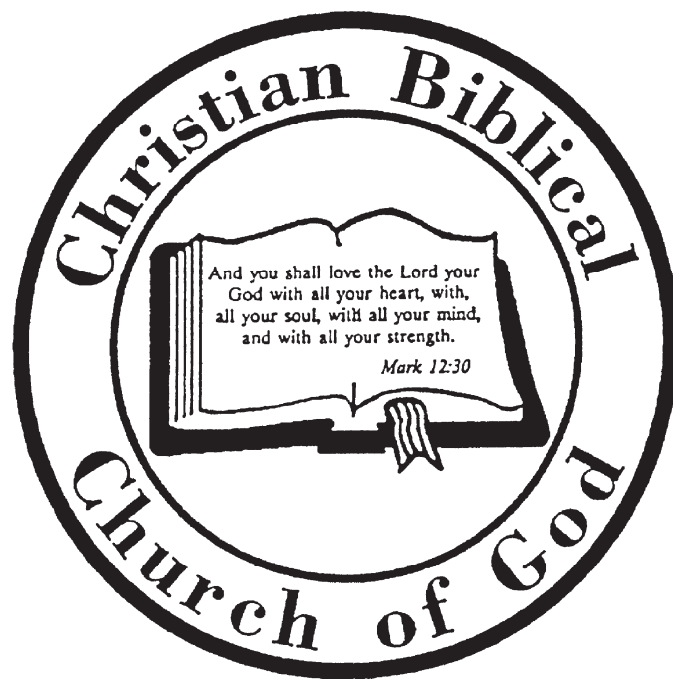


The Lord God and The Most High



Transcript Book

By Fred R. Coulter

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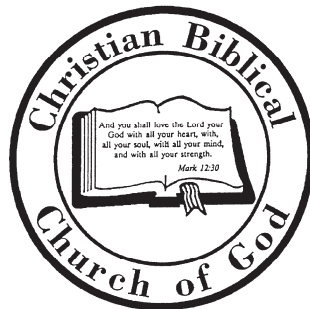
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The Lord God and The Most High

Series of 5 sermons by Fred R. Coulter



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The Lord God and The Most High

Foreword

This sermon transcript book, “The Lord God and the Most High,” is a compilation of five sermons given by Mr. Fred R. Coulter. As Mr. Coulter has been a minister of Jesus Christ for over 50 years he has been able to speak in depth on this subject. These sermons make clear the identities of God the Father and God the Son of the New Testament and the Lord God and the Most High of the Old Testament.

The first sermon transcript, “The Lord God and The Most High I,” teaches how a person can always guard the doctrine given by God in His Word. The basic foundation of the Word of God is shown and knowing the basic foundation will help one to recognize a new teaching as fitting in correctly and thereby supporting the Word of God. On the other hand, if the new teaching is not from God it can be seen as not fitting in with the Word of God, but rather disagreeing with the Word of God. Emphasized is that when people start embracing false doctrine even the understanding that they do have will be taken away.

The second sermon transcript, “The Lord God and The Most High II,” emphasizes that whenever false doctrine is promoted as coming from God you will find true teachings being replaced by the ideas of men. This transcript also notes that the name Yahwah or YHVH was never known by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Mentioned is that self-righteous men have taken what they have created in their minds, sacred names to address God, and have desecrated the New Testament by inserting these names in it. Additionally, in the Old Testament scribes changed, in different places, the original Hebrew YHVH to Adonai. Revealed too is that The Most High, the One Who became the Father, is not doing the things that YHVH is fulfilling.

The third sermon transcript, “The Lord God and The Most High III,” is more detailed in how The Most High governs the Universe. Noted is that The Most High in the Old Testament is known in the New Testament as the Father! The Lord God was the One Who became the Son of God: Jesus Christ. An overall view of The Most High in governing is given. The Most High is at the throne of God, there are 24 elders at the throne of God, and also there are seven spirits that go throughout the whole earth. The Most High gives orders to the One Who became The Lord God of the Old Testament, and the Lord God carries the orders out. This study also reveals that the Lord God of the Old Testament, known as Jesus Christ of the New Testament, carries out the directives of The Most High through using righteous angels, Satan, and demons.

The fourth sermon transcript, “The Lord God and The Most High IV,” is a study of what, under the New Covenant with mankind, God the Father and Jesus Christ are doing. It is emphasized that in the New Covenant the child of God pledges to always put God first in their life through Jesus Christ! Emphasized for the readers remembrance is that works of law, inheritance, and family may do a lot of things for one physically but nothing spiritually. It is noted that part of the conversion of a person is that they realize that there is no good thing in the flesh. Brought out into the open is that all sin that occurs, all of it, results from one central sin. And only the Spirit of God can overcome that one central sin, the law of sin and death that began in the garden of Eden.

The fifth sermon transcript, “Who was Christ?,” is a more detailed study of the Bible as to who Christ was and is. Proven in the study is that there are two ever-living beings who are called God. Also, the argument that Jesus was not God before He was a human being, is put to rest. Revealed also in this study is that God has at different times revealed Himself to different people under different names.

The reader of this transcript series, upon careful study of this presentation and meditation upon it, should come to know the one true God Family. This knowledge is what Scripture has been given to mankind for – for men to be able to have a relationship with God.

A special thank you goes to Bonnie and Prentice Orswell, Laila Patterson and Nancy Spaller for producing the transcripts for this book.

The Lord God and The Most High I

How does God the Father work in the Old Testament

Fred R. Coulter

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Sabbath services! Today we're going to cover a subject that we need to understand:

- How does God work?
- How does God work in the Old Testament?
- How does God work in the New Testament?

Recently one of the large Churches of God had a discussion—they put it up online so you can search that out yourself—about changing this phrase, which has been used many times over and over again: *Jesus Christ was the Lord God of the Old Testament!* They want to determine that we shouldn't use the word 'thus' (the), but rephrase it: *Jesus Christ in the Old Testament, or in another way.*

Remember that when doctrine is changed, they always begin with something that looks very innocuous. One word: *the*; claiming that one word causes confusion. Well, to take the word out:

- What would that accomplish?
- Would there be *new* understanding come in the wake of that?

We need to always ***guard the doctrine and teachings that God has given us!*** Take nothing for granted. In the video that they put up online—which I watched twice completely from start to finish—was very interesting. They discussed Scriptures, but they never examined them. Because they want to move the pendulum a bit—remember that a little leaven leavens the whole lump—their endeavor is to show *that God the Father was far more active in the Old Testament than we have assumed.* They never asked if we should assume. ***We're to prove all things!***

'If we say that Jesus Christ was the Lord God of the Old Testament before He became Jesus Christ, we may cause some confusion in the minds of some.'

How do we understand the way we come to the knowledge of the Truth and true doctrine?

2-Timothy 1:7: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of sound-mindedness."

- What is that sound-mindedness? ***The mind of Christ!***
- How is that achieved? ***Through the Holy Spirit!***

When we come with doctrinal questions, especially this one, let's see what else we are told to do.

Verse 8: "Therefore, you should not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner; but jointly suffer with *me for the sake of* the Gospel, according to *the* power of God, Who has saved us and called *us* with a Holy calling—not according to our works, **but according to His own purpose and grace,** which *was* given us in Christ Jesus *before the ages of time*" (vs 8-9).

This is telling us that God's plan was all established "***...before the ages of time***" in relationship to men and even angels.

How do we understand the things that were done and planned and finally revealed and being worked out in the Bible? *We do it by following the rules of Bible study!*

Verse 10: "But **has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ...**"

Think about that for a minute. God planned it; how many ions ago? *We don't know!* But it is revealed with the coming of Jesus Christ. Did God work a little differently in the Old Testament than in the New Testament? *We'll see!*

"...Who has annulled death, and has brought to light *eternal* life and incorruptibility through the Gospel unto which **I was ordained a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles**" (vs 10-11).

Sidebar: What is he? A preacher? An apostle? A teacher? *All!* We do different things at different times, and different functions in different ways. So, think about how Paul looked at himself.

Verse 12: "For which cause I am also suffering these things; nevertheless, I am not ashamed. For I know Whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He has the power to keep what I have committed to *Him* for that day. **Hold as the standard for doctrine the sound words...**" (vs 12-13)—*not the reasonings of men.* We are told in Col. 2 to beware of *vain philosophy* and *arguments over words!*

Verse 13: "**Hold as the standard for doctrine the sound words** that you heard from me, in the faith and love that *are* in Christ Jesus. **Guard** the good thing that was committed to *you* by the Holy Spirit that is dwelling in us" (vs 13-14).

- *We're to guard the doctrine!*
- *We're to guard the Truth!*

- *We're to continually address everything, **analyze everything**, look at everything **through the lens of Scripture and the Word of God!***
- How does false doctrine begin? *We're told to guard the doctrine!*
- How did God the Father function in the Old Testament?

I listened to the discussion that they had back and forth and there were certain Scriptures that were brought up that were good. As a matter fact, the one in 2-Tim. 1:9 about *before the measurement of time as we know it*, God has His purpose already established. That was good, but I was also taken aback by the fact that they didn't look into the Scriptures.

Maybe we can give them the benefit of doubt and say they did before they came to the meeting. But I certainly couldn't understand the purpose of the meeting or why they were doing it? Why this topic even came up?

2-Timothy 2:14: "See that *they* remain mindful of these things, earnestly charging *them* in the sight of the Lord **not to argue over words that are not profitable in any way, but which lead to the subverting of those who hear.**"

How do you guard and teach and know and understand the Word of God? This is a rather sophisticated argument, so let's tackle it.

Verse 15: "**Diligently study to show yourself approved unto God...**" When you study you study to find out what God *says!* What God may *reveal!* You never go to study a topic *by having a preset conclusion in your mind!* ***That's how false doctrine comes about!***

"...a workman..." (v 15). You have to work at it:

- you have to *study*
- you have to *pray*
- you have to *think*
- you have to *meditate*
- you have to *know the Word of God*
- you have to *put it together*

As we're going to see, *that's exactly what we're going to do!* And, according to the Scripture we read first, *before the ages of time*, we have to keep in mind:

- What is the plan of God?
- How does God work?
- Through whom does He work?

*All of those are questions that must be answered before you start removing the word **'the'** from 'Jesus*

*Christ was **the** Lord God of the Old Testament!* And start putting in more of what ***you think*** the Father has done. We will examine all the Scriptures.

"...who does not *need to be* ashamed, **rightly dividing the Word of the Truth**" (v 15).

- What happens when you ***wrongly*** divide the Word of Truth? *You end up with error!*
- How much error? *Well, it depends on how far you go!*

We're going to look at some Scriptures that are absolutely true, because we want to know the TRUTH!

Let's see how God put the Bible together. It says in Deut. 29:29^[transcriber's correction] that the things that we understand ***God has revealed***, but ***the secret things*** He has for Himself. We're also told that God hides things, but it's the honor of the king to understand it.

We will see that Jesus said that *we have been given—revealed knowledge—concerning the plan of God!* How does that happen? *Let's see!* We're going to cover some basic Scriptures and get some basic foundations of what we need to have, before we start delving into different things to counter the argument that these men were talking about. *I was confused in my mind as to why they even had the meeting at all!*

Isaiah 28:5: "In that day the LORD of hosts shall be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, for the remnant of His people... [that's bringing the people back from captivity] ...and for a spirit of judgment to him who sits in judgment..." (vs 5-6).

Who is going to be given judgment? *The saints (Rev. 20)!* So, as we read these things keep in mind the outline of all of God's plan, because it will be weaved in and out of these things so that we get a proper understanding.

"...and for strength to those who turn back the battle **at the gate**" (v 16)—of what? *Of the Word of God!* When it is attacked by false doctrine or strange reasonings that lead to false doctrine. *We're going to turn it back **in the battle at the gate.** You don't let it in the door!*

Verse 7: "But they also stagger through wine, and reel through strong drink...." Where does that come from? *Rev. 17; the kings of the earth have been made drunk; the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk by the wine of her fornication!*

"...The priest and the prophet stagger through drink; they are confused by wine; they reel through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment, for all tables are full of vomit and

filthiness; no place *is clean*. [God says]: ‘Whom shall He teach knowledge?...’” (vs 7-9).

Doesn’t that describe the world out there? *Terrible! No knowledge, no truth, no understanding!* So, in the midst of all of this, and in the midst of the Church:

“...And whom shall He make to understand doctrine?... [rightly understand it] ...**Those who are weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts**” (v 9). *You have to beyond the basics!* But only after you have the basics down sure, and *you never leave the basics!*

Remember what Paul wrote to those in Heb. 5: *At the time you ought to be teachers, you have need of milk!* That’s happened to too many people.

Now, here’s how God put the Bible together, and we’ll see what happens when men come to try and understand it without looking to the Truth of God, yielding to God, so that they will understand what is right and wrong and to see what the Bible itself says! Not because *we argue over a word that we suppose* what it may or may not say.

Verse 10: “For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little’; for with stammering lips and foreign tongue He will speak to this people. To whom He said, ‘This *is* the rest He gives to the weary,’ and ‘This *is* the refreshing,’ yet, they were not willing to hear” (vs 10-12).

God is saying that you can have understanding ***IF*** *you do it My way*; it’s available.

Isaiah 29:9: “Be stunned and amazed! Blind your eyes and be blind!....”

Let’s stop here and think about some things. What does Jesus say to the Church of Laodicea? ***Anoint your eyes with eye salve, because you are blind, naked, poor and don’t understand it!*** So, you can study all you want, but unless you rightly divide the Word of God, and if you have another secret agenda that you’re hiding behind all of this, you will never understand! People will be led astray. That’s why Paul said, ***‘Guard the doctrine!’***

“...They are drunk, but not with wine; they stagger, but not *with* strong drink, for the LORD has poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes; He has covered the prophets and your rulers, *and* the seers” (vs 9-10).

That’s what’s happened in the Church! Look at the history of the Church. Read Rev. 2 & 3 carefully and find out what happens.

Verse 11: “And the vision of all has become to you like the words of a book that ***is sealed***, which they give to one who is learned saying, ‘Please read

this,’ and he says, ‘I cannot, for it ***is sealed***.’”

- If it is sealed, who can open it? *God!*
- How will He open it for us? *That’s the whole purpose of what we’re going through!*

Verse 13: “And the LORD said, ‘Because this people draws near *Me* with their mouth, and with their lips honor Me, but their worship of Me is made up of the traditions of men learned by rote, and **their fear toward Me is taught by the commandments of men.**”

I want you to think on this phrase for just a minute: ‘We keep the Sabbath and Holy Days *because we love God!* Not because God *commands us to*, but we do it because we’re *good*.’ See what that statement really does. We are to:

- love God
- obey Him
- keep His commandments
- keep His Holy Days
- keep His Sabbath

because God commanded it to be, and for our own good and for our own purpose!

- Do we want to know what God is doing?
- Do we want to understand how God works?
- Do we want to understand through whom God works?
- Do we want to know what is the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament?
- Do we want to know the operation of God in both?

That’s the whole purpose of what we’re doing here!

“...***their fear toward Me is taught by the commandments of men***; therefore, behold, I will proceed to do again a marvelous work among this people, *even* a marvelous work and a wonder, for the wisdom of their wise ones shall perish, and the wisdom of their intelligent ones shall vanish” (vs 13-14).

- Did we see a church infiltrated by:
 - ✓ deceivers?
 - ✓ liars?
 - ✓ satanists?
 - ✓ to change the Word of God?
- Where did it start? *With the nature of God!*
- Are you changing the nature of God if you try to change what the Bible tells about how God works? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 15: “Woe *to* those who go deep to hide *their* purpose from the LORD! And their works

are in the dark, and they say, ‘Who sees us? And who knows us?’”

- What happened to the largest Church of God?
- What did the new leaders do? *They went from Sabbath to Sunday, from Holy Days to holidays!*

Verse 16: “Surely, you have turned things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the potter’s clay; for shall the work say of him who made it, ‘He did not make me?’ Or shall the thing formed say to him who formed it, ‘He had no understanding?’” Isn’t that what happens when we decide to take things on our own, *to tell God what to do!*

How do we understand the Word of God? *Understanding comes from loving God and keeping His commandments!*

Psalms 111:10: “...a good understanding have all those who do His commandments...” *Not some of them, but all of them!* Isn’t that true? *Yes!*

Let’s see if we can understand things that are hard to understand. Let’s see how God does it. Let’s put it together. Remember:

- we’re to *rightly divide* the Word of God
- we’re to put it together properly the way that God wants
- we’re to examine the Word of God to see what He’s going to tell us

Psalms 119:18: “Open my eyes so that I may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.”

Think about today with the whole Bible, the wondrous things we can understand. But we can’t get slack! We can’t get carried away! We can’t be giving in to the carnal things of the world, and religious practices of men!

1-Corinthians 2:9: “But according as it is written, ‘The eye has not seen, nor the ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.’”

1-John 5:3: “For this is the love of God: that we keep His commandments...”

