
GOD THE SON

Scripture Reading: John 10:30

Although Jesus Christ assumed the role of true man, He was undeniably truly God. "Philip sayeth unto Him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:8, 9a). "Jesus came and spoke unto them [the eleven], saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18). It was God Himself who suffered the agony of cruel torture and death on the cross of Calvary.

"Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: *God was manifest in the flesh*, justified in the Spirit, seen of the angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory" (I Timothy 3:16). When Mary became great with child, the angel of the Lord spoke to her husband Joseph: "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, *God with us*" (Matthew 1:20b - 23).

Note the words spoken by God to the Son. "Unto the Son He saith, Thy throne, *O God*, is forever and ever... Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands" (Hebrews 1:8a, 10). Our own apostle assures us, we are "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of *The great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ*" (Titus 2:13).

REH

Notes:

THE SON OF GOD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:16, 17

"[Christ Jesus] made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:7, 8). "...John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). The Son of God became true man, that He might perform the work that He was ordained to do. He was to be the substitutionary sacrifice for mankind, that the shedding of His innocent blood might be the way of redemption for all that should believe.

As the Son of God, Jesus Christ explicitly honored the will of God the Father. His mission had been clearly prophesied: "...He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors" (Isaiah 53:12). As He agonized in prayer over the tortuous death on Calvary, He pled, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: *nevertheless not my will*, but thine be done" (Luke 22:42). Knowing the inevitability of His approaching suffering, He nevertheless declared total submission, saying, "I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished" (Luke 12:50). He referred to His baptism into death by crucifixion.

"For [God] hath made Him to be sin for us. [Him] who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (II Corinthians 5:21). "In whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:14). "...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested..." (I John 3:8).

REH

Notes:

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:2

The believer's relationship with the Holy Spirit is personal, intense, vital and essential to his fellowship with God. We are aptly admonished, "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30). Following our conviction by the Holy Spirit through the hearing of the Word, we were sealed by Him. He then permanently indwelt us. "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (I Corinthians 6:19).

The Holy Spirit is our line of communication. "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" (Romans 8:16). He is our instructor and our interpreter. "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (I Corinthians 2:12-14).

The Holy Spirit is our intercessor. "...For we know not what to pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And He that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God" (Romans 8:26b, 27). "...Who hath also given unto us His Holy Spirit" (I Thessalonians 4:8b).

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Notes:

THE UNITY OF THE TRINITY

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 12:4-6

In the realm of mathematical formulae, *one* does not equal *three*. God cannot be analyzed by scientific examination but must be accepted and believed on the basis of faith alone. Only thus can mortal man conceive of God's triune being, each of His three identities being distinct and unique. Proofs of this miraculous triple oneness can be found only in the very Word of God itself.

All three who comprise the Holy Trinity are scripturally identified as Deity. Of the Father we read, "Even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God" (Psalms 90:2b). The Son declares, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last" (Revelation 22:13). And regarding the Holy Spirit we find, "Christ through the *eternal Spirit* offered Himself without spot to God" (Hebrews 9:14).

Each of the three Persons of the Godhead is credited with infinite power. It is the Father of whom Peter writes, stating that the elect "are kept by the power of God" (I Peter 1:5). And Paul declares, regarding the Son, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (II Corinthians 12:9). And of the Holy Spirit we read that mighty signs and wonders were wrought "by the power of the Spirit of God" (Romans 15:19).

As regards the inspiration of the Scriptures, all members of the Triune Body are recorded as the true source. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God" (II Timothy 3:16). The Prophets searched "what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow" (I Peter 1:11). The Holy Spirit: II Peter 1:21.

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Notes:

GOD, THE JUST ONE

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 32:1-4

"He is the Rock, His work is perfect: for all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He." How inconceivable to our finite reasoning is the vicarious work of the only just being ever to exist! "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, *the just for the unjust*, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit" (I Peter 3:18). The beloved old song of faith comes to mind as we ponder this wonder, "Why should He love me so? Why should He love me so? Why should my Savior to Calvary go? Why should He love me so?"

