saw that He said it to Nicodemus, but that was not the only place He said it. In John 8:42, **“Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.”** It’s interesting because some people misunderstand this verse. The Jews were trying to ridicule Christ by casting doubt on the occurrences of His birth, by saying we are not of fornication. We have one father, even God, not like someone. They were trying to create an illusion that Christ was born in an illegitimate way. Christ would answer their charges and tell them whose Son He is, because they were questioning that. He told them if you really love your father, then you would love me because I actually proceeded forth and came from God. I was born of my Father. If you look up the Greek meaning of “proceeded forth,” it actually means “came out of.” In other words, it means to be born.

So, it is very interesting that Jesus answered the charge of the Jews on their own grounds; He was answering whose Son He was. Our next point is very, very important. If Jesus did indeed come from the Father; what did He inherit by right of that birth? This gives us the point as to why Jesus is so precious to us. Hebrews 1:3, 4 **“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 on the right hand of the Majesty on high; (4) Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”** What did He inherit? A more excellent name. Now if you study the Bible carefully, you will find that name means much more than just what your name is. The name in the Bible signifies authority, and it also signifies nature, and it also signifies character.

Here are a few examples: When Moses was on the mountain with God, he said, “show me thy glory.” God said to Moses, I am going to hide you in a rock, and I am going to declare my name before you. Here is that accounting in Exodus 33:18 & 19, **“And he said, I beseech thee, show me thy glory. (19) And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; ...”** And when God showed Moses His name, He passed by and proclaimed, as recorded in Exodus 34:5 & 6: **“And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. (6) And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, ...”** When God declared His name, He gave characteristics; He gave character traits. Name means character which is God’s glory. It also means authority, Jesus in John 5:43 said, **“I am come in my Father’s name, ...”**

When Jesus was going into the city of Jerusalem and people were picking up palm branches and singing, it says in Mark 11:9, **“And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord:”** Jesus came in the name of His Father and the authority behind what He did, was His Father. When the Pharisees asked Him, “Who

gave you this authority to do what you are doing? He referred them to His Father, because He came in the name of His Father. So, name also means authority. Name also means nature. Name gives us an identity as to who a person is. Adam was given a name and the name Adam means human, or man, or human being.

So, we see here in the Bible that Christ has a name by inheritance. He inherited that name from His Father. Now what name would that be? It would be the same name as His Father, just as any child we have, inherits the same name as the parent. The name there signifies the nature that the Father has. The Son has that same name as the Father by inheritance, He is the brightness of His Father's glory, and the express image of His person.

What else? John 5:26, "**For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;**" So, Christ inherited not only the name of His Father, not only the nature of His Father, but He also inherited the life of His Father. The very same life the Father has in Himself, Christ also has that same life in Himself. He has that by inheritance, because He is the only begotten Son of God. You see, Christ inherited the very nature and attributes of His Father. To illustrate this, we need to look at the example God gave to us as human beings. When we have children, they inherit the name of the parent and they inherit the nature of that parent. What nature is that? The human nature. We expect every time, consistently, when a baby is born to a human parent, he or she will be a human being. God has given us this principle to outline something very important. He is showing that the child inherits the human nature from the parent. Christ inherited His nature from His Father and that happens to be the Divine nature. That is why Christ has a more excellent name than the angels.

The Bible makes this fact very clear in Colossians 2:9 and chapter 1:19. (9) "**For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.**" (19) "**For it pleased [the Father] that in him should all fulness dwell;**" Christ is who He is because in Him dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and it pleased the Father. And Jesus told us when He pleased the Father in Proverbs 8:30 we read, "**I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before him;**" Christ has these Divine attributes because He is the only begotten Son of God. We saw earlier, the Bible told us, the very basis of the equality of Christ with God was the fact that God was His Father.

What else did the Father and the Son share together? If the Father gave all things to His Son, and the Son inherited all things from the Father; there's another thing the Bible reveals in Romans 8:9 & 10, "**But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.** (10) **And if Christ [be] in you, the body [is] dead because of sin; but the Spirit [is] life because of righteousness.**" The apostle Paul, by inspiration, uses two terms interchangeably; the Spirit of God, and also the Spirit of Christ. From this we learn that God and Christ both have the same Spirit. They both share the same Spirit, or the same life. Christ inherited that from His Father. Paul tells us that when we have the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ, it is really Christ that is in us. We will look at that a little further.

Now we need to look at something very important, because when we share this Bible truth with others, many people get alarmed and start thinking, this is perhaps diminishing a little, the true position of Christ. But what we have done is actually exalted Christ to His true position. We cannot exalt Christ anymore than what He is, the Son of God. In order to do that, as fallible human beings, we would dishonor and discredit Christ. If we were to ascribe to Him any other position than what He really is.

Now some people sadly misunderstand the fact, when we say Christ was born or begotten of God, that somehow that makes Christ a little less. It's very strange, this line of reasoning, and we need to see why and where this line of reasoning comes from, because it is really the devil that does not want us to acknowledge that Christ is the Son of God.