- if you love Me, keep my commandments
- here are those who have the faith of Jesus Christ and keep His commandment
- here are those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ

All of that’s required, plus the Spirit of God!

1-Corinthians 2:10: “But God has revealed them to us by His Spirit...”

What did Jesus say concerning His words that He spoke to the apostles? *The words that I speak to you are Spirit and Life! The flesh profits nothing!*

So, when you study the Word of God with the Spirit of God, you are going to learn if you are loving God and keeping His commandments. That’s how we understand it. We don’t understand everything all at once. We have to see what it is that God has revealed. The secret things still belong to God, and many of those secret things we will never know until we attain the first resurrection. You must be a spirit being to understand them.

“...for the Spirit searches all things—even the deep things of God. For who among men understands the things of man except by the spirit of man, which is in him? In the same way also, the things of God no one understands except by the Spirit of God” (vs 10-11).

Look at all the religious councils that the Catholic Churches had down through the centuries. What do they understand of the Word of God? *Nothing!* Why? *Because they don’t keep the commandments of God! Simple!*

What happens in the Churches of God when people become lukewarm and blind? *Same thing!*

Verse 12: “Now, we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is of God, so that we might know the things graciously given to us by God... [God has to give it] ...which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Holy Spirit in order to communicate spiritual things by spiritual means” (vs 12-13).

- the world doesn’t receive it
- the world doesn’t know it

Only God can reveal it!

We will see that there was a distinct difference between the Old and the New Testament, as we have just covered, and it’s measured by the Holy Spirit of God. A lot of people want to know about God. They want to know how they can have eternal life, but they’re not willing to do what God says. If they’re willing to do some of it:

- How much further will they go?
- Do they go just so far and stop?

They haven’t finished what they need to do in their lives, then! But it has to be *revealed* to us. It’s revealed in God’s Word and by His Spirit together, an overall combined project of God.

Matthew 13:10: “And His disciples came to Him and asked, ‘Why do You speak to them in parables?’ And He answered *and* said to them,

‘Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries... [What are the mysteries? The secrets? ***The secrets of God!***] ...of the Kingdom of Heaven, ***but to them it has not been given***’ (vs 10-11). So, *the world won’t understand it!*

Sidebar: Why are we called *the Church of the Firstborn*? Why are we called *the Firstfruits*? *Because we’re called out of this world*—though we live in the world, and we have to fight against the world, Satan the devil and our own nature—but we’re the firstfruits because God is not saving the world at this time. So, *they don’t know! They are not willing to obey!*

Here’s why Jesus says, v 12: “For whoever has *understanding*, to him more shall be given, and he shall have an abundance, but whoever does not have *understanding*, even what he has shall be taken away from him.”

What happens when you start embracing *false doctrine*? ***Even the understanding that you have shall be taken!*** This is why we are to continuously study and pray every day!

Verse 13: “For this *reason* I speak to them in parables, because seeing, they see not; and hearing, they hear not; neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which says, ‘In hearing you shall hear, and in no way understand; and *in* seeing you shall see, and in no way perceive; for ***the heart of this people has grown fat, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed...***’” (vs 13-15).

I want you to think about the Laodicean condition: ‘*we’re rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing!*’ Another way of say that:

- ***You’re fat!***
- ***You’re full!***
- ***You’re naked and blind and don’t even know it!***

That’s how false doctrine comes in! What they have will be taken. That’s why Paul told Timothy, ***‘Guard the doctrine! the teaching! the Truth!’***

Verse 15: “For the heart of this people has grown fat, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and should hear with their ears, and should understand with their hearts, and should be converted, and I should heal them.” ***God doesn’t want to convert anyone who will not obey Him!*** Why was Satan removed? *Because he rebelled!*

Verse 16: “But blessed *are* your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. For truly I say to you, many prophets and righteous *men* have desired to see what you see, and have not seen; and to hear what you hear, and have not heard”

(vs 16-17).

What do you think the responsibility upon us at the end of the age actually really is in relationship to God? the knowledge of God? the Truth of God? the doctrines of God?

Very important, especially living in a world that is so evil and satanic on the one hand. Yet, on the other hand, having everything:

Intelligence: Look at all the things we have with the whole Bible and all the Bible helps that we’re able to do and produce for people. What a tremendous and marvelous thing that is. ***But we better use them!*** What good does it do to have a brand new car parked in your garage—shiny, clean and nice and neat—but you never drive it? Just a little analogy so we understand a little bit more.

Let’s begin to answer the question in John 1 and then we will look at some things in the Old Testament. Why did John have to write this at the beginning of the Gospel of John. *Because the same false doctrines were being promulgated in the Church before his death!* So, he had to write and clarify it. This has been written and preserved—perfectly preserved—so we can know the Truth.

John 1:1 “In *the* beginning was ^[#1]***the*** Word, and ^[#2]***the*** Word was with God, and ^[#3]***the*** Word was God.”

People get all excited and say that the definite article is not there in the Greek, so therefore—as the Jehovah Witnesses do—they make it a small ‘g’ in their translation of the Bible (*The New Word Translation of the Holy Scriptures*) {<https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/774-what-about-that-a-god-translation-in-the-jehovahs-witness-Bible>}

- What do you know about that?
- How can you be one if you don’t have the same existence?

Verse 2: “He was in *the* beginning with God.”

Now, v 3 is very important because it tells us *how God works!* “All things came into being through Him...”—***the Word!***

God the Father and Jesus Christ had to plan before the ages of time, and He gave the creation of everything for His plan to Jesus Christ: Who was ***the Word***; Who was ***the Lord God*** of the Old Testament. Make no mistake about that!

“...and not even one *thing* that was created came into being without Him. In Him was life, and the Life was the Light of men” (vs 3-4).

All human beings have life because of the creation of mankind with the spirit of man ***by the One Who became the Word!***

Does it say that God the Father made man? *No!* Let's read what is said in Gen. 1. What God the Father completely absentminded and away from everything? *No!* But **He gave it to the One Who was the Word** to do the creating! Isn't that what it says in John 1? *Yes!*

Gen. 1—we have the Word and God. The Word is the One Who became Christ—God manifested in the flesh—and God the Father Who is in heaven above.

- How does God carry out His work and His plan?
- How much does He literally do?
- How active is He in the Old Testament?
- How active is He in the New Testament?
- In the Old Testament, **how** did He carry out His will?
- In the New Testament, **how** did He carry out His will?
- If the Father was known in the Old Testament, **why** did Jesus Christ have to reveal Him?

(go to the next track)

Before we come to Gen. 1, let's look at some other Scriptures showing a little bit more about the things that were foreordained before the foundation of the world and the plan of God, His purpose.

Matt. 13—talking about the spiritual things, the secrets of the Kingdom of God, which God did not reveal to the masses of the people.

Sidebar: That's a hard one for the world to understand. Why? *Because they know nothing about the second resurrection!* You want to know a little bit more about that? *That's why we have The Last Great Day!* Yet, they have the Bible and it's right there. Like we read to begin with, their eyes are blinded, closed and they don't understand it.

Matthew 13:34: "Jesus spoke all these things to the multitudes in parables, and without a parable He did not speak to them; **so that** it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things **hidden from the foundation of the world**.'" (vs 34-35). *That also has to do with Christ!*

1-Peter 1:20: "Who truly was foreknown... [by God] **...before the foundation of the world...**"

- Do you think God is going to have a plan and not work things out?
- Do you think that there's anything that's going to surprise God?
- *Of course not!*

Remember John 1:1: "In *the* beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... [v 3]: ...not even one *thing* that was created came into being... [existence] ...without Him."

Let's notice something very interesting concerning humankind. This is before the creation of Adam and Eve. Here's the plan:

Genesis 1:26: And God said, 'Let **Us** make man in **Our** image...'—plural. The word *God* we already understand is 'Elohim' which means more than one. The Bible only reveals two. We'll examine it in a little bit to see how that works.

"...after **Our** likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of heaven and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that crawls upon the earth.' And God created man in His *own* image, in the image of God He created him. He created them male and female" (vs 26-27). *Now we have man and woman!*

We have God the Father and Jesus Christ; we have the God and the Word—**Us!** Was this not the most important part of Their plan up to that time? *Yes!* The One Who became the Father is the One Who told Jesus to do it and how to do it. But the Father Himself did not do it personally.

There's one more time in the Old Testament where it talks about **Us**, 'Let **Us** go down and see what they're doing' (Gen. 11). The One Who became God the Father gave all the instruction to the One Who became Jesus Christ to carry out the dispersion of the people of the world to their inheritance in the world, scattering them from the Tower of Babel. Those are the only two times that **Us** is used in the Old Testament.

Jesus used that phrase **Us** in John 17, 'That they may become one in **Us**.' So, we have the beginning in Genesis and the prophecy of the finishing in John 17—*be one in God!*

After this **Us**, the One Who became the Father is not *directly* involved. The One Who was the Lord God, the One Who became Jesus Christ, the Lord God of the Old Testament was Jesus Christ, and it is perfectly correct to say: **The Lord God of the Old Testament was the One Who became Jesus Christ!** Or reverse it and say: **Jesus Christ, Who came in the flesh—God manifest in the flesh—was the God of the Old Testament!** So, let's see how that works!

Genesis 2:7: "Then **the LORD God**..."—*not Us!* God gave that all to the One Who was the Lord God, also called **The Word!**

Stop and think about it; there are many names of God.

“...**the LORD God** formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being” (v 7). Then He put them in the garden and Adam was created with a language already functioning; he could talk.

How did God appear to Adam and Eve? We know that God told Moses, when Moses said, ‘Show me Your glory,’ The Lord God said, ‘No man can see My face and live.’ So, how did God appear to Adam? *Just like He appeared to the disciples after He was resurrected from the dead; as a man!*

Nowhere does it show that God appeared to Adam and Eve in His glorified form at any time. Could He have? *Well, if He did they would have died!* God the Father—even though He was in on the plan to design the purpose and everything of it—He did not personally get involved in the creation of man nor woman.

After being in the garden, and God talking with Adam, He brought all the animals by and to name them, whatever Adam named them, that was its name. That shows tremendous intelligence just by creation. God would have to be appearing to Adam in a human form, otherwise, Adam would have died.

So then, God took a rib from Adam and made a woman. The human race is promulgated by two: man and woman. We all came from Adam and Eve.

Sidebar: We find in Gen. 2:15 God revealed to them the necessity of a coming Savior. He didn’t tell them it was 4,000 years away. If Adam and Eve had not sinned, would the Father have been revealed to mankind at that time? *Don’t know!* We will never know, so we can just say that’s an interesting question.

Let’s look at what really took place. We have *the Lord God*. There’s a book *The Names of God* by Andrew Jukes. *Lord* comes from the Hebrew YHVH: Yahwah, Yahweh or Jehovah. It also means *the Eternal One!* God has many names and has dealt with different one at different times under different names.

Here in Gen. 11 we have **Us** and after that not another word about Us referring to *the One Who became God the Father* and *the One Who became God the Son*. Nothing until we get to John 17.

In the Old Testament we find that the One Who became the Father is also known as **The Most High!** Let’s see the first mention of *The Most High*. This is after the battle that Abraham had led with his servants to get Lot and bring him back, and the

others. They brought the things that they recovered from the invaders and came to the place called Salem. Here’s the first reference to Melchisedec:

Genesis 14:18: “And Melchisedec the King of Salem...” Heb. 7 tells us this Melchisedec was the One Who became Jesus Christ; so, here’s another name for the Lord God, now acting as Priest.

“...brought forth bread and wine. And He was the Priest of **the Most High God**” (v 18). Here’s mention of *the Most High!*

- How active was **the Most High God** in the Old Testament?
- Was He always behind the scenes?
- Was He actively involved in anything?
- Does this present a problem that now **the Most High** becomes the God of the Old Testament instead of the Lord God: Yahweh or Jehovah or Eternal, whichever one you want to call Him?

This is the question that the men—in the other Church of God—were discussing.

Verse 19: “And He blessed him, and said, “Blessed be Abram of **the Most High God**...”

- Why is there a relationship between **the Most High** and Abraham?
- Was that a spiritual relationship? *Yes, indeed!*
- Was **the Most High** active in the life of Abraham?

OR

- Did the Most High leave that to the Lord God?
- **He left it to the Lord God!**

Just like in the New Testament with us, Jesus Christ:

- our Savior
- our Redeemer
- our High Priest
- our Sacrifice
- our Intercessor
- our coming King
- our spiritual Brother.

God the Father is there in the New Testament, and we will see that He does get active in the New Testament, but *not as the Most High* in Old Testament.

In the Old Testament **the Most High** —the One Who became the Father—Who is God over all, **the Most High God, can’t get any higher than that!** So, that has to be the One Who became the Father. He is not actively involved in working with Abraham, though it is said,

“...‘Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, possessor of heaven and earth’” (v 19). *That’s not said of any other man in the Old Testament! Just Abraham! Why? Because he was to become the father of Isaac and Jacob (Israel), and he was to become the father of the seed that would be the spiritual seed ‘if you are Christ’s and heirs according to the promise.’*

Get *The Christian Passover* book {truthofgod.org} and read about the two aspects of the blessing of God to Abraham—physical through Isaac and spiritual through Christ. The ‘sand of the sea’ are the physical ones, and the ‘stars of heaven’ are the spiritual ones. Again, a duality: a physical purpose and a spiritual purpose! Abraham was going to be the father of both of those aspects from the plan of God on down through to the resurrection and clear on through the new heaven and new earth.

But it doesn’t say that *the Most High* was involved in other ways, so this is as direct as could be. But all of the issues day in and day out were left up to the Lord God rather than *the Most High*. Very important to understand.

Now we’re going to look at every place in the Bible where it talks about the Most High. We have seen that the One Who became the Father, *the Most High God of the Old Testament*, left all of the active working to the Lord God, the God Who became Jesus Christ.

It’s entirely correct to say that Jesus was the Lord God of the Old Testament interacting with all of the children of Israel from Adam all the way down through to the time that He came to the earth as Christ manifested in the flesh.

In delivering His final message to the children of Israel before they went into the ‘promised land,’ here’s what we find:

Deuteronomy 32:7: “Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations.... [look back at history; that’s what we need to do today] ...Ask your father, and he will show you; your elders, and they will tell you. **When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam...**” (vs 7-8).

That’s Gen. 11, ‘Let’s Us go down and see what they’re doing, and let Us confound their languages. Let Us scatter them across the face of the earth!’

- Who was the One Who carried that out? *The Lord God!*
- How active was the *Most High* in this? *It was His decision carried out by the One Who was the Lord God!*

“...**He** set the bounds of the people according to

the number of the children of Israel, for the LORD’S portion is His people. Jacob is the lot of His inheritance” (vs 8-9). So, after *the Most High* gave the order, then it was carried out by *the Lord God!*

What we’re going to see is that *the Most High* is referred to in the Psalms and then in Daniel. What we find is the pattern of how *the Most High* involved Himself in the Old Testament, the One Who became the Father in the New Testament. **He set the agenda and the Lord God carried out the work!**

We’re going to find the Psalms quite enlightening, and it was not generally known of the people. Remember that they did not have the Bible. They did not have the Word of God as a personal possession for their own like we have today. Think about the amazing thing that that is, that we’re able to have the Bible, and that we’re even able to go through it and understand the things that we do, the way that we do. **All of that comes from God!**

Psalms 7:1: “**O LORD my God**, in You have I taken refuge; save me from all who pursue me and deliver me.... [v3]: **O LORD my God...**”

We are going to understand that David is dealing with *the Lord God!* But we’re also going to see—because He’s the future king over all Israel forever under Christ—that he’s given some knowledge of *the Most High!*

But I’m going through this to show that *the Most High* Himself is not involved. Rather He has given that to the Lord God to do.

Verse 6: “Arise, O LORD, in Your anger; lift up Yourself against the rage of my enemies...”

Verse 8: “The LORD shall judge the people; judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness...”

Verse 11: “God is a righteous judge, and a God Who has indignation every day.”

Verse 17: “I will give thanks to the LORD according to His righteousness, and will sing praise to the name of the LORD **Most High.**”

That doesn’t show that *The Most High* was down there doing anything. But David understood that there was *The Most High!* Did the people understand very much about that? *Maybe the high priest understood it, but besides that The Most High not out here active.* All the way through David doesn’t say *the Most High*; no, but right at the end he says, “...[I] will sing praise to the name of the LORD **Most High.**” And he ends his prayer!

It’s interesting that David says he “will sing praise to **the name of the LORD Most High**”—not directly to the Most High!

Psalm 9:1: “I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You... [the Lord God] ...I will sing praise to Your name, **O Most High**.”

- Did David worship Him? *Yes!*
- Was **the Most High** active in David’s life?
- *No, it was the Lord God, all the way through!*

Psalm 21:1: “The king shall rejoice in Your strength, **O LORD**; and in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice! You have given him his heart’s desire and have not withheld the prayer of his lips. Selah” (vs 1-2). *The Lord is under the Most High!*

In the New Testament we have God the Father and under Him is Jesus Christ. The same setup. We’re going to see in the New Testament the Father is much more active. Why is He more active in the New Testament, and virtually not active at all in the Old Testament? *Except in important matters!* And then that’s delegated to the One Who is **the Lord God!**

Verse 3: “For You do meet him with the blessings of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold on his head.” David is saying, ‘Look, God, You’ve given me all of these things and even this crown, thank You for it!’

