J.A. "Jack" Crabtree July, 2008

APPENDIX J: The Meaning of hupostasis in Hebrews 1:3

## **APPENDIX J**

## The Meaning of *hupostasis* in Hebrews 1:3

hupostasis =	Exegetical implications	Theological implications	Evaluation
(in Heb. 1:3)			
A "person" of	Leads to highly	•Means that Heb. 1:3	This is not likely
the triune	complex technical	would provide explicit	since it would
godhead	assertion.	evidence for	serve no purpose
		Trinitarianism.	within the
			rhetorical intent of
		>Means that Heb. 1:3	Paul in Hebrews.
		would provide explicit	
		evidence against	
		Transcendent	
		Monotheism.	
The	The Son would be an	•Not clear whether this	Possible (if
ontological	"image" of the	would provide evidence	Trinitarianism
essence of the	ontological essence of	for Trinitarianism. Is it	itself is possible),
divine being	the divine being. What	compatible with	but difficult to
	would this mean	Trinitarian theology that	even understand
	exactly: Jesus is	Jesus only "images" the	what it would be
	ontologically a God-	divine essence?	saying.
	man who "images" in		
	his being the	> Not clear whether this	
	ontological essence of	is compatible with	
	God?	Transcendent	
		Monotheism.	
The	The Son would be an	• Would be clearly	Possible. No
particular,	"image" of the	incompatible with	particular
individual	particular, individual,	Trinitarianism.	difficulties with
personal	personal identity of		this reading.
identity of	God. Jesus is	>Would be completely	
God	ontologically a human	compatible with	
	being who "images" the	Transcendent	
	particular person of the	Monotheism.	
	transcendent God.		

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hupostasis =	Exegetical implications	Theological implications	Evaluation
(in Heb. 1:3)			
The	The Son would be an	• Doubtful that this	Possible. Takes
possessions	"image" of the divine	would provide evidence	hypostasis in a
of God (his	attributes of God. What	for Trinitarianism. Is it	well-attested
divine	would this mean	compatible with	manner.
attributes)	exactly: Jesus is	Trinitarian theology that	
	ontologically a God-	Jesus only "images" the	
	man who "images"	divine attributes rather	
	God's divine attributes?	than contains them	
		within his person?	
		> Could be compatible	
		with Transcendent	
		Monotheism depending	
		upon how one	
		understands what it	
Some other	The Son would be an	means.	Entiroly neggible
	"image" of God in	Completely compatible with both Trinitarianism	Entirely possible.
vague, general	some general,	and Transcendent	
reference to	unspecified sense.	Monotheism.	
the being of	unspectfied selise.	Wionomeism.	
God			
Gou	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

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