When God saved His enemy, Saul, as he was making havoc of the churches, the chief rebel was informed by the respected Jew, Ananias, "The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know His will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of His mouth. For thou shalt be His witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard" (Acts 22:14, 15). The Just One would be speaking to Paul from heaven as He had suffered the death of crucifixion, been buried and had risen to ascend to sit at the right hand of the Father.

Those responsible for the cruel slaying of the Son of God were roundly censured for their act by the Apostle Peter. "Ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer be granted unto you; and killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead" (Acts 3:14, 15). How thankful we should be for this unspeakable gift, "Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus!" (Romans 3:24).

REH

Notes:

GOD THE OMNISCIENT*Scripture Reading: Psalm 147:4, 5*

"He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord, and of great power: His understanding is infinite." God's own declaration of His total knowledge is clear and concise. "...For I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure" (Isaiah 46:9b, 10).

"Known unto God [the Father] are all His works from the beginning of the world" (Acts 15:18). "...And [Peter] said unto Him [the Son], Lord, Thou knowest all things" (John 21:17). "Now are we sure that Thou knowest all things..." (John 16:30a). "In whom [the Son] are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3). "Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord [the Holy Spirit], or being His counsellor hath taught Him?" (Isaiah 40:13). God is omniscient (all knowing) in each of His triune entities.

There is nothing unknown to God, whether past, present or future events or circumstances. It is foolhardy to attempt concealment of the smallest thought or action from Him, though there are those who deceive themselves seeking to do so. "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do" (Hebrews 4:13).

God will judge all things. He will judge the condemned to eternal punishment. He will judge the saints according to their works, thereby determining whether and to what extent they will receive reward. Were He not all wise, this would be impossible!

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*Notes:***THE WISDOM OF GOD***Scripture Reading: I Timothy 1:17*

"The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth, by understanding hath He established the heavens. By His knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew" (Proverbs 3:19, 20). These words speak of the incomparable, transcendent wisdom of God. Man receives wisdom from God as He wills to dispense it; but the wisdom of man is of itself ineffectual. "For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?" (I Corinthians 1:19, 20).

The exercise of God's wisdom for His own eternal purpose is of vital interest to us who are members of the Body of Christ. Our apostle explains: "Unto me, who am the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; 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: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the Church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Ephesians 3:8-10).

What a spiritual destiny is ours! We, the Body of Christ, constitute the instrument of revelation which will enlighten the very angelic beings themselves regarding the culmination of God's eternal purpose! "Now unto... the only wise God be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen" (I Timothy 1:17).

REH

Notes:

THE HOLINESS OF GOD

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 6:3

“...Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of His glory.” As He prayed, Christ pled, “Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom Thou hast given me...” (John 17:11b). As the angel of the Lord spoke to Mary regarding her miraculous conception he declared, “...That holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God” (Luke 1:35b). And the Spirit of God is consistently called the Holy Spirit. Thus we see the total holiness of the triune God.

God's holiness can be said to embrace virtually all of His highest characteristics. His purity cannot be questioned or denied. His perfection is beyond definition. God is the only source of truth; without Him is no peace, no safe harbor, no escape from evil. He declared to Israel, through His servant Moses, “Ye shall be holy: for I the Lord your God am holy” (Leviticus 19:2b). Anything that we would become other than vile and offensive must be accomplished by and through the holiness of God.

Knowing that God is without imperfection, we are bound by His Word. We must accept by faith the proclamations therein contained. Those who would question His instructions and admonitions will never fully receive and enjoy the treasures of His blessing. The human intellect asks, “Why did God do this or say that?” But the fully surrendered believer rejoices in the knowledge that “All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28). Our constant intent should be faithful adherence to the admonition of our apostle: “Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption” (Ephesians 4:30).

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