Verse 4: “He asked life from You; You give to him length of days forever and ever.” David knew he was going to live forever, *salvation!*

Verse 6: “For You have made him most blessed forever; You made him exceedingly joyful with Your presence; for the king trusts in the LORD and **in the mercy of the Most High**; he shall not be moved” (vs 6-7). *That’s a close parallel to the New Testament! Again, it’s all through The Lord!*

How do we get our blessings from God the Father? *Through Jesus Christ!* We see the same pattern here. We’re going to go through step-by-step. This is how we study to answer the question: How active was **the Most High** personally in the Old Testament? Then we will come to the New Testament and see active He is with those of the saints in the New Testament. I think you’ll see quite a difference.

Psalm 46:1: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” *The Lord God working with men, kings and saints directly!*

Verse 2: “Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains shake with the swelling of it. Selah” (vs

2-3). *Think about that!*

- When is this going to really occur? *At the return of Jesus Christ!*
- What is that going to bring in? *Usher in the Kingdom of God!*

That’s going to culminate in the new heaven and the new earth and the tabernacle of God dwelling with men and women made perfect, and the new City of Jerusalem. Fantastic!

Verse 4: “There is a river whose streams make the City of God rejoice, the Holy **dwelling place of the Most High**.” *A prophecy of the coming New Jerusalem!*

Where does that river come from? *From under the throne of the Father and the Lamb (Rev. 22)!*

Verse 5: “God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God shall help her at the approach of the morning.”

In the Old Testament you have things present, past, future and on into eternity. Here we have a glimpse into New Jerusalem as described by David. That’s a prophecy.

Psalm 47:1—a prophecy into the future: “Clap your hands, all you people; shout to God with the voice of triumph... [When will that be? *When all the wicked are burned up! That’s the final triumph!*] ...for **the LORD Most High** is awesome; He is a great King over all the earth” (vs 1-2).

When? *Not now, but when New Jerusalem comes to the earth*, there will be a new heaven and a new earth, and this is what it’s all about!

Verse 3: “He shall subdue the people under us and nations under our feet.”

- Isn’t that going to be true?
- Won’t all of them be subject to New Jerusalem, and that’s where we’re going to live?

Verse 4: “He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom He loved. Selah.” Of course we’re spiritual Israel, or spiritual Jacob; *those in the first resurrection!*

Again, we see the Most High in prophecy into the future. Not directly involved in the affairs of even the saints, except acknowledged of it by King David. We don’t find any other king mentioned here. This is how we come to answer the questions:

- How does **the Most High** reveal Himself?
- How much work does He actually do personally with the children of Israel or with the kings of Israel and Judah?

- *He leaves all of that up to **the Lord God!***

Sidebar: With Whom did Jacob wrestle? *He wrestled with the Lord God of the Old Testament!* The One Who became Jesus Christ of the New Testament! Or Jesus Christ of the New Testament was the God Who wrestled with Jacob, *not the Most High.*

- Is it correct to say that Jesus Christ was **the Lord God** of the Old Testament? *Yes!*
- Does that exclude *the Most High*? *No way!*

But **the Most High** was not revealed to men! We're going to find that virtually *only King David!* Then you will be surprised to whom else He was revealed.

Again, as we go through here, what does it reveal in the activity of **the Most High**? That **the Most High** was not actively involved, except with Abraham and David. Understood, but not directly involved in the daily affairs that they were carrying out.

Psalm 50:1: "The mighty God, God, the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shined forth" (vs 1-2). *This is during the Millennium!* This is a prophecy!

Verse 3: "Our God... [didn't say **the Most High**] ...shall come, and He shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, so that He may judge His people: 'Gather My saints unto Me... [the first resurrection, so this whole thing is a prophecy] ...those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice'" (vs 3-5).

Sidebar: What is our sacrifice? *God's part is Jesus Christ's death and shed blood!* Our part is repentance and baptism. That puts us in covenant with God. That is our sacrifice! We come out of the world and we pledge our death through baptism, that is we are not faithful to the end *we will die!* That's what it means by sacrifice.

Verse 6: "And the heavens shall declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge. Selah. 'Hear, My people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you; I am God, even your God. I will not reprove you for your sacrifices, or your burnt offerings, which are continually before Me. I will take no bull out of your house, nor he-goats out of your folds, for every beast of the forest is Mine and the livestock upon a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains; and the wild beasts of the field are Mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world is Mine, and all the fullness of it'" (vs 6-12).

I want you to get the scope of the activity of **the Lord God** of the Old Testament, the One Who became Jesus Christ! He was there doing all of these things. That's right after the prayer about the coming Kingdom!

Verse 13: "Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? Offer to God thanksgiving; and pay your vows to the Most High" (vs 13-14)—*a projection into the future!*

Verse 15: "And call upon Me in the day of trouble; and I will deliver you, and you shall honor Me."

In the background always is **the Most High!** He is the One Who is in charge of the universe! Christ is the One Who is dealing with those on the earth. Quite a very interesting thing!

I want you to see that **the Most High** is the One Who became the Father in the New Testament. We're going to see that His activity in the Old Testament was very limited, because He delegated all of it to the One Who was **the Lord God**, with the exception of Abraham, David and certain key events. *But they did not know Him personally like we are to know the Father.* They knew *of* Him.

Scriptural References:

- 1) 2-Timothy 1:7-14
- 2) 2-Timothy 2:14-15
- 3) Isaiah 28:5-12
- 4) Isaiah 29:9-11, 13-16
- 5) Psalm 111:10
- 6) Psalm 119:18
- 7) 1 Corinthians 2:9
- 8) 1 John 5:3
- 9) 1 Corinthians 2:10-13
- 10) Matthew 13:10-17
- 11) John 1:1-4
- 12) Matthew 13:34-35
- 13) 1 Peter 1:20
- 14) John 1:1, 3
- 15) Genesis 1:26-27
- 16) Genesis 2:7
- 17) Genesis 14:18-19
- 18) Deuteronomy 32:7-9
- 19) Psalm 7:1, 3, 6, 8, 11, 17
- 20) Psalm 9:1-2
- 21) Psalm 21:1-4, 6-7
- 22) Psalm 46:1-5
- 23) Psalm 47:1-4
- 24) Psalm 50:1-15

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Colossians 2
- Deuteronomy 29:29
- Revelation 20; 17

- Hebrews 5
- Revelation 2; 3
- Genesis 11
- John 17
- Genesis 2:15
- Hebrews 7
- Revelation 22

Also referenced: Books:

- *The Names of God* by Andrew Jukes
- *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter

FRC:bo

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The Lord God and The Most High II

Clear proof showing the will of God the Father was delegated to the Lord God
Fred R. Coulter

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Sabbath services!

We have seen in past history that when false doctrine is being introduced, they nearly always start with *the nature of God!* Why do they do that? *So they can bring in philosophies of men, religious philosophies, and begin to use it in the thought process of understanding the Bible!*

The way you understand the Bible is with the Bible interpreting the Bible! This is why everything should be approached with: **What does the Bible say?** Go back and review *The Fourteen Rules of Bible Study*:

- Who said it?
- To whom was it said?
- When was it said?
- What does it mean?

Apply it in a way that we understand through the framework of the Sabbath and Holy Days, and understanding of the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

So far, we have seen very clearly that there is ***The Lord God***: Yahweh or Jehovah or YHVH. In the book of Exodus we find God speaking so that you understand and realize why this is so important.

The name Yahweh or YHVH was never known by Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This becomes important as we'll see a little later on, that to try and give the appearance that ***the Most High*** was active in carrying out things in the Old Testament, *they try and make apparently equivocal things mean something different!* Here's one thing to understand:

Exodus 6:1: "And the LORD... [YHVH] ...said to Moses, 'Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he shall let them go, and with a strong hand he shall drive them out of his land.' And God spoke to Moses, and said to him, '**I am the LORD**.... [YHVH meaning Lord, Yahweh, Jehovah, and also means *the Eternal*] ...And **I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as God Almighty**....'" (vs 1-3)—*El Shaddai!* They didn't know the name YHVH.

Think about that for a minute. All you sacred-namers out there, 'if we are Christ's then we are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise' (Gal. 3).

How then can the sacred-namers claim that they have to have the sacred names of the Old Testament in order to receive salvation, when

Abraham—the father of the faithful, and we are of his seed *spiritually*—never knew God by that name?

"...But I was not known to them by My name JEHOVAH" (v 3). *Didn't even know that name!*

Whenever you come across the self-righteous sacred-namers, who always have to say that you have to have the sacred names. They desecrate the New Testament by going in there and inserting them there. Don't you think that if God wanted them there He could have inspired the apostles to write them? Why are they not there? *We'll explain that a little later on!*

Exodus 3:13: "And Moses said to God, 'Behold, *when* I come to the children of Israel, and shall say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they shall say to me, 'What *is* His name?' What shall I say to them?' And God said to Moses, 'I AM THAT I AM.'...."

Think on that for a minute. How many times in the New Testament, especially in John and Revelation, did Jesus say, 'I AM' *signifying Who He was?* Remember when the priests and different ones were arguing with him about who was His Father? He told them that God was His Father.

They said, 'We are Abraham's **seed**.' Jesus said, 'If you're Abraham's **children** (notice the difference in the wording) then you would do the works of Abraham. You are of your father the devil.' Then they came back at Jesus again, and He said, '**Before Abraham existed, I AM**' (John 8). There are a lot of good things in the Gospel of John concerning God.

"...And He said, 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, "**I AM has sent me to you**.'" And God [Elohim] said to Moses again, 'You shall say this to the children of Israel, "The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This *is* My name forever, and this *is* My title from generation to generation."'" (vs 14-15).

There are quite a few different things that we can get out of Ps. 110, and Jesus spoke of this on several occasions.

Psalms 110:1: "The LORD..."—YHVH: Lord, Jehovah, Eternal. There's another word 'Lord' here translated that way, which originally should have been YHVH. But the scribes changed it and they made note of it that this is Adonai. They did that because they didn't understand it. If you get

Bullinger's Study Bible you will find 34 places that they changed it. They all are marked and known and understood. It's hard for them to understand this, because *this was spoken in the ages of time past, as well as being a prophecy for the future!*

So, this is a very expansive verse; v 1: "The LORD said unto my Lord, '**Sit at My right hand...**'"

Where is Jesus? *This first LORD has to refer to the Most High!* They will say, 'Why then is He called YHVH?'

- Is the *Most High* eternal? *Yes!*
- Is the *One Who became Jesus* eternal? *Yes!*
- Does this verse show an active participation by the One Who is the Most High in the things of the Old Testament, comparable to what we find in the New Testament between the Father, Jesus Christ and the Church? *No, it doesn't!*

Verse 1: "The LORD said unto my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies as Your footstool.'"

- Who is the #1 enemy?
- When did that take place?

In Rev. 12 we find the great dragon, the ancient serpent! He caused war in heaven and took a third of the stars with Him, a third of the angels! We find the account of it in Isa. 14. **When** did this conversation between the LORD and the Lord take place? *That's what you have to answer first!*

Isaiah 14:12: "How you are fallen from the heavens, O shining star, son of the morning! *How* you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart, 'I will ascend *into* the heavens, I will exalt my throne... [that's the rebellion of Satan!] ...above the stars of God... [the angels of God] ...I will also sit upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will be like the Most High**'" (vs 12-14).

When did the conversation of Psalms 110:1 occur? *Probably before men were created!* Since this conversation—and there's no other way to say it—undoubtedly took place before the creation of man; this does not show an equality of sharing of work in the Old Testament by YHVH and the Most High! And because they're both called YHVH at that time, does not make the Most High active as was the Lord God with the Old Testament.

We're going to see that again. God the Father, even in the New Testament, is not working with the world. ***He's working with His Church!*** We need to understand that.

Hebrews 10:4: "Because *it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*" That why it had to be the One Who created mankind. The God of Elohim:

- Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament
- Who became the Jesus Christ of the New Testament
- Who divested Himself
- Who humbled Himself
- Who became a human being
- Who was born of the virgin Mary
- Who lived a physical life
- Who became our Savior
- Who carried within Him the law of sin and death

So, that in His flesh sin was condemned in the flesh (Rom. 8)! The only flesh that could have been was the flesh of Jesus Christ.

Since He existed ***before*** the creation of man, and the rebellion of Lucifer and the angels was ***before*** the creation of man, therefore, in the plan of God that conversation in Psalms 110:1 took place ***before*** there were men or women. That's why that cannot be used as a proof to say the 'We have two YHVH in the Old Testament and they were both active.' ***NO! This took place before the creation of man!***

Verse 5: "For this reason, when He comes into the world, He says, 'Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but You have prepared a body for Me. You did not delight in burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin. Then said I, "Lo, I come (*as it is written of Me in the Scroll of the Book*) **to do Your will, O God**'" (vs 5-7).

- What is "...the Scroll of the Book..."?
- When was that written there?

That had to be written there before the re-creation of the earth for mankind, and the creation of man and woman through Adam and Eve!

This is part of the covenant between God the Father and Jesus Christ. {Note sermon: *Covenant Between God the Father and the Son*}

Let's see something very, very interesting in Dan. 10. This tells us that this Scroll of the Book existed ***before*** the creation of man. We're going to examine some of the prophecies in Daniel just a little bit later.

Daniel 10:21: "But I will show you that which is written in the **Scripture of Truth**...." In heaven there is "...the Scripture of Truth...."—or *the Scroll of Truth!*

What we read in Hebrews 10:7: "...Lo, I

come (as it is written of Me in ***the Scroll of the Book***) **to do Your will, O God.**”

When was that written? *It had to be before the re-creation of the earth, and the creation of Adam and Eve, and hence all mankind!* “...written in the ***Scripture of Truth***....” That means the Scroll of Truth!

Are there scrolls of Scripture in heaven? *Yes!* (Rev. 5). Remember the Scroll of the Book that had the seven seals in the right hand of Him Who sits on the throne. It was written in front and in back.

When we’re resurrected from the dead and enter into a spirit life, we are going to be amazed at how all of these things have so much pre-planning than we ever understood. There it is right here, “...written in the ***Scripture of Truth***....”, and that has to do with all the prophecies contained in Daniel.

Let’s see how Jesus used it, and let’s see that in the Greek equivalent of YHVH is ‘kurios’—meaning *Lord*. That is applied to the Father and to the Son. With the Most High, we find that He above YHVH or the Lord. And the Lord God is the One Who carries out God’s plan. ‘I came to do Your will, O God’—*referring to the Most High!*

Answering those who questioned Him about why healed a man on the Sabbath, and so forth; John 5:17: “But Jesus answered them, ‘My Father is working until now, and I work.’” That blew the minds of the scribes, Pharisees and priests. God working on the Sabbath! Well, certain works have to continue:

- got to uphold the universe
- got to keep everything moving in the universe

God is working out His plan through Christ and through the different ones: angels, Satan, demons, people; God works through all of them! The Most High—the One Who became the Father—is not actively involved in the things that YHVH is taking care of. Why? ***Because you can’t have two masters!*** Christ was doing *spiritual work* on the Sabbath. Carrying His sleeping bag, like Jesus told that man to take, that’s not work.

Verse 18: “So then, on account of this *saying*, the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, not only because He had loosed the Sabbath...” The *KJV* says ‘break the Sabbath’; He didn’t break the Sabbath.

Sidebar: Most people don’t understand that there are so many critical errors in the King James version—which is far better than most of the other versions—that it clouds the meaning and purpose of God. That’s why you need *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*

with commentary and appendices. There’s one beautiful thing about the book itself, it doesn’t need batteries! Think about that!

The Sabbath when I was going to bring this message, the lights went out, everything went out! We couldn’t record—either audio or video—it was dark. Sure enough different cell phones worked, but what if the batteries of those went out also? What would you have? That’s why if you don’t have the physical Bible itself, don’t you think that maybe you’d better get one?

Jesus didn’t break the Sabbath, He ***loosed it from the traditional misunderstanding of the Jews*** that if you carry something like a sleeping bag on the Sabbath it’s work, a burden and you’re not to carry it on the Sabbath.

“...but also *because* He had called God His own Father, making Himself equal with God” (v 18). You need to think on that for a tremendous amount of time.

What does it say about the kind of body we’re going to have? *A glorious body like Jesus’ own body!* We will see a little later that ***we are also are called gods!*** That ought to be enough inspiration for you that if you are in a lackadaisical or an attitude where you haven’t been studying and praying, look at what you are not being zealous about.