What was Christ's position in heaven before He came to earth? We found very clearly that He was the Son of God. What does it mean when it comes to equality with God? Philippians 2:6 tells us very plainly speaking of Christ, "**Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:**" Christ in heaven, before He came to earth, was equal with God. Now this equality is based on what fact? We found earlier that this equality with God, is based on the fact, that He is the Son of God. He has the same God nature which He obtained by inheritance. So, when you question the inheritance of Christ, when you question His being begotten of the Father, you are really questioning His equality with God.

Do we honor Christ a little less than the Father, because He is the Son of God? Not at all, because the Bible told us He is equal, In John 5:23 "**That all [men] should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.**" So, we do not honor him less, in fact we honor Him in the same way that we honor the Father, because He is the begotten Son of God.

Very important. We dishonor Christ when we do not honor Him as the begotten Son of God. When we choose to deny the fact that Jesus is the LITERAL Son of God, in favor of being a separate God by Himself, we dishonor Him. But that is not what the Bible says. It says we are to honor Him in the same way as we honor the Father.

Is it important to believe that Christ is indeed the only begotten Son of God? Our eternal life is based on it and if we have not learned through this study how important this is, that God spoke it from heaven twice, the apostles declared it, Jesus died for it and Satan attacked it throughout the life of Christ. It is very important, but these are not the only Biblical evidences.

As proof there is more. 1 John 4:15, "**Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.**" In John 3:36 it tells us, "**He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**" Very important because the devil by deception is out to steal your eternal life. He does that by bringing doubt over the identity of who Christ really is.

When dealing with this topic it is imperative to deal with something that comes into people's minds whenever we talk about this, and that is the Holy Spirit. When we cover this topic some say we see clearly the Father is the only true God and Jesus is the only begotten Son, and are equal because He was born of God, but what about the Holy Spirit? How does He fit into the picture?

This study cannot be complete without looking at this, and what we have found so far, it should be easy to understand the identity of the Holy Spirit. We will see what the Bible reveals about the identity of the Holy Spirit. We will not be looking at the nature of the Holy Spirit, as that is a deep mystery that requires much study. We are looking at the Bible for the identity of the Holy Spirit, and the terms used. The question to answer is, "What is the Bible definition for 'spirit'?"

Isaiah 40:13 "**Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or [being] his counsellor hath taught him?**" Paul in quoting Isa. 40:13, this is what he says in Romans 11:34, "**For who hath known**

the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?" When the Bible in the Old Testament is speaking about the Spirit of the Lord, Paul understood that to be the mind of the Lord. That's a very plain Bible definition. So, the word spirit also means mind. If you look it up in the concordance, you will find this is one of its meanings. Now this is very interesting, because if the Spirit of the Lord is the mind of the Lord, then we need to keep that thought in mind, because the mind (spirit) of someone is not different to them.

We look at an example, to see how we can understand this better. We look at the relationship between man and his spirit. In order for us to understand about the Spirit of God, we're going to look at man; because man was made in the image of God, and then we'll see why Paul tells us to do that. But before we do that, we will look at an example. In Daniel 2:1. We see an incident in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar. **"And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him."** Saying Nebuchadnezzar's spirit was troubled is saying his mind was troubled. Something on the inside was troubling him. His spirit is his own mind, which is his very own person, not someone else.

Now Paul gives us a very important formula, that helps us understand about the Spirit of God. In 1 Corinthians 2:11, the apostle Paul draws an analogy between these two things, that we just examined. **"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."** Paul here is drawing a comparison, an analogy, between the spirit of man, and God and His Spirit. He says, even so, or in the same way, that only the spirit of man, knows what is in the man; in the same way, only the Spirit of God knows what is in God. The same relationship exists. The difference, as this verse tells us, is the spirit of man is in him; but it doesn't say that about the Spirit of God.

So, if we look at man, is the spirit a different individual to the man? The answer of course is no. The spirit of man is his own mind, it's his own character, it's his own person, and it's his own personality that is in him.

Paul tells us that, in the same way, or even so, the Spirit knoweth the things of God. The Spirit of God cannot be a different individual to God, it must be His own mind, His own character, His own personality and His own presence. David in the Psalms says, **"Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"** Psalm 139:7

Paul would not say 'even so' if it were different. We would only say, 'even so' or 'in the same way' or 'in like manner' if something is like the other. And here we see an important principle to keep in mind.

How is God described in the Bible? God is described in many ways, but one aspect that we are looking at when it comes to the Spirit, in John chapter 4:24, Jesus speaking says, **"God [is] a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth."** Now we know that God is a Spirit, but God is also a real tangible Being, who lives in a place called heaven, and the prophets saw Him many times in vision. His hair is white as snow, He wears garments of light, also described as being white. That is when we are talking about that aspect of God, but when we are talking about the Spiritual aspect, God is also described as a Spirit. Not only is God described as a Spirit, but Christ is described in very similar terms. Notice what it says in 1 Corinthians 15:45, **"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit."**

Quickening means 'life-giving'. Jesus is referred to as a life-giving Spirit, and His Father is also referred to as a Spirit. Now we saw earlier that the Father and the Son share something together.

How many Spirits are there when it comes to the Spirit of God? The Bible tells us there is only one. Ephesians 4:4, "**[There is] one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;**" There is only **one** Spirit, and God is referred to as a Spirit, and Christ is referred to as a life-giving Spirit. When we put all this information together, we will understand who the Holy Spirit is.

Paul told us already that the Father and the Son share the same Spirit in Romans 8:9 &10, "**But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (10) And if Christ [be] in you, the body [is] dead because of sin; but the Spirit [is] life because of righteousness.**" Very, very plainly, we see that the Spirit is none other than mind, character, personality and presence of the Father and the Son. They both share the same Spirit. When Paul speaks about the Spirit, he refers to it as the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ. Now notice that when it says we have the Spirit of Christ, who is dwelling in us? It is Christ, because it says, "If Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." Here we have another definition for Spirit, the word life. We will see that shortly.

When we receive the Holy Spirit, who do we receive? Do we receive somebody different to the Father and the Son? Christ gave us the answer very plainly, and this confirms what we have found. John 14:23, "**Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.**" How will the Father and the Son come to us? They will come to us by Their Spirit; the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ. That is called the Holy Spirit. So, when we have the Holy Spirit, we really have the Father and the Son. Not somebody different to the Father and the Son.

What did Christ say about His Word? In John 6:63, Jesus said something very significant about His word. He said, "**It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, [they] are spirit, and [they] are life.**" Here we have further definitions for what Spirit is. Jesus said that the words He is speaking are Spirit. What do words reveal? Words reveal what is going on in your mind. And we saw earlier that one of the definitions for Spirit is mind. So, when Jesus said, the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are also, life.. Another definition for Spirit is life. We learn from this that the Spirit is really Life. When we have the Holy Spirit, we have Spiritual life in the soul. Here Christ was not referring to His doctrine, but, was really referring to His own Person. He was referring to the Divinity of His character.

So, what did Christ promise to send us? Jesus promised to send us something or someone. In John 14:16 & 26; this is a passage that many people misunderstand when it comes to the Holy Spirit. So, we will look at it in context of what the Bible talks about what we already looked at in the main points of this study. Jesus said in 14:16, "**And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, [This is the part that many do not understand, then Jesus continues] that he may abide with you for ever;**" Then Christ says in verse 26, "**But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.**"

Jesus plainly tells us that a Comforter will come, and this Comforter is the Holy Spirit. And because of that word another, they reason the Holy Spirit must be somebody different to the Father

and the Son. What we have found so far is, that the Holy Spirit is the very life, the very presence and the very Person of both the Father and the Son. You see, when we look at this passage in the light of other passages, it helps us to understand it. This is how Jesus clarified it for us. So, who is this Spirit that will come, this Holy Spirit? How did the people listening to the words of Christ; and how did the inspired writers of the Bible understand this Spirit that would comfort us?

Galatians 4:6, Paul tells us, “**And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.**” Paul is saying this Spirit is really the Spirit of His Son. Now is the Spirit of the Son, someone different to the Son of God? Certainly not! So, are we really saying that the Lord Jesus is that Spirit that will come to us? Is the Lord that Spirit? Paul answers that question in 2 Corinthians 3:17 where He wrote, “**Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord [is], there [is] liberty.**” So, are we saying this Comforter that is promised to be sent, is none other than Jesus Himself? That He will comfort us? The answer is certainly yes. That’s what Christ told us in John 14:18 where He said, “**I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**” Very plain! It is not that hard to understand when Jesus says I will come to you. Jesus does not come to us physically of course. Paul told us that God sends the Spirit of His Son. That is where he said the Lord is that Spirit. Christ can comfort us. He is the only one that was tempted in all points like us. He did not fail. He was tempted and He did not sin.

Christ when He was leaving, He promised His disciples in Matthew 28:20, “**... and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen.**” You see Christ is with us, by His Spirit. It is very easy to understand the identity of the Spirit. It is really the Person and the presence of the Father and especially the Son, as a Comforter to us.

That is what the Bible is talking about when it says the Holy Spirit. Now it is very important to understand that, as we saw earlier, this truth, in the opening text of this study, is very, very easy to understand this, if we see what the Bible says. And, it’s very, very easy to forget this if we neglect what the Bible says.

And God said if we forget who He is, we will walk after other gods, we will serve and worship them. He said if we do that, we will perish. However, He has sent us His Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish. Jesus came to reveal these truths to us, and our eternal life depends on us knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ who He has sent. We can only have that relationship with them, through Their Spirit, the Holy Spirit.

Nader’s closing words; “I pray that this will be your experience from now onward, as you study the Bible and see these things for yourself.”