- Don’t you think it’s worth being zealous all the time concerning what God is going to give us?
- What is Jesus calling us? *The children of God!*

Verse 19: “Therefore, Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Truly, truly I say to you, **the Son has no power to do anything of Himself**... [out from His own human nature, of His own thoughts in His own mind] ...but **only what He sees the Father do**. For whatever He does, these things the Son also does in the same manner.” Likewise with us! What are we to teach? Paul said, ‘Preach the Word!’

As a human being, this applies; v 30: “I have no power to do anything of Myself...” Look at all the things that human beings are doing, and look at all the things that they have made, built, whatever you want to say. Everything that they did had to come because in God *they live, and moved, and had their being* whether they were righteous or unjust.

As a human being Jesus said, v 30: “I have no power to do anything of Myself, but as I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just because I do not seek My own will but ***the will of the Father Who sent Me.***”

And Jesus says in John 12 that ***‘what the***

Father commanded Me to say, I speak!’ between the Most High and the Lord God in the Old Testament—because we find that they’re both *one*—did not the same thing apply? Did the Lord God—El Shaddai or I AM of the Old Testament—do anything contrary of what the Most High and He determined previously? *No!* We have two booklets:

- *The Two Jehovahs of the Pentateuch*
- *The Two Jehovahs of the Psalms*

That will help you!

Matthew 22:41: “While the Pharisees were assembled together, Jesus questioned them, saying, ‘What do you think concerning the Christ? Whose son is He?’ They said to Him, ‘*The Son of David.*’ He said to them, ‘How then does David in spirit call Him Lord, saying, “The LORD said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet’”? Therefore, if David calls Him Lord, how is He his Son?’ And no one was able to answer Him a word...” (vs 41-46).

The point here is that this conversation: “The LORD said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet’” ***was spoken before the ages of man!*** Because who is the greatest enemy? *Satan and the demons!*

So, no one can take Ps. 110:1 and say that since both of Them are called YHVH or Jehovah, Yahweh, Eternal, or the Lord that that proves that the Most High—the One Who became the Father—was actively working in the Old Testament.

You can’t start with the premise that they’re both called the same, and if they’re both called the same do They not both do the same work? If they both do the same work, therefore, They were both doing it at the same time! ***Not so!***

That’s why we read into the record here John 5, ***to do the will of the Father!*** In the Old Testament the ***YHVH was the One Who did the will of the Most High!***

Don’t let those things come along and start bringing in those kinds of things. Remember what we went through with the sermon series: *God the Father Was Not the God of the Old Testament*. This is in addition to it.

Sidebar: A comment was made that if the Father was the Lord God of the Old Testament then He would have been married to Israel. Therefore, if He was married to Israel, in order to terminate that covenant—because it takes death to terminate a covenant—God the Father would have had to come to the earth and die and be resurrected from the dead.

So, much for the philosophical thinking of

men trying to define God without coming to the Scriptures to find out what the Word of God tells us! If you can’t find it right away, don’t worry, keep searching. There are Scriptures that I have wondered about for years and years that I didn’t fully understand. That came later. Why? *Because you need more understanding from the Bible!*

How? Precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little, there a little, rightly dividing the Word of God and putting it together!

Let’s begin where we left off in part one looking at all the Scriptures where it tells us about the Most High, the One Who had to become the Father. If the Father was the God of the Old Testament that means that the Most High would have had to be active in dealing with men and women, exactly as the Lord God was. Do we find that? *No!*

So far, outside of the rebellion of Satan the devil saying that he would be like the Most High God, every single place where we find the phrases: *the Most High, the Most High God, the Highest*, is used mainly by David, not by the priests or the general population of Israel. Please remember, they did not have Bibles like we have today.

Psalms 57:1: Be gracious unto me, ***O God [Elohim]***, be gracious unto me; for my soul trusts in You; yea, in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge until these great troubles pass by. ***I will cry to God Most High***, to God who fulfills His purpose for me” (vs 1-2).

- Was there a special purpose for David that came from God the Most High? *Yes!*
- Does that mean that the Most High was actively involved? *No!*
- Who was David praying to? *He references the Most High, he’s crying out to the One Who was the Lord God!*

Verse 2: “I will cry to God Most High, to God who fulfills His purpose for me. He shall send from heaven and save me; He rebukes him who would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth His mercy and His Truth” (vs 2-3).

- Who decreed that there would be mercy and Truth? *The Most High!*
- Who dispenses mercy and Truth? *The Lord God!*

The truth of the matter is that God the Father is not going to be personally with His children until the resurrection, and then not completely until the new heavens and the new earth. In the meantime He works through Jesus Christ.

Verse 5: “Be exalted, O God, above the

heavens; let Your glory be above all the earth. They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down; they have dug a pit before me; into the midst of it they have fallen themselves. Selah. My heart is fixed, O God..." (vs 5-7)—Elohim, including Yahweh and the Most High, but that directly to the Lord God.

Verse 8: "Awake, my glory! Awake, harp and lyre! I myself will awake the dawn. I will praise You, O LORD, among the people; I will sing of You among the nations, for Your steadfast mercy is great *even* unto the heavens and Your Truth to the clouds. Be exalted above the heavens, O God; let Your glory be above all the earth" (vs 8-11). *The Most High is above that!*

(go to the next track)

Let's examine other places where in the Old Testament where it talks about *the Most High*.

Psa. 73—here is a complaint by Asaph, one of the priests. He couldn't comprehend why the wicked prospered. Is Satan able to bless those with riches and wealth? *Yes!* But Asaph couldn't understand it. So, this is kind of a Psalm of complaint, but comes to the right conclusion toward the end of it.

Psalm 73:5: "They are not in trouble like other men..." A lot of the wicked get away without having much trouble, but always remember that it comes upon them!

"...neither are they plagued like *other men*. Therefore, pride is as a chain about their neck. Violence covers them like a garment. Their eyes stand out with fatness; they have more than the heart could wish for. They scoff and speak with malice; in their arrogance they threaten oppression. They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walks through the earth. Therefore, waters of abundance are drunk by them" (vs 5-10).

They are in rebellion against God! Satan blesses them with his abundance. Did he not offer that to Jesus during His temptation? *Yes!* *Satan said that he would give Jesus all the nations of the world!*

Verse 11: "And they say, 'How does God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High?'" That is the supposition *if there is a Most High!* 'Does he have knowledge of what we're doing, because we're prospering in all that we are doing'!

This does not show that the One Who is the Most High in the Old Testament is actively involved in the events and things as is the Lord God (Yahweh).

This is another Psalm by Asaph; he's doing a lot of complaining; Psalm 77:7: "Will the LORD cast off forever? And will He be favorable no more?

Is His mercy gone forever? Has His promise failed for all generations? Has God [Elohim] forgotten to be gracious? Has He in anger shut up His tender mercies? Selah. And I said, "This is my grief, that the right hand of the Most High could change." (vs 7-10).

In other words, he's asking if even God—the Most High—could change. The answer is *NO!* You have to search for the answer of the complaint someplace else. Again, that does not show the Most High actively involved, even with a complaint against the Most High.

Psa. 78—another Psalm by Asaph talking about the children of Israel and what they were doing in the wilderness.

Psalm 78:17: "Yet, they continued to sin still more against Him by rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness."

Are the Father and the Son doing the same thing? *Yes! But it is the Son Who is doing the work!* Likewise, Elohim or the Lord is doing the work and the Most High is above that. Nevertheless, did this come from God the Most High? *Yes!* But Who spoke it?

Verse 18: "And they tempted God in their heart by asking food for their lust. Yea, they spoke against God; they said, 'Can God set a table in the wilderness?'" (vs 18-19). Again, this shows the Most High above.

- Who spoke the commandments? *The Lord God!*
- Are these not the same commandments that the Most High has? *Of course, that's where they originated!*

So, the Most High works:

- through the Lord God
- through angels
- through prophets
- through priests

But not directly Himself!

Verse 56: "Yet, they tempted and provoked the Most High God, and kept not His testimonies." Who spoke the testimonies of God? *The Lord God to Moses, Moses to the people!*

So, again, the Most High God is above, not directly involved. When He does something, He gives it to other to carry it out.

Psalm 82:1: "God stands in the congregation of the mighty; He judges among the gods. How long will you judge unjustly and respect the persons of the wicked? Selah. Defend the poor and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the

poor and needy; save them out of the hand of the wicked. They do not know, neither do they understand; they walk on in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken out of course” (vs 1-5). When is that? *At the return of Christ!*

Verse 6: “I have said... [Jesus quoted this in John 10] ...‘You are gods; and all of you are sons of the Most High.’”

When will that be? *At the resurrection!* This is a prophecy of the return of Christ and the resurrection. We will all be *gods* in the Family of God!

Psalms 83:18: “So that men may know that Your name alone is **the LORD**, that You alone are **the Most High** over all the earth.” It looks like They’re working together; however, this is “...the Most High over all the earth.”

- Is He over all the earth? *Yes!*
- Is He actively involved? *No, He’s not actively involved directly!*

We’ll see in the New Testament that with the Holy Spirit of God He is involved more directly and personally than in the Old Testament, but not here.

This is how you find out the Truth; you look at every place, look at all the Scriptures and ask: Who? When? What? Why? and take it from there.

Psalms 91:1: “He who dwells in **the secret place of the Most High** shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” The Most High is above, the Almighty is beneath—the Lord God.

Verse 2: “I will say of the LORD...”—doesn’t say to the Most High.

Verse 9 is also a prophecy of all of those who are going to be in the first resurrection. “Because you have made the LORD, Who is my refuge, even the Most High, your habitation

Verse 9: “Because you have made the LORD, Who is my refuge, even the Most High, your habitation.” When will that be? *At the resurrection!* This does not necessarily mean that the Most High is right there.

“...even the Most High, **your habitation**”—you’re going to be living with God the Father. When will that be? *When New Jerusalem comes to the earth!* This is a Psalm for God’s protection for all of those who are going to be in the first resurrection!

Psalms 92:1: “It is good to give thanks to the LORD and to sing praises unto Your name, **O Most High**.”

But all the rest of it as you go down through Psalms 92 it is the Lord who carries out the actions. Have we found a Psalm yet that says, ‘I pray to the

Most High’? or you finish your prayer and say, ‘In the name of the Most High’? *No, you don’t find that!*

This is talking about the rebellion of the children of Israel. Psalms 107:10: “Some sat in the darkness and in the shadow of death, being chained in affliction and iron **because they rebelled against the words of God and despised the counsel of the Most High**” (vs 10-11).

- Is not the Word of God the counsel that comes from the Most High?
- Did we not read the Scripture of Truth is in heaven above?
- *Yes, indeed! That’s what it’s talking about here!*

Verse 12: “Therefore, He humbled their heart with labor; they stumbled, and there was none to help. Then they cried to the LORD in their distress, and He saved them out of their troubles” (vs 12-13).

The Most High above and what was carried out was carried out by the Lord with direction from the Most High. *Again, the Most High is not directly involved!*

We’re going to see something really interesting in the book of Daniel. This becomes quite a thing for us to understand, when we put it all together. We’re going to see that God made it known to King Nebuchadnezzar. This is very important to understand.

King Nebuchadnezzar was the greatest king on earth. He was, in the image that he saw, the head of gold. The dream that he had was directly from God to him and he couldn’t understand it. So, he called all the prognosticators, the magicians, the priests and everyone and said, ‘Okay, I had a dream and I want you to tell me what the dream was and it’s interpretation.’

Well, they couldn’t do it. They said, ‘O king, no one can do that.’ He said, ‘If you don’t, I’m going to lop off your heads,’ So, Arioch the guard came to Daniel and Daniel asked for a little more time to pray to God for Him to reveal it. So then, Daniel says this concerning the revelation:

Daniel 2:19: “Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. And Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel answered and said, ‘Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals the deep and secret things; He knows what *is* in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him. I thank You, and praise You, **O God of my fathers**...” (vs 19-23).

You read the whole chapter. He told the interpretation to Nebuchadnezzar, that he's the head of gold, Persia is coming next, then Greece, Rome and then you have the feet and the ten toes. Then we find this:

Verse 40: "And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, forasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and beats down all things, and as the iron that crushes all these, shall it break in pieces and crush. And whereas you saw the feet and toes, part of potters' clay and part of iron, *the* kingdom shall be divided. But there shall be in it the strength of the iron, because you saw the iron mixed with miry clay. And *as* the toes of the feet *were* part of iron and part of clay, *so* the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly broken. And whereas you saw iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mix themselves with the seed of men. But they shall not cling to one another, even as iron does not combine with clay" (vs 40-43)—*threw it at the feet and everything came down and it was all destroyed!*

Verse 44: "And in the days of these kings, the God of heaven shall set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed. And the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Because you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold, **the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter.** And the dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure" (vs 44-45).

Dan. 4 is the central prophecy that carries down to our day, that lays it out in step-by-step fashion as revealed to Daniel and written in the book of Daniel. We find that the Most High made something known to Nebuchadnezzar. But how did He make it known? *Through Daniel!*

Very few people understand that Dan. 4 is actually an epistle by Nebuchadnezzar. It goes from that time all the way down to our day, because what's going to happen in our day? *Babylon the Great!*

Daniel 4:1: "Nebuchadnezzar the king, to all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth..."—down through time; then he had a dream and he saw a tree grow and it was cut down and stump was left and he didn't know what it was.

Verse 8: "But at last Daniel came in before me, whose name *was* Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god... [Nebuchadnezzar's god] ...and in whom *is* the spirit of the holy gods. And I told the dream before him, *saying*"—*then Daniel explained it!*

Verse 17: "This matter is by the decree of

the watchers... [the Most High God and the Lord God have watchers, angels] ...and the demand by the word of the Holy ones, so that the living may know that **the Most High rules in the kingdom of men**, and gives it to whomever He will, and sets up over it the basest of men." So, this great prophecy came from **the Most High**:

- through the watchers
- through the word of the Holy ones
- through Daniel to Nebuchadnezzar

So, this shows that the Most High is not actively involved personally in carrying out the things in the Old Testament.

Verse 24—Daniel said to the king: "This *is* the interpretation, O king, and this is **the decree of the Most High**, which has come upon my lord the king... [How did it come? *By the watchers!*] ... That you shall be driven from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and you shall be made to eat grass like oxen. And you shall be wet with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you **until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomever He will**" (vs 24-25).

It didn't say *kingdoms*, kingdom in the singular means **all** kingdoms, any kingdom of man. Why? *Because He gave them land, life, food, everything that there is:*

- through the Lord God
- through the watchers
- through the Holy ones

Verse 26: "And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots, your kingdom *shall be* sure to you after you shall have known that **the heavens do rule.**" Even if it's decree of the Most High, it's not carried out personally by God the Most High Himself. "...the heavens do rule..." are:

- Satan
- demons
- angels
- archangels

They rule!

Verse 27: "Therefore, O king, let my advice be pleasing to you, and break off your sins by righteousness, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor, so there may be lengthening of your prosperity."

Then what happened? *Nebuchadnezzar said, 'Oh, look at this Babylon! I am done!'* BANG! He was struck down! Let's see what he said after he went seven years with oxen, eating grass and being insane.

Verse 32: “‘And you shall be driven from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. You shall be made to eat grass like oxen, and seven times shall pass over you **until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomever He wills.**’ The same hour the thing was fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar....” (vs 32-33).

Verse 34: “And at the end of the days, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to heaven, and **my understanding returned to me, and I blessed the Most High,** and I praised and honored Him Who lives forever, for His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation.”

Of course, that’s true all the time! But the Most High made it known to Nebuchadnezzar that personally, because ‘you, at the start of this, had to understand that it came from the Most High,’ carried out by the watchers and the Holy ones, the angels of God. Then his kingdom came back to him and that’s how it was carried out.

Again, we will get a little more understanding of the Most High in Dan. 7, and when we do we will see that the Most High in the Old Testament works the same way: there’s the command that may come directly from the Lord God, but where did He get everything that He got? *From the Most High!* But the Most High is up in heaven.

Daniel 7:18: “But **the saints...** [the children who are gods] **...of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.**” *That’s at the resurrection; we’re going to rule with Christ, rule the world, and it will go on forever!*

Verse 21: “I watched, and that same horn made war with the saints and overcame them... tie that in with Rev. 5 & 12] ...until **the Ancient of Days** came, and judgment was given to the saints of **the Most High.** And the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom” (vs 21-22). *That’s at the resurrection!*

Verse 25: “And he... [the final beast of Rev. 13] ...shall speak words against **the Most High,** and shall wear out the saints of the **Most High,** and think to change the set times and the laws. And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time. But the judgment shall sit, and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and to be destroyed unto the end” (vs 25-26). That goes clear back to the feet of vision that Nebuchadnezzar had of the statue.

Verse 27: “And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole

heaven, shall be given to the people of **the saints of the Most High,** Whose kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom. And all kingdoms shall serve and obey Him.”

Eventually, it’s all going to get to there. But this is a prophecy of what is yet in the future. This does not show that the Most High was actively personally involved in these things directly, but that He did through the agencies that He had already established.

Hosea 7:12—talking about Israel: “When they go...”—to Ephraim, instead of coming back to God. Look at Ephraim today, they are almost in captivity right now by giving so much power to the Muslims within the country.

“...I will spread My net upon them; I will bring them down like the birds of heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation has heard. Woe to them, for they have fled from Me! Destruction unto them—because they have sinned against Me. Though I have redeemed them, yet, they have spoken lies against Me. And they have not cried to Me with their heart, when they howled on their beds; they gather themselves for grain and wine, and they rebel against Me. Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet, they think evil against Me. They return, but **not to the Most High...**” (vs 12-16).

All of this has come from God! This is talking about New Testament times. They return, ***but not the Most High Who gave everything through Christ to them!***

“...They are like a deceitful bow; their rulers shall fall by the sword from the rage of their tongue. This *shall be* their scorn in the land of Egypt” (v 16). Where do the Muslims come from? *Egypt!*

Hosea 11:6—Again, talking about Ephraim and the Israelites: “And the sword shall remain on his cities, and shall destroy his branches, and devour them because of their own counsels. And My people are bent on backsliding from Me. **Though they called to the Most High...** [this has to be New Testament times] **...none would at all exalt Him.**” (vs 6-7). Why? *Because of the vanity of Ephraim!*

Acts 7—where Stephen gave a great witness to the Sanhedrin, to all the Jewish leaders—the high priest, Levites—all gathered there wanting to know about the Christ. So, Stephen explained to them about why there doesn’t need to be a temple. The Jews thought that they were worshipping ***the Most High*** when they weren’t! They had the temple and they thought that as long as they had the temple and as long as there is God ‘we’re in good shape.’

Acts 7:44: “The tabernacle of the testimony

was among our fathers in the wilderness, as He Who spoke to Moses had commanded...”

- Who spoke to Moses? *The Lord God!*
- Who was above the Lord God? *The Most High!*

“...to make it according to the pattern, which he had seen; which also our fathers, who received it by succession, brought in with Joshua, when they took possession of *the land from* the nations whom God drove out before *the face* our fathers, until the days of David; who found grace before God, and sought to find a tabernacle for the God of Jacob; but Solomon built Him a house. However, **the Most High does not dwell in temples made by hands**, as the Prophet says” (vs 44-48).

- Was the presence of God put into the temple? *Yes, called the ‘shanika’!*
- Who did that come from? *The Lord God!*

So, this tells us that *the Most High* was not there! He was still in heaven. You can’t take these Scriptures and say that the Most High was active in the Old Testament, and that’s comparable to how God the Father’s working in the New Testament.

Verse 48: “However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made by hands, as the Prophet says: “‘The heaven *is* My throne, and the earth *is* a footstool for My feet. What house will you build for Me,” says *the Lord...*” (vs 48-49). Even though He’s called Lord, that’s how it was given to be written down.

So, we have clear, clear proof that the One Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament was the One Who became Jesus Christ of the New Testament. ***God the Father was not the God of the Old Testament!*** He was there and we know that Melchisedec became Jesus Christ (Heb. 7). Melchisedec *was priest of the Most High!*

In every case we do not find that *the Most High* was actively involved in the children of Israel or any of the events going on, even with Nebuchadnezzar, though it came from *the Most High*, He was not actively involved because it came ***by the word of the watchers and the Holy ones!***

None of that will be completely fulfilled until the new heavens and the new earth.

- What do we find with the new heavens and the new earth? *The throne of the Father and the throne of the Lamb side-by-side!*
- What do we see coming out from underneath Their throne? *Rivers of living water!*

When we read the Old Testament and these things, we have to understand when, how, why, who

and what, and analyze what the Bible tells us to get the full story.

I hope this helps some of you who are going to be approached by a so-called *slight change* by saying. ‘We no longer want to say that Jesus Christ was *the* God of the Old Testament because that excludes the Most High.’ ***No it does not! Because the word ‘Elohim’ includes Them both!*** But the Most High was not directly active in the Old Testament, not even revealed.

If God the Father were the One Who was active in the Old Testament, then there would be absolutely no need for these Scriptures, because they would have known.

Matthew 11:25: At that time Jesus answered and said, ‘I praise You, O Father, Lord... [‘kurios’; Yahweh, Old Testament] ...of heaven and earth, that ***You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and have revealed them to babes.*** Yes, Father, for ***it was well pleasing in Your sight to do this. All things were delivered to Me by My Father;*** and no one knows the Son except the Father; neither does anyone know the Father except the Son...” (vs 25-27). *Let’s use Old Testament terminology here:*

The Lord God knows the Most High, and the Most High knows the Lord God!

But only the Lord God was revealed in the Old Testament. The Most High was spoken of, but not active.

Verse 27: “All things were delivered to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; neither does anyone know the Father except the Son, **and the one to whom the Son personally chooses to reveal Him.**

We will see in part three what that means, and how the Father interacts with us today!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Exodus 6:1-3
- 2) Exodus 3:13-15
- 3) Psalm 110:1
- 4) Isaiah 14:12-14
- 5) Hebrews 10:4-7
- 6) Daniel 10:21
- 7) Hebrews 10:7
- 8) John 5:17-19, 30
- 9) Matthew 22:41-46
- 10) Psalm 57:1-3, 5-11
- 11) Psalm 73:5-11
- 12) Psalm 77:7-10
- 13) Psalm 78:17-19, 56
- 14) Psalm 82:1-6
- 15) Psalm 83:18

- 16) Psalm 91:1-2, 9
- 17) Psalm 92:1
- 18) Psalm 107:10-13
- 19) Daniel 2:19-23, 40-45
- 20) Daniel 4:1, 8, 17, 24-27, 32-34
- 21) Daniel 7:18, 21-22, 25-27
- 22) Hosea 7:12-16
- 23) Hosea 11:6-7
- 24) Acts 7:44-49
- 25) Matthew 11:25- 27

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Galatians 3
- John 8
- Revelation 12
- Romans 8
- Revelation 5
- John 12; 10
- Revelation 13
- Hebrews 7

Also referenced:

- Sermon: *Covenant Between God the Father and the Son*
- Sermon Series: *God the Father Was Not the God of the Old Testament*
- Booklets:
 - ✓ *The Two Jehovahs of the Pentateuch* by Carl Franklin
 - ✓ *The Two Jehovahs of the Psalms* by Carl Franklin

FRC:bo

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The Lord God and The Most High III

Where everything starts going wrong is when people put in their own ideas

Fred R. Coulter

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services! I wanted to cover this topic very thoroughly, because whenever they want to change doctrine in a serious way, **they always change the nature of God**, or something about the nature of God!

The latest one that has poked its head up on the horizon is that we should not say that Jesus Christ was **THE Lord of God of the Old Testament, because that may confuse some people!**

Why should it be confusing? *Perhaps for those who don't know their Bibles it may be.* Unfortunately, we've learned down through time and history that *even ministers do not know their Bibles* or they have other doctrines in the back of their mind that they want to bring forward at some time, **and they wait for a propitious moment to do it!**

Can we say that we should remove the word **the** out of Jesus Christ was **the** Lord God of the Old Testament. The proposition is that the Father was also very active in the Old Testament.

We've examined **The Most High** and **The Lord God**, and we have seen that **The Most High** is not directly involved, though He has given commands to **The Lord God** to do thus and such. We've seen in the Old Testament where it says, 'Let **Us** make man in **Our** image after **Our** likeness' (Gen. 1). Then **The Lord God**—Gen. 2—is the One Who did the making. *It apparently was the very plan that The Most High and The Lord God worked out together!*

In Gen. 11, when they were all getting ready to build their tower to ascend into heaven, they said, 'Let **Us** go down and see what they're doing, and let **Us** scatter them abroad across the face of the earth and confuse their languages.' Who carried that out? **The Lord God!**

Now we're going to cover two of them today, and then we will finish up to show that there has always been **the one God of 'Elohim' in the Old Testament was The Most High and in the New Testament was the Father!**

The Lord God was One Who became the Son of God: Jesus Christ. *It is entirely proper to say that Jesus Christ was THE Lord God of the Old Testament!*

The very last verse in Dan. 10 should be referred to quite often, because it tells us a lot. We read that God had a plan all set **before the ages of**

time! One man quoted that in the video that we saw {referred to in part one of this series}.

If you're going to have a plan, you're going to have a complete plan. Jonathan does plans for houses, businesses and additions and buildings, things like that. They will not get approved unless he has the complete plans covering everything.

Do you think God would have a plan and not have it all figured out and written down before He started? *Of course not!*

Daniel 10: 21: "But I will show you that which is **written in the Scripture of Truth...**" Where do you suppose that is? Even in the Hebrew that could even be translated **in the Scroll of Truth!** Let's see that referred to.

Psa. 110 is one Scripture that was proposed to try and show **The Most High** was active in the Old Testament.

Psalm 110:1: "The LORD said unto my Lord..." In this case the second Lord has been changed from YHVH to Adonai, and noted so by the Masorites. So, they say, 'Look at this.'

"...**'Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies as Your footstool!'**" (v 1).

- Does that mean that The Most High was actually down there?
- How was He going to make that happen?
- *Through the plan that They're carrying out!*
- How does God carry things out?

First of all, at the throne of God there are 24 elders, then there are the seven spirits of God going to and fro in the whole earth. How does God carry things out? **He gives the orders to the One Who became The Lord God of the Old Testament, and He carries it out!**

- He does it through angels
- He does it through Satan
- He does it through demons

They all carry out the will of God! Remember the first part of the book of Job; the angels came before God and:

- Who was among them? *Satan!*
- Who did God use to afflict Job? *Satan!*
- Was that the will of God? *Yes!*

A lot of people can't understand why God did that!

- Do you know what God did that?
- Can you summarize it in about two sentences?

Theoretically, you look at it and since Job was 'blameless' and some Bibles translate that 'perfect,' looking at it from a carnal point of view that was unfair. Wouldn't you think so? *Yes!*

You give it to someone who doesn't know the Bible or the New Testament and they read the book of Job and they think, 'How could God do this?' *That was me when I first read it!*

Is God interested in perfection in the flesh? *That would be nice*, but what is more, greater, the essential thing? *The heart and the mind!* When you read the whole conversation through and you understand that and read the book of Job, you will see why God was doing this and having it written down so it would be there forever in the Word of God that ***God is interested in the conversion of the mind!***

So, when Job got all done with what God was doing—because Job said that his righteousness was as good as God's—God answered the wish that Job had: 'Oh, I wish that the Almighty would come down and talk to me.' ***He did!***

Now then, let's read that again, and they should both be YHVH. When was this said?

Psalm 110:1: "The LORD said unto my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand... [the second Lord is at the right hand] ...until I make Your enemies as Your footstool.'" *The LORD gives the commands and the One Who is going to receive the benefit carries it out.*

What did Jesus say in John 17 and other places? ***I and My Father are One!*** The first LORD refers to ***The Most High***, but does that mean that He is actively involved? *That's why we've gone through every Scripture that says The Most High!*

It's the same relationship with the Father, and we will see that if it means currently ***or*** sometime before the foundation of the world, we don't know exactly when this was said.

- Was there the enemy before the foundation of the earth?
- Who was that? *Satan the devil!*

God's whole plan is to bring in the sons of God and get rid of Satan and the demons. That's as quick a summary as you can have of it. What we read there, "The LORD said unto my Lord..." Of course, the Pharisees and the Sadducees couldn't figure it out. Let's concentrate on the things that are written down and when they were said.

Psalm 40:4: "Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust and does not respect the proud,

nor those who turn aside to lies. O LORD my God, many things You have done, Your wonderful works and Your thoughts which are toward us; there is none to compare unto You; if I could declare and speak of them, they would be more than can be told. Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened... [the Septuagint says, 'a body You have prepared; that's what Paul wrote in Heb. 10] ...burnt offering and sin offering You have not required. Then I said, 'Lo, I come; in ***the Scroll of the Book it is written of Me***'" (vs 4-7)—***the Scroll of Truth!***

In there is the covenant between *The Most High*, Who became the Father, and *The Lord*, Who became Jesus Christ!

Verse 8: "I delight to do Your will, O My God; and Your Law is within My heart. I have preached righteousness in the great congregation; lo, I have not kept back my lips, O LORD, You know. I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not hidden Your loving kindness and Your Truth from the great congregation. Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O LORD; let Your loving kindness and Your Truth always preserve me" (vs 8-11).

That comes to Heb. 10, showing about Christ and what He did.

Matthew 22:41: "While the Pharisees were assembled together, Jesus questioned them, saying, 'What do you think concerning the Christ? Whose son is He?' They said to Him, 'The Son of David.' He said to them, 'How then does David in spirit call Him Lord, saying, "***The LORD said to my Lord***, 'Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet'""?'" (vs 41-44). *In both cases—LORD and Lord—it is 'Kurios.'*

So, if you call the Father 'Kurios'—which is true—and you call Him 'YHVH'—which is true—***does that mean He is actively involved*** as was *The Lord God* of the Old Testament anymore than the Father was directly involved during Christ's ministry in the New Testament?

As we read Matt. 11, remember what Christ told Thomas when Thomas said, 'Show us the Father.' What did Jesus answer? *If you've seen Me, you've seen the Father!*

Matthew 11:25: "At that time Jesus answered and said, 'I praise You, O Father, Lord... ['Kurios'] ...of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and have revealed them to babes. Yes, Father, for it was well pleasing in Your sight *to do this*. All things were delivered to Me by My Father..." (vs 25-27)—*all authority is given to Christ in heaven and*

in earth to carry out the plan of God!

“...and no one knows the Son except the Father; neither does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son personally chooses to reveal *Him*” (v 27).

IF the Father was the One Who spoke the Ten Commandments, He was actively involved on Mt. Sinai in giving the Ten Commandment, the judgments and the laws. The people heard the voice of God. Moses saw Him, not in His glory, because he would have been burned up. But Moses saw glory in God’s backside. But it says that Moses saw Him face-to-face, so God can appear like a man. How do you think He appeared to Adam and Eve? *Like a man!*

IF He—the Father—was known in the Old Testament, why would Christ have to reveal Him? *He would have been known!*

Now let’s see the quote in Heb. 10 that is there from Ps. 40. This is the basis of the covenant that They had. We will look at another command a little later on.

Hebrews 10:7: “Then said I [Christ], ‘Lo, I come (as it is written of Me in the Scroll of the Book)... [the Scroll of Truth, which is in heaven] ...to do Your will, O God.’ In the saying above, *He said*, ‘Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin (which are offered according to the priestly law) You did not desire nor delight in.’ Then He said, ‘Lo, I come to do Your will, O God.’ He takes away the first *covenant* in order that He may establish the second *covenant*” (vs 7-9). *In that second covenant, the Father is revealed to those who answer the call!*

Ephesians 1:1: “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus and to the faithful in Christ Jesus... [for all the saints for all time going down in history] ...Grace and peace be to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly things with Christ” (vs 1-3).

- the Word of God, spirit and life
- the Holy Spirit of God
- the Spirit of Christ

Those are heavenly things!

- the Word of God

Then it tells us a little later that it’s going to be even more when we’re resurrected.

Verse 4: “According as **He has personally chosen us for Himself...**” Who does the drawing? *The Father!* In the New Testament the Father spiritually is active, but not in the Old Testament.

“...before the foundation of the world...”

(v 4). That means that He had His plan and those who respond and He chooses, He’s already got it formulated as to what that’s going to be: *part of the Family of God!*

So, He had the plan, “...before the foundation of the world in order that we might be Holy and blameless before Him in love; having predestinated us for sonship to Himself through Jesus Christ...” (vs 4-5). *You find no language like this at all in the Old Covenant, the Old Testament!*

- How are we to pray? *Our Father Who is in heaven!*
- Is there any place in the Old Testament where it shows that they prayed directly to the God Most High?
- Is there any Psalm that says that? *It refers to Him, but not like in the sense of the New Covenant!*

This is why He had to be revealed, because He was not known!

Psalm 110:1: “The LORD said unto my Lord, **‘Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies as Your footstool.’** The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion *saying*, **‘Rule in the midst of Your enemies’**” (vs 1-2). Who is that? *Christ!*

Verse 3: “Your people will offer themselves in the day of Your power... [when will that be? *At the resurrection!*] ...in the beauties of Holiness from the womb of the morning... [that describes the resurrection] ...Yours is the dew of Your youth.... [now it shifts to Melchisedec]: ...The LORD has sworn and will not repent, **‘You are a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec.’**” (vs 3-4). *We’ll see that in the book of Hebrews!*

Verse 5: The LORD... [YHVH] ...at Your right hand shall strike through kings in the day of His wrath. He shall judge among the nations... [we will see Who judgment is given to] ...He shall fill them with dead bodies... [when Christ returns, that’s for sure] ...He shall shatter chief men over the broad earth. He shall drink of the brook... [drinking of the Holy Spirit] ...by the way; therefore, He shall lift up the head” (vs 5-7). *In the Old Testament, these are the only places that Melchizedek is mentioned. Amazing!*

After the rescue of Lot and the slaughter of the kings and the armies, Genesis 14:18: “And Melchisedec the King of Salem...” Where did Christ live when He came on the earth? *Salem, or Jerusalem!*

He wasn’t there all the time, but “...Melchisedec the King of Salem brought forth bread and wine. And He was the **Priest of the Most**

High God" (v 18). *The Most High did not show Himself at this point!*. Melchisedec brought that forth.

Verse 19: "And He blessed him, and said, 'Blessed be Abram of the Most High God...' *The Most High had chosen Abram!*

Who is Abram? *The father of the faithful!* The Most High was revealed to Abram. Why? *Because he was to be the father of the faithful, the father of Israel, as well, both!*

- How was **The Most High** revealed?
- Personally?
- *It doesn't tell us!*
- Was it just made known?
- *Here it shows that He was made known!*

"...possessor of heaven and earth. And blessed be the Most High God, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.' And he gave Him tithes of all" (vs 19-20).

Verse 22: "And Abram said to the king of Sodom, 'I have lifted up my hand to the LORD, the Most High God, the Possessor of heaven and earth.'" What did Jesus say of He and the Father? *We are one!*

Look at this way: Today we have corporations. You have presidents of corporations who get credit for what the corporations does, but what do they have? *Vice-presidents, managers, overseers, workers, foremen, designers, drafters; all under the name of the corporation!* The president is responsible! How many of those working in the corporation ever see the president? *Very rarely!*

Let's add in one more verse from the New Testament, John 17; this is quite a verse. Let's see what Jesus Himself said while He was praying to the Father. Don't you think that would be very revealing? This is a summary of His whole ministry and His work, and a description of God's plan.

John 17:24: "Father, I desire that those whom You have given Me may also be with Me where I am, so that they may behold My glory, which You have given Me; because You did love Me before the foundation of the world."

Who was the One Who did the making?

John 1:3: "All things came into being through Him, and **not even one thing that was created came into being without Him.**"

John 17:25: "Righteous Father, the world has not known You... [heard of Him, but did not know Him] ...but I have known You, and these have known that You did send Me. And I have made known Your name to them... [which is *the Father*] ...and will make *it* known; so that the love with

which You have loved Me may be in them, and I in them" (vs 25-26).

Clearly showing the world did not know *The Most High God*, did not know *the Father!* And they could not know except that Christ taught the disciples. But even then:

- How much did they really know until Christ revealed it after the resurrection?
- How much was given to them through the Holy Spirit of God, beginning on the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was given?

We need to understand how God works!

John 5:19: "Therefore, Jesus answered and said to them, 'Truly, truly I say to you, the Son has no power to do anything of Himself, but only what He sees the Father do. For whatever He does, these things the Son also does in the same manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him everything that He Himself is doing. And He will show Him greater works than these, so that you may be filled with wonder. For even as the Father raises the dead and gives life, in the same way also, the Son gives life to whom He will. For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son'" (vs 19-22).

How about that? Where does it say in the Old Testament that *The Most High* is judging men? ***The Lord is judging men, the One Who became Jesus!***

Verse 23: "So that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. The one who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father Who sent Him." *That honor would only come after His resurrection!*

All judgment is given to Christ, because He is the Son of man. He knows what it's like to be human! He knows what it's like to be tempted!

Romans 14:8: "For if we live, we should live unto the Lord; and if we die, we should die unto the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. *It is* for this very purpose *that* Christ both died and rose and is living again, so that He might be Lord over both *the* dead and *the* living" (vs 8-9).

The Father judges no man! He's given *all judgment* to Christ!

Verse 10: "Now then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you despise your brother? **For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ**, because it is written, "'For *as* I live," says *the* Lord, "every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God'" (vs 10-11).

Let's see how that's going to work out. When we get into these things, it's very important that we examine *all* the Scriptures. Too many times, people sit around and talk about the Bible, but they never bring out the Bible. That's how you get false doctrine started!

Concerning Christ and what He did in emptying Himself, giving up being God; Philippians 2:9: "Therefore, God has also highly exalted Him and bestowed upon Him a name, which *is* above every name; **that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of *beings* in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father**" (vs 9-11). Why doesn't it say *to The Most High*?

Every time you go through these things, if you look at it properly, the Son is always below the Father in the New Testament. In the Old Testament the LORD is always subject to ***The Most High!*** Same situation. Are both involved? *Yes!* In the Old Testament, ***The Most High*** hardly at all. In the New Testament, that's a different story.

(go to the next track)

Let's cover a little something more concerning ***The Most High***.

Luke 1:30: "Then the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found grace with God'"—***God the Father!***

How much selection did the One Who became Jesus have to do with who the mother was going to be? *We don't know!* But we do know that in the Greek she is called **the** virgin, not **a** virgin! So, she was one particular special virgin.

Verse 31: "And behold, you shall conceive in *your* womb and give birth to a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called *the* Son of *the* Highest... [that's equal to the expression: *Most High*] ...and *the* Lord God..." (vs 31-32)—***the One Who became the Father!***

Since the two are one, can you refer to both of Them with the same expression? *Yes!* That's why you can refer to YHVH to the One Who is ***The Most High*** as well as the One Who is ***the Lord God*** of the Old Testament. There is nothing in the Scriptures that tells now that we can bifurcate Them and say that They are both active in the same way. Nothing there tells us that.

"...and *the* Lord God shall give Him the throne of David, His forefather; and He shall reign over the house of Jacob into the ages, and of His kingdom there shall be no end" (vs 32-33). ***The whole plan of God without any details, just specified right here!***

Verse 34: "But Mary said to the angel, 'How shall this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?' And the angel answered *and* said to her, '***The*** Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and **the power of the Highest** shall overshadow you; and for this reason, the Holy One being begotten in you shall be called *the* Son of God'" (vs 34-35).

Mark 5:7—a demon is speaking to Christ: "And crying *out* with a loud voice, he said, 'What have I to do with You, Jesus...'"

How did they know that His names was going to be Jesus? *The angel said that He would be called Jesus! That had to be written in Scriptures of Truth.* How far back do the Scriptures of Truth go? ***Back into eternity!***

"...**Son of God the Most High?**...." (v 7). That tells us that before the angels rebelled they knew of the plan of God. How would the demon know otherwise.

That helps us get a little more understanding of what we have been covering here. What we're going to find that a lot of this had to all be written down in the Scripture of Truth. How do we know that that's a possibility? John 10 says that Jesus is the 'Door' and that He is the Shepherd of the sheep.

John 10:11: "I am the good Shepherd. The good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." ***We are the sheep and the sheep hear His voice and follow Him wherever He goes!***

That's why the Church has been scattered, because there are those who want to follow the Shepherd, ***they hear His voice!*** How do you hear the voice of the Shepherd? ***By a correct reading of the Word of God!*** How do you read? ***You speak to yourself!*** So, you hear!

Verse 12: "But the one who is a hireling, and who is not *the* shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep, and flees. And the wolf seizes the sheep and scatters them." ***That's what's happened to the Church!*** Maybe we're going to see this happening again!

Verse 13: "Now, the hireling flees because he is a hireling and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good Shepherd, and I know those who *are* Mine..." (vs 13-14).

How does He know them? ***Because they have the Spirit of Christ and they have the Spirit of the Father!*** That was not available in the Old Testament. Only the Spirit of Christ as Peter writes in 1-Pet. 1.

Verse 15: "Just as the Father knows Me, I also know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring those also, and ***they shall hear***

My voice; and there shall be one flock and one Shepherd. On account of this, the Father loves Me: because I lay down My life, that I may receive it back again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have authority to lay it down and authority to receive it back again. **This commandment I received from My Father**" (vs 15-18).

When? *Before He was even conceived!* If you're going to have a plan, you have to have to complete like we started. When you do house plans, you have the foundation, plumbing, electric, windows, interior: kitchen, bathrooms and whatever other rooms, and they're all in detail. If you a specialty room and you need specialty electricity, you've got to specify it. If you need special air-conditioning, you must specify it.

Do you think the eternal plan of God would not have all been laid out ahead of time? *Of course!* That's why the demon said, 'You're the Son of the Most High.' And Jesus told him to be still! Amazing! **"...This commandment I received from My Father."**

1-Corinthians 15:20: "But now Christ has been raised from *the* dead; He has become the Firstfruit of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came the* resurrection of *the* dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (vs 20-22)—*even the wicked to be cast into the Lake of Fire!*

Verse 23: "But each in his own order: Christ *the* Firstfruit; then those who are Christ's at His coming. Afterwards the end *comes*, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to Him Who *is* God and Father, when He shall have put an end to all rule and all authority and power. For it is ordained that He reign until He has put all enemies under His feet. *The last enemy to be destroyed is death*" (vs 23-26). *That's what we find in Revelation!*

Verse 27: "For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when it is said that all things have been put in subjection, *it is* clearly evident that *it does* not include Him Who put all things in subjection under Him. But when He has put all things in subjection to Him, then shall the Son Himself also be subject to Him Who put all things in subjection to Him, so that God may be all in all" (vs 27-28). *That's the final thing of God's plan!*

Let's go through John 17 because this tells us an awful lot about God's plan and being carried out.

John 17:1: "Jesus spoke these words, and lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come...'” *So, in the plan of God there is*

this particular hour!

"...glorify Your own Son, so that Your Son may also glorify You; since You have given Him authority **over all flesh...**" (vs 1-2). *Since He's the Creator of man and woman*, over all flesh, all human being past, present and future. He has authority over them, and there's no way to deny that.

Therefore, the Father, Who gave Him that authority, is not directly involved until there's repentance, baptism and receiving of the Holy Spirit. The seven spirits draw them, they are directed by the Father. When there is repentance, baptism and receiving of the Holy Spirit then the Father gets involved with Christ. We've already covered that.

In John 14, they will come with the begetting of the Spirit and make Their dwelling place within those who receive the Holy Spirit: the Father and the Son. The Father for sonship to become a son or daughter of God, and the Son to have the mind of Christ **together!**

We find no such thing like that in the Old Testament! This is a completely new and fantastic and marvelous thing that God is doing. That He has given to men and women direct access through prayer and the Word of God to God the Father and Jesus Christ and receiving of the Holy Spirit of God. That was not available except to a few of the patriarchs and some of the kings of Judah. That was it! Paul mentioned some of them in Heb. 11.

Now, this is entirely different here. "...given Him authority **over all flesh...**"—that determines who is in the first resurrection, who's in the second resurrection, who is going to be in the part of the resurrection to receive eternal life in the second resurrection, and the part that are going into the Lake of Fire.

"...in order that He may give eternal life to all whom You have given Him" (v 2). So, the Father is directly involved with us when we receive the Holy Spirit.

Verse 3: "For this is eternal life, that they may know You..." *You can't really know God until you're a spirit being!* We can have an understanding about God, we can know what He means and what His Word says. We can be acquainted with God through prayer and study, but to **know** Him requires the resurrection.

"...the only true God..." (v 3). What did Jesus say that? *At the time He was praying, He was in the flesh!* He had not yet gone through everything and been crucified, be dead and buried. So, you could not call Jesus *true God* at that point. That's why Paul wrote, 'God manifested in the flesh.' Since He carried within Him 'the law of sin and death' to condemn sin in the flesh, His flesh, He could not be

true, Holy God until His death and resurrection!

Even then, since He was born of the flesh and resurrected, even His God-person has been changed to that extent.

Verse 4: "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work that You gave Me to do." This is the work of calling and teaching the disciples and preparing the way and everything that He had to do.

When He was on the cross, right as He died He said, 'It's finished!' The whole ordeal of the cross is separate from the preaching of the Gospel and the calling of the apostles. That's one work and He finished that. But He had to finish, because this was before His arrest, everything with the crucifixion.

Knowing they were coming to arrest Him, John 18:4: "Jesus, therefore, knowing all *the* things that were coming upon Him, went forward *and* said to them, 'Who are you seeking?'"

- He knew everything!
- He prophesied everything!
- He knew exactly what was going to happen!

That's why in the book of Luke, when He went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray, He prayed and the sweat came down like great drops of blood, because He was in agony knowing what He was facing.

John 17:5: "And now, Father, glorify Me with Your own self... [looking forward to the resurrection] ...with the glory that I had with You before the world existed." *Here we go, another place showing God's plan before the world existed!*

Why would the angels rebel unless they refused to serve man and be under them after they are resurrected from the dead.

Verse 6: "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, and You have given them to Me, and they have kept Your Word."

How did Jesus know whom to pick? Remember that after everything was all done, how many apostles did Jesus have? *Eleven!* He had other people who believed, and when they were all assembled in the upper room just before Pentecost, how many were there? *120!* That was the seed for the work.

Verse 7: "Now, they have known that all things that You have given Me are from You.... [they understood that] ...For I have given them the words that You gave to Me; and they have received *them* and truly have known that I came from You; and they have believed that You did send Me. I am

praying for them; **I am not praying for the world...** [quite a statement] ...but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. All Mine are Yours, and all Yours *are* Mine; and I have been glorified in them" (vs 7-10).

How has He been glorified in them? *Because He gave them the Word of the Father!* He taught them!

Verse 11: "And I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, those whom You have given Me, so that they may be one, even as *We are one.*"

Remember that when you are baptized, how are you baptized? *Into the name of the Father, and that's His Holy name in the New Testament!* Not some 'sacred' name from the Old Testament. This is greater! This is direct access!

And of the Son, because it's through Jesus Christ and His sacrifice that we have forgiveness of sin, and the shedding of His blood.

And of the Holy Spirit, because we need the Holy Spirit in order to change, grow, overcome and prepare for the resurrection.

They all belong to Him! During the Millennium all those who are converted will be the children of Christ and the Bride, the Church. Only those in the first resurrection are the sons and daughters of God the Father.

Verse 11: "And I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, those whom You have given Me, so that they may be one, even as *We are one.*" *That's the whole plan of God right there!*

Verse 12: "When I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. I protected those whom You have given Me, and not one of them has perished except the son of perdition, in order that the Scriptures might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to You; and these things I am speaking *while yet* in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in them" (vs 12-13).

When the real joy going to come? *At the resurrection!* Look at it this way: in some of the things that John Guenther has sent to me concerning those who were being hauled off to be martyred, they were joyful, singing and thanking God for their calling.

Today just think about all the complaints that there would be. Some people have said they wished God hadn't called them. 'I wish that He would have waited until the second resurrection.' Well, why did you answer the call? ***The first***

resurrection is going to be greater forever and ever! That's what to keep in mind!

Verse 14: "I have given them Your words, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You would take them out of the world... [many times we wish that, but that's not going to happen] ...but that You would keep them from the evil one" (vs 14-15). *That's also a choice we must make!*

Verse 16: "They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in Your Truth; Your Word is the Truth" (vs 16-17).

That's why we seek the truth in everything that we do. ***Where everything starts going wrong is when people put in their own ideas!*** You can think about things and say you are thinking about it, but you don't know! There are things we don't know. We cannot make a definitive conclusion. We can say that this is possible or that is possible, but we don't know and we won't know until the resurrection.

So, if we come along and say, 'I suppose this or that or the other things.' And we think that those are pretty good suppositions and start adding to it, that's how the *traditions of men* get started.

How do you think the Catholics finally came to believe that Mary was assumed into heaven bodily? *By talking and talking and not reading Scriptures!* John wrote clearly, and Mary was probably dead when he wrote it: *No one has ascended into heaven except the Son of man who is in the bosom of the Father at the time he wrote it!*

Verse 18: "Even as You did send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, so that they also may be sanctified in Your Truth" (vs 18-19). *Everything here is an aspect of the plan of God further defined in other parts of the Bible concerning how it's going to be carried out.*

Verse 20: "I do not pray for these only, but also for those who shall believe in Me through their word... [Christ has prayed for us] ...that they all may be one... [the whole plan and purpose of God right here] ...even as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; ***that they also may be one in Us...***" (vs 20-21).

That tells you Who the Us are in the Old Testament: *The Most High* Who became the Father, and *The Lord God* Who is the God of the Old Testament, Who became Jesus Christ.

"...in order that the world may believe that You did send Me. And I have given them the glory that You gave to Me..." (vs 21-22). *A prophecy of the glory that we will receive!*

We have a taste of that glory through the

Holy Spirit, through understanding the Word of God! But the glory that will be when we're resurrected is also included here.

"...in order that they may be one... [that can only be at the resurrection] ...in the same way *that* We are one: I in them, and You in Me, ***that they may be perfected...*** [the process of growing and overcoming] ...into one; and that the world may know that You did send Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me" (vs 22-23).

When will the world know that? *They won't until the resurrection!* We've already covered the rest of the verses. We covered some other things besides the Father and the Son, and ***The Most High and The Lord God!*** It shows that there are some things in the Bible that we can't answer, yet. So, we'll just have to wait and see.

I hope that this answers the question that ***it is entirely, absolutely correct to say that Jesus Christ was THE Lord God of the Old Testament.***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Daniel 10:21
- 2) Psalm 110:1
- 3) Psalm 40:4-11
- 4) Matthew 22:41-44
- 5) Matthew 11:25-27
- 6) Hebrews 10:7-9
- 7) Ephesians 1:1-4
- 8) Psalm 110:1-7
- 9) Genesis 14:18-20, 22
- 10) John 17:24
- 11) John 1:3
- 12) John 17:25-26
- 13) John 5:19-23
- 14) Romans 14:8-11
- 15) Philippians 2:9-11
- 16) Luke 1:30-35
- 17) Mark 5:7
- 18) John 10:11-18
- 19) 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
- 20) John 17:1-4
- 21) John 18:4
- 22) John 17:5-23

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Genesis 1; 2; 11
- 1 Peter 1
- John 14
- Hebrews 11

FRC:bo

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The Lord God and The Most High IV

God the Father and Jesus Christ and what They are doing under the New Covenant

Fred R. Coulter

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Sabbath services! This is the Sabbath before the Feast of Tabernacles, and it's very interesting, because there's a ten-year space of time—this is year #9—where there is no Wednesday Passover. That happens every once in a while that way. So, next year it will be like a repeat of what we have this year, only it will be later. This year, starting with the Feast of Trumpets is a leap year. That pushes it out about 20 days.

Also, I've been watching the moon and it's getting closer to a full moon. Tonight the moon will turn full when it's just past what you would say is the middle of the horizon. It's turning full at that time. That's important, because that will be the full moon for New Zealand, because they're a day ahead of us.

In order to have the full moon for the whole earth, you need two days of full moon. For us, Sunday night will be a full moon, but we're close to the end of the two days of full moon. It happens that way on the Passover, too.

So, beginning in 2020, within five years we will have three Passover's in the middle of the week. A little thought on the timing of the return of Christ. A lot of people think it should be in a Jubilee year. But if it's in the beginning of a Jubilee year, there's no storage of food. When the Millennium begins, what's the earth like? *It's in chaos and confusion!*

Speculation: Suppose the Jubilee is the year of Jesus' return, and when the saints and Christ come to the earth and Satan is put away, that ends the Jubilee. The Jubilee runs from Atonement to Atonement. Do you think that might sound plausible? *Could be!*

But since everything is renewing and rebuilding, He cannot come to the earth at the beginning of a Jubilee, because where are you going to eat the food?

Just something to think on!

Have you ever gone along and have been studying and you finally notice something that you have never noticed before in all the years of studying the Bible? Well, that happened to me last week!

The first verses in Psalms 50 are quite significant, so, let's think about it and see an example of why you need to *read, study, compare and put it together*.

We were having a good discussion on how it's best that everyone have a regular Bible, because

if the Internet fails you're not going to get it. If your batteries go dead and there's no electricity for charging... And if you have an electric car and you don't solar panel to charge up the battery, you aren't going anywhere.

Sidebar on electric cars: How does all of the magnetism—plus and minus—contained in the storage batteries in the car affect the driver? *Don't know!* I suppose it will be kind of like gasoline. It took them 70 years how to keep all the toxins down.

Comment: Electric blankets have been shown to tend to—not absolutely proven—cause pregnant women to lose their babies. Electric blankets will affect you in addition to making you more warm than you ought to be. What does that do?

Psalms 50:1: "The mighty God, God, the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down. Out of Zion... [in heaven above] ...the perfection of beauty, God has shined forth. Our God shall come, and He shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, so that He may judge His people: 'Gather My saints unto Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.' And the heavens shall declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge. Selah" (vs 1-6).

- What does this picture? *The return of Christ!*
- What else does this picture?

Remember that the coming of Christ is not just instantaneous in one day. What else does it tell us? *Judgment!*

Verse 5: "'Gather My saints unto Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.'"

- How and when does He gather them? *The resurrection!*
- What is the sacrifice of the covenant that we have? *Baptism! That's your sacrifice!*

Whenever you have a covenant the two parties enter into sacrificial dedication of their covenant pledge to guarantee they will do it. That guarantee is that if you don't do it you're going to die!

Christ gave His life; that's His sacrificial guarantee. When we are baptized, what's one of the things that we are counseled on? *Count the cost,*

which is a ***pledge that you will always put God first in your life through Jesus Christ!***

Let's see how this is done. This makes it legal; God is the Author of laws. Is God interested that things are legal and right.

Sidebar on legal and testifying: I did not know until it was reported on television that during the Inquisitions, the accused always was required to testify first. So, with this little thing going on with Judge Kavanaugh, that shows very clearly that they don't know anything about it. If it were true, the accuser *must* speak first.

Christ died for us, paid for our sins and that's His covenant pledge to all those whom God the Father calls.

- Can you get any greater covenant pledge than that? *No!*
- What was the foretype of His crucifixion?
- Where is that found in the book of Genesis? *Abraham, Gen. 15!*

When those animals for sacrifice were split down the middle, there was a pathway for God to walk through. The whole thing there is symbolic of the Passover and the suffering that He would go through. God pledged to keep that covenant, and if that covenant were changed—concerning Abraham—He would die. That was done so that He could initiate the New Covenant.

This is where we come in; Romans 6:1: What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may abound? **MAY IT NEVER BE!....**" (vs 1-2).

Always remember that ***nothing can replace the sacrifice of Christ, because nothing is greater than that!*** Which means that works of law, inheritance, family, whatever, ***can do nothing spiritually for you!*** They may do a lot of things physically for you, because of other promises that God gave to the physical descendants that God gave to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

But when you look at it, ***nothing you can do can equal the sacrifice of Christ!*** How does God handle that? *Repentance!* That's the important thing! Then God promises to forgive your sins. *When your sins are forgiven, and you're answering the call to salvation, you must be baptized for your part of the covenant sacrifice!*

Like it says in Psalm 50:5: "Gather My saints unto Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice." If you offer a bullock or a lamb

I remember that when I was an assistant with Dale Hampton up in Oregon, there's a Smith

River that comes down pretty steep. We baptized this woman and instead of baptizing her head going upstream into the current, we baptized her head going down and he almost lost her. I reached out and grabbed her from going downstream. We had hip-waders on and I filled up with water. We don't need that kind of sacrifice either.

Since your repentance represents a beginning, and you're following Christ and accepting His sacrifice is a beginning, your part of the sacrifice for the covenant is not death, but ***a symbolic death*** with the other proviso, ***which is being faithful unto the end!***

Romans 6:2: "...**We who died to sin...** [because 'the wages of sin is death'] ...how shall we live any longer therein?" *You can't live in sin!*

I just did some Church At Home on the report of pedophilia in Pennsylvania. How much did the Catholic Church have to pay? *\$26-million* in the Brooklyn Diocese. They're going to have to sell some stock to pay that.

You can't live in sin! What's one of the first things we're to do when we pray? *Repent!* The longer you have the Holy Spirit and *the more that you:*

- study the Word of God
- grow in grace and knowledge
- overcome and fight the flesh

*the more you realize that **there is no good thing in the flesh!*** That's part of conversion. When your sins are forgiven, God erases them and He doesn't remember them, *but you remember them as a reminder not to do it, not to sin!*

Verse 3: "Or are you ignorant that we, as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into His death?"

What death was His death? *A covenant death!* Also, a death to end the covenant with Israel! Though all the promises that God gave to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and the things concerning Israel, we know that it says that ***in the last days you will consider*** (Deut. 28). Those things still apply to the nation of Israel.

Why does God answer prayers to those whom He doesn't call? *Because in answering the prayer they may repent so that they could be called!* And to verify the fact that God answers prayer, and to prove that He does exist.

God deals with the whole world, and everyone is subject to whatever God desires. We have to exercise our free moral agency.

Verse 4: "Therefore, we were buried with Him..." That's why it's full emersion in water,

closest thing to death you can come to without dying.

“...through the baptism into **the** death...” (v 4). That’s what it is in the Greek. Who’s death is that? *Christ’s death!* As the Creator of man and woman, His death can be applied to anyone going clear back to the beginning and clear forward to the end human procreation and so forth. That’s why there’s a second resurrection.

God’s plan is so fantastic, and put in a book so those to whom He wants to reveal His will can understand it, provided they:

- love Him
- keep His commandments
- grow in grace and knowledge

That’s how God has worked it out. Wherever the people of God are today, the world doesn’t know anything about us. Wait till the resurrection, that’s going to be spectacular.

“...so that, just as Christ was raised from *the* dead by the glory of the Father, in the same way, we also should walk in newness of life” (v 4).

Did God accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ? *Yes, of course!* For the sins of the whole world! John the Baptist said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God Who takes away **the sin** of the world!’ *Not sins, but the sin!* There is one sin that causes all sin. What is that one sin? *The law of sin and death!* Which came when? *When Adam and Eve sinned!* That is *the sin: takes away the sin of the world!* Did you ever wonder why it didn’t say *sins*? *Because there’s one sin that causes all sin!* Likewise with Satan the devil, the Day of Atonement, there’s one rebellion.

We die symbolically in the watery grave by full immersion, and were raised out of the watery grave to walk in newness of life, because the perfection is a process is, over time, called conversion! It says that you are a new creature (1-Cor. 5), that is a prophecy of what you will be because it says that *we are being created* (Eph. 2:10) *by God the Father!*

One is a prophecy of completion. the other is of on-going growing and overcoming with the workmanship of God the Father. This is going to tie in closely with what we did with *The Most High* and *the Lord God*, and the Father and the Son. Here is how the covenant is made legally and spiritually between God the Father, Jesus Christ and everyone that He calls, and they repent and are baptized.

Verse 5: “For if we have been conjoined together in the likeness of His death, **so also shall we be in the likeness** of His resurrection.... [a promise] ...Knowing this, that **our old man was co-crucified**...” (vs 5-6).

That baptism is a symbolic crucifixion, because in your mind you have counted the cost and you have repented and accepted the sacrifice of Christ; *you are co-crucified!*

- What’s another thing with crucifixion that the Bible tells us? *Jesus said that if you ‘want to follow Me, pick up your cross and follow Me.’*
- What did Paul say that we should do with the sin daily? *We should crucify it!*
- How? *By rejecting it and repenting of it!*

Like we already covered, and this is true especially for us, but also true for every human being in the world. No one, not even atheists can get along without God, because they must eat, sleep, drink and all of that sort of thing. ***God provides all of that! In Christ we live, more and have our being!*** Now, apply that spiritually! Everything about us, that’s the way it is.

“...with *Him* in order that the body of sin might be destroyed...” (v 6). Why? *Because the law of sin and death is only overcome through the Spirit of God!* That’s how we are delivered from it. We don’t have to be ruled by it. He doesn’t take away ‘the law of sin and death’ out of us.

- we have the Spirit of God to overcome
- we use the Word of God to overcome
 - ✓ the way that we think
 - ✓ the way that we live
 - ✓ our daily life

We’re going to have some great days and we’re going to have some bloopers, and we’re going to have some disasters.

Especially in going over that material that John Guenther has been working up for us concerning the history of the Church from 325_{A.D.} to 1625_{A.D.}, our sufferings are entirely different than theirs. It is true that they did have the Word of God in their own vernacular during that time; they were not without it. They had it and they lived and died for it. But their trials were fighting against the Roman Catholic Church and the whole system.

Our trials are different living in America, Canada, and I don’t know so much about Britain anymore. Steve can fill us in on that. He’s watching the Islamization of the UK slowly but surely. We have discussions about that every once in a while.

Ours are different. We have to fight off false doctrine and hold fast to that which is good, and grow and grace and knowledge. We have to fight things that come into our lives automatically. Turn on the television. I bet within the first ten or twenty seconds you’re going to come across some sin that takes place. Whatever it is!

Our overcomings are entirely different than waiting to be martyred! Our overcomings are a world of pleasure, comfort and everything that is here. **Will we be faithful to God in everything? Regardless of what happens!**

- some of us have troubles with our families
- some of us have troubles with husband/wife
- some of us have troubles with people dying

Everybody is going to die! God knows when it's going to be. Just like with Stephen in Acts 7, he was ready, and he was young. So, we have to fight against how we maintain our physical body. That's one of them.

- you know your own problems
- you know your own sins
- you know the things you are struggling against

That's how we're overcoming so that we can be in the likeness of His resurrection!

"...co-crucified with *Him* in order that the body of sin might be destroyed, so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin" (v 6). *It doesn't say the absence of it!* It's still there, but you're not a slave to it!

- you can overcome it
- you can say *no*
- you can turn it down
- you can get away from it

Or in the case of your television, switch the channel or turn it off! So, our trials are entirely different, but they are there ***so that we can qualify through God the Father and Jesus Christ to be in the Kingdom of God!***

Have you thought about Psalms 50. I'll tell you what dawned on me, when it's obvious and right there in big print:"

Psalms 50:5: "Gather My saints unto Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

- Is that not the resurrection? *Have to be!*
- Won't that be the greatest grace bestowed upon us? *Number 5 is the number of grace!*
- Look at the numbering of the Psalm: 50
- When is the resurrection? *Pentecost, 50th day!*

Here in the 50th Psalm it talks about the first resurrection.

I was reading this not too long ago and I thought: Look at that, 50 in big print. This is a Pentecost—the first five verses—Psalm! It's the 50th day that we're resurrected, and we're saved by grace, *which is #5!*

See how the Bible fits together? It's an

amazing, amazing thing! There are so many more things that we have to learn in it. That just blew me away. Isn't it true that sometimes you can go along and you can understand so many different things, ***then something is as obvious as this you miss!***

Psalms 47:1: "Clap your hands, all you people; shout to God with the voice of triumph."

- What's going to happen on the Sea of Glass up there? *Rev. 19!*
- What do you hear? *A multitude saying, 'Hallelujah!'*

Verse 1: "Clap your hands, all you people; shout to God with the voice of triumph, for the LORD Most High is awesome; He is a great King over all the earth" (vs 1-2).

When does that happen? *The last trumpet!* 'Now the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ' (Rev. 11)! The nations were so joyous and happy! ***NO! they were angry and gathering their armies!***

Verse 3: "He shall subdue the people under us and nations under our feet." {note Isa. 2, Micah 4, Zech. 14—how God is going to bring the true world government to this earth}

You can only do it with righteous people. If there's any one thing that we're learning, there is no human government on this earth that isn't corrupt to whatever degree. Some may be more righteous than others. But look at them, look at the nations of the world! Just took a spin of the globe and ask yourself: Since you're living here in the United States, what other nation would you like to live in? *You might say for a while Switzerland!* But what's going to happen when the Hadron Collider brings in a new dimension and power? Where do you want to live?

Verse 4: "He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom He loved. Selah." What are we going to receive on the Sea of Glass?

- new name
- assignment
- we'll be there for the marriage
- we're going to get our battle plans
- we're going to have the marriage supper of the Lamb

What's that going to be like? *A great banquet! All the saints served by the angels!* I wonder what spiritual wine will taste like? Remember that Christ made wine out of water? He took it to the master of the wedding, and He said, 'You save the best wine for the last.' What's that going to be like? *Who knows!* Then we're going to have to learn how to play a lyre. We're going to

learn how to ride a white horse.

We're all going to get our assignments. We'll know who we report to. It's going to be the most magnificent plan and operation ever executed for war on the face of the earth.

When we come down, Christ is going to give the word, and all of those armies standing up there, we're going to fight them. Did you see the movie Raider's of the Lost Ark, and finally the guy got it and looked into it and all his flesh came off of him. That's what's going to happen to these armies. That's going to be something.

Verse 5: "God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a horn. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises, for God is King of all the earth; sing praises with understanding. God reigns over the nations; God sits upon the throne of His Holiness. The rulers of the peoples are gathered together, the people of the God of Abraham for the shields of the earth are God's; He is greatly exalted" (vs 5-9).

Even though it mentions Jacob in v 4, it was Abraham, the people of the God of Abraham. What did Paul write concerning Abraham and those who are baptized? *If you are Christ's you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise!*

(go to the next track)

Let's follow this up with ***God the Father and Jesus Christ and the New Covenant!***

If God the Father were the active One of the Old Testament, the Jews would have known that. But we find in Luke 10 that was one of the main missions of Jesus Christ:

- preach the Gospel
- call the disciples
- train them
- witness to the world
- heal the sick
- raise the dead
- He had to come to be the sacrifice to end the covenant with Israel and begin the covenant with the Church

His sacrifice was just multi-layered with many different things attached to it. But in His preaching, He had to do what was not known under the Old Covenant:

Luke 10:21: "In the same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit, and said, 'I praise You, **O Father, Lord...**'"—Greek: 'Kurios' Remember the Psa. 'My LORD said to My Lord—'Kurios' to 'Kurios.'

"...**of heaven and earth**... [yet, Jesus is the One Who made them] ...that You did hide these

things from *the* wise and intelligent, and did reveal them to babes. Yes, Father, for it was well pleasing in Your sight *to do so*.'"

Verse 22 introduces something new that God was going to do including God the Father and the One Who was the Son.

Verse 22: " Then He turned to the disciples *and* said, 'All things were delivered to Me by My Father; and no one knows Who the Son is, except the Father; and Who the Father is, except the Son, **and the one to whom the Son personally chooses to reveal Him.**'"

It's a joint operation! It was a joint operation in the Old Testament under the patriarchal covenant and under the covenant with Israel together: ***The Lord God and The Most High!*** Now we have ***Jesus Christ and God the Father!***

God the Father is now going to act in an entirely different way than He did previous to the coming of Christ. This is because He has now reached the point with His plan that there must be the development of the sons and daughters of God. We also know that *many are called* and witnessed to, but *few are chosen!* Chosen means that ***you are chosen by God the Father!***

Another thing that was different is that it was to all people beginning first with the Jews. There was a promise. What was the promise to Judah? *He would save the tents of Judah first!* When you read of the 144,000, what does that start out with? *Judah! 12,000!* That's of the 12 tribes.

So, God's Word is true all the time! The disciples, after the resurrection of Christ preached in the area of Jerusalem and Judea for 12 years. It wasn't until that time in Antioch that there were Gentiles who were called. Remember what happened, an angel revealed himself to Cornelius, and he sent his soldiers to get Peter, who was the leading apostle. Cornelius didn't go to Thomas or Bartholomew; *he* went to Peter!

You know what happened. God had to perform a miracle so that he would know that now God is going to deal with all the nations of the world beginning with Cornelius and his family. God did a miracle with them in the same manner that He did with the Jews at the temple.

- What was that? *The Holy Spirit came and they spoke in other languages!*
- For what purpose? *To show that the Gospel was now going to be preached in every language to the whole world!*

This is different than the covenant with Israel; that was just to the 12 tribes. This is the whole world. It

is that *the Father is revealed by Christ to those who are called!*

Now we're going to learn quite a few things in the book of John. How many Jews today believe in God the Father and Jesus Christ? *Virtually none!* Messianic Jews go so far, but what is the big problem that they have? *Though they recognize Christ, they keep too much of Judaism!* What is the main problem that keeps them from understanding, though they have certain degree of belief? *They observe the Passover on the 15th, because the Jews in the Diaspora could not keep the 14th, because they would have to keep in within the geographical bounds of Israel.*

Therefore, they made the Night to be Much Observed the Passover and have the Seder. They know they can't do the Passover so they do the Seder. Today, the Messianics still do the Seder.

We know that Jesus kept the Passover on the 14th. This spring I'm going to go through the last ten days of Jesus' life. I want everyone to get *A Harmony of the Gospels*, because we're going to go through covering the last ten days. Take it day by day.

The very last thing that Jesus commanded the apostles, and we also find this down through this history that John Guenther covers, *the Piedmonts*.

Matthew 28:18^[transcriber's correction]: "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples in all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'" (vs 18-19).

That does not prove a trinity, that proves you need the Father, the Son and you have to have the Holy Spirit.

Verse 20: "Teaching them to observe **all things** that I have commanded you...." *Jesus said on Passover night, beginning with the foot-washing, 'You are obligated to do as I have done unto you.'*

- What did Jesus say concerning the bread? *This is My body, which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of Me!*
- What about the wine? *This is My blood, which is poured out for the remission of sins; this do in remembrance of Me!*

So, all the Messianics, instead of trying to find out more about God—which they should—they try and bring in as much of their traditions as they can to show their superiority over other people. That's the bottom line of it. That's not the way that it should be.

Any authority that is within the Church is

for service. There's authority to cast out demons. There's authority to discipline. But if everyone is taught to do the will and Truth of God, and taught how to repent and stay close to God, how much authority needs to be exercised?

Those of you have been with me for years, how much authority have I exercised? *None, because the authority comes from God so that we teach you what God wants you to do.* Therefore, you don't need the authority of a ministry to say, 'Do this, do that and do the other thing.' We show what God's commands all of us to do.

Remember all the Scriptures that we covered about God's plan *before the ages of time*? If you're going to have a plan it's got to be complete. How about if you said, 'Okay, let's create the Earth.' What if you left off 10% of the laws that are necessary to make it run properly? *Hello, Venus!*

This is to show Who Jesus was, and why His revelation of the Father was so profound! It wasn't just a man. Read Isa. 9:6, *The Mighty God, to us a Son is born! He's going to live forever!*

How is that going to be? *You can't understand that unless you have the New Testament!*

John 1:1: "1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Who do we find in the Old Testament? *The Lord God and The Most High!*

Verse 2: "He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and not even one thing that was created came into being without Him. In Him was life, and the Life was the Light of men" (vs 2-4).

All human life comes from the creation that the Lord God did in creating Adam and Eve, all the genes and chromosomes coming down from there. Everything in the world to give life and sustenance and everything that God wants.

Verse 9: "The True Light was that which enlightens everyone who comes into the world." *That's the giving of the spirit of man!*

How did Christ define that? *The eye is the light of the body. If the light in you be darkness, how great is that darkness?* Isn't that true with the evil that people do. How terrible that is!

Verse 10: "He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, but the world did not know Him." *He had to be revealed! The Jews should have known!*

Verse 11: "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him; but as many as received Him..." (vs 11-12).

This is a complete change from the Old

Covenant/Old Testament; now things are on entirely different level. The laws are the same, the days of worship are the same, but the level of doing it is now on a spiritual level, rather than a physical level.

Sidebar: Steven Green wrote a nice little article on why Jesus said that we are to love each other as He love them. That's different from the second great commandment, which is 'love your neighbor as yourself.' That love comes from you. 'Love each other as I have loved you' comes from God! *Quite a difference!*

"...to them He gave authority..." (v 12). What is this authority based upon? *Repentance and baptism, but first a calling!* You have to answer the call! ***If you answer the call, that is the authority from God!***

- ***IF*** you don't answer the call, you don't have authority
- ***IF*** you don't do what He says, then you'll never receive eternal life

Jesus said, 'Why do you call men Lord, Lord and do not the things that I tell you.'

They're going to say, 'Lord, we did this, that and the other thing.' All the fakes are going to come up and say, 'Lord, look at how we were blessed.' Well, *why didn't you repent and keep My commandments, I don't know you!*

"...He gave authority to become *the* children of God... [Sons and daughters of God (2-Cor. 6:14-18)] ...even to those who believe in His name" (v 12).

To believe means that He is the Savior, but also to believe what He says. Believe means *you obey!* ***Belief without obedience is worthless!*** What did James say about that? *Do you believe there's one God? The demons do and tremble!* You haven't done anything great, nothing greater than what the demons have already acknowledged. That's another way of putting it, and most people won't like that.

Verse 14: "And the Word became flesh..."—the greatest thing that God could do.

- to divest Himself of His glory and Divinity
- to become a pinprick of life
- to be born of the virgin Mary
- to grow up and be taught of God the Father
- to become the sacrificial Lamb of God
- to be baptized by John the Baptist
- to triumph over Satan the devil
- to triumph over the world
- to triumph over all of the opposing forces

In the flesh! Not as God! The greatest thing that God could do! It says that He took upon Him the form of a servant (Philip. 2)—Greek 'doulos'—*slave!* And He suffered unto death, the death of

the cross.

- How much was Judas paid?
- How humble did Jesus make Himself?

A dead slave was worth 30 pieces of silver! That's what Judas was paid! Since God did all of that, what have we really done? God makes it easy for us today and we need to respond far more to God.

"...and tabernacled among us (and we ourselves beheld His glory, *the* glory as of *the* only begotten with *the* Father), full of grace and Truth" (v 14).

Let's see how God deals with us differently than at any other time in the history of the Bible. The Gospel of John reveals the Father more than any other of the Gospels, or any other part of the Bible.

On Pentecost God sent the Holy Spirit in a powerful way. Compare that to what it was at Mt. Sinai where He was at the top of the mountain. On Pentecost (in Acts) He was down here with men in His Spirit, totally different. Then Peter said, 'You killed Him, but repent and be baptized and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.' Then Peter talked about 'as many as God would call.' That's the major change! How does God call? ***It's joint effort between the Father and Christ!*** It must be together.

John 6:44: "No one can come to Me unless the Father, Who sent Me, draws him..." *Think about what great change this is under the New Covenant!*

God the Father directly intervenes in a person's life. We have that! Get the sermons: *Spirit of God, Spirit of Man, and the Seven Spirits of God #1 & 2* There are seven Spirits of God, which are the eyes of God going through the whole earth seeking those who are seeking God.

I remember my very first prayer and I remember where I was. I had a lot of things going on in my life and it really wasn't good. It was about nine or ten o'clock at night in Burlingame, California, and I was walking down from my little rental that I had. The fog moved back a bit and I saw a couple of stars, and I said, 'O God, You have said, 'Ask and you shall receive. I need some help.' That prayer was answered within two weeks. I'll tell you how that was answered.

I had a little Nash Rambler, and I would go to college in the daytime and worked swing shift—4-11 pm. I like classical music, so I had it on that station in my car. The only classical music I don't like is mostly Bach because it's a dirge! One day when I wasn't studying because I would go to school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and go to work. On Tuesday and Thursday I would study all day and into the evening and go to bed.

One night I was out driving around and Bach was on, and I can't stand it, so I turned to KGO and what did I hear? *Herbert W. Armstrong and the World Tomorrow!* When I heard that, I said, 'That's it!'

God is the One Who caused all that to happen! He works in circumstances like that with people. How many times have you done things or experienced things that after a while you look back and see that that was something you prayed about and God answered? *God does these things spiritually!*

Verse 44: "No one can come to Me unless the Father, Who sent Me, draws him..." How does God do it? *Through one of the seven Spirit of God!*

"...and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.'" (vs 44-45).

How much do you know about the Bible? *Everything you know comes from God!*

- He caused it to be written
- He caused it to be translated in whatever language it is
- He's the One Who has caused it to be distributed
- He's the One Who gave all the things necessary for preaching the Gospel
- God is the One!
- God is no respecter of persons!

"...Therefore, everyone who has heard from the Father, and has learned, comes to Me" (v 45). Very important!

When you repent and receive the Holy Spirit of God, that is a begettal! There are two aspects to the Spirit of God that we receive, and it comes from God the Father and Jesus Christ.

That never happened in the Old Testament except the patriarchs and those who are going to be in the first resurrection. Think about that! Think about all the billions of people who have come and gone down through centuries even to our time. That God the Father and Jesus Christ would be the Ones Who would interact in our lives, give us of His Spirit. Now you know why every Epistle of Paul starts out this way, maybe a little different form from one epistle to the other.

As you know, in all of the introductions that the Apostle Paul wrote, he never acknowledges the Holy Spirit as a person or a god. If the Holy Spirit were, *then Paul greatly affronted God!* If he had greatly affronted God, why would any of his writings be preserved for us? *Never happen!*

Ephesians 1:1 "Paul, an apostle of Jesus

Christ by *the* will of God... [Paul didn't set himself up, he was knocked down] ...to the saints who are in Ephesus and to *the* faithful in Christ Jesus... [to all the faithful down through all time; a prophecy] ...Grace and peace *be* to you **from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ**" (vs 1-2).

They both worked together with Christ doing the work that He does, and the Father doing the work that He does. That's an amazing thing! Look at who he calls. All of you great ones with all of your degrees sitting out there, let's pat ourselves on our backs and tell us how great we are, and we will.... You know, at the resurrection we're going to do that! We're not ready, yet!

Verse 3: "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *things* with Christ."

- **IF** you have the Holy Spirit of God, you have the heavenly blessing from God
- **IF** you understand the Bible, that's a heavenly blessing from God
- **IF** you know the Sabbath and Holy Days, that's a blessing from God

You wouldn't do it on your own, because 'the carnal mind is not subject to the Law of God and neither indeed can be!'

In doing this, God is doing so to confound the world. Remember, Jesus said that He does not reveal it to the wise and the intelligent. You all know how miserable we are as human beings if there isn't God to help us. Hello, Google, Amazon, and all banking systems, all educational institutions on earth, all of the smartest people in the world, this applies to you:

1-Corinthians 1:19: "For it is written, **'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will nullify the understanding of those who understand.'** Where *is* the wise? Where *is* the scribe? Where *is* the disputer of this age? **Did not God make foolish the wisdom of this world?**.... [Yes, indeed!] ...For since in the wisdom of God..." (vs 19-21).

'We don't need God, we're so smart, wonderful and great; we can figure it all out.' How come the world is ready to destroy itself if you're so good?

"...the world through *its own* wisdom did not know God, it pleased God to save those who believe through the foolishness of preaching" (v 21). Isn't that what they have? *Yes!* There are more atheists today than ever before. They look at the Bible as foolishness. If you believe the Bible you're nothing!

Verse 22: For *the* Jews require a sign, and

the Greeks seek after wisdom; but we proclaim Christ crucified. To *the* Jews *it is* a cause of offense... [still is to this day] ...and to the Greeks *it is* foolishness; but **to those who are called**—both Jews and Greeks—**Christ is God's power and God's wisdom**, because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God... [if there be any] ...is stronger than men. For you see your calling, brethren, that *there are* not many who are wise according to the flesh, not many who are powerful, not many who are highborn *among you*. Rather, God has chosen the foolish things of the world..." (vs 22-27). **Doesn't the world think us foolish?**

"...so that He might put to shame those who are wise..." (v 27). What are they going to say when all the resurrected saints are presented to the world?

- we're going to tell them about God
- we're going to tell them about the love of God
- we're going to tell them about the power of God
- we're going to tell them about Jesus Christ
- we're going to tell them that we're here to help them and they're going to rebuild what they have destroyed

Isn't that going to be something?

"...and God has chosen the weak things of the world so that He might put to shame the strong things. And the lowborn of the world, and the despised **has God chosen**—*even* the things that are counted as nothing—in order that He might bring to nothing the things that are; so that no flesh might glory in His presence" (vs 27-29).

Here's how we stand before God, v 30: "But you are of Him in Christ Jesus, Who was made to us wisdom from God, even righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption; so that, as it is written, 'The one who glories, let him glory in the Lord'" (vs 30-31). *Quite a thing!* That's far different than anything that men would understand.

Romans 8:14: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are *the* sons of God.... [including daughters as well] ...Now, you have not received a spirit of bondage again unto fear, but you have received *the* Spirit of sonship, whereby we call out, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit itself bears witness conjointly with our own spirit... [we have our part, our input, all that God wants us to have] ...*testifying* that we are *the* children of God.... [here's what God holds out]: ...Now, if *we are* children, *we are* also heirs—truly, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—..." (vs 14-17).

- What is the inheritance going to be in addition to eternal life?

- What are we going to partake of?
- What are we going to share in ownership with Christ?

Rev. 21 & 22 tells us a little bit about that!

"...if indeed we suffer together with Him... [there are things that are going to be difficult and very trying] ...so that we may also be glorified together with Him. For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time *are* not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us" (vs 17-18).

Verse 10: "But if Christ *be* within you, the body *is* indeed dead because of sin; however, the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. Now, if the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from *the* dead is dwelling within you..." (vs 10-11). *That defines two aspects of the Spirit of God:*

1. from Christ
2. from the Father

"...He Who raised Christ from *the* dead will also quicken your mortal bodies because of His Spirit that dwells within you" (v 11).

John 14 will finish off what God the Father and Jesus Christ are doing. Obviously, you can't get it all at once at the same time. The Spirit of God is the thing that we need to look to for God to guide us and help us in everything.

John 14:15: "**If you love Me...**" *All the conditions are on us!* God is perfect, we're not. But if we're growing, overcoming, repenting and yielding to God, **then God will perfect us!** In that perfection, He's going to show us the things that we need to remove.

"...**keep the commandments**—namely, My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that it may be with you throughout the age: *Even* the Spirit of the Truth... [Jesus said that He is *the Way, the Truth and the Life*] ...which the world cannot receive..." (vs 15-17). **Why can't the world receive it?**

- they won't repent
- they really want to believe in Jesus the way **they** want to rather than the way **God** says to

"...because it perceives it not, nor knows it; but you know it because it dwells with you, and shall be **within** you" (v 17).

When you receive the Spirit of God when you are baptized, that is called the *circumcision of the Spirit*.

Verse 18: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. Yet, a little while and the world shall see Me no longer; but you shall see Me.

Because I live, you shall live, also” (vs 18-19). *This was difficult for them to understand!*

Verse 20: “In that day, you shall know that I am in My Father, and you *are* in Me, and I am in you.” What is the whole purpose? *Read John 17, that lays out the whole plan of God in that one chapter!*

Verse 21: “The one who has My commandments **and is keeping them**... [that is a present tense participle meaning *keeping them continuously*] ...that is the one who loves Me; and the one who loves Me shall be loved by My Father...” (v 21).

- the Father draws them
- Christ intervenes
- we repent and are baptized
- we receive the Spirit of God

because we love Jesus!

“...and I will love him and will manifest Myself to him” (v 21). How does God do that? *By opening your mind to understand the Truth!* That’s how God has manifested Himself to you. Not to an image, **but understanding spiritually!**

Verse 22: “Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, ‘Lord, what has happened that You are about to manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?’ Jesus answered and said to him, **‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word...’**” (vs 22-23). Teaching them to observe all things I’ve commanded you! (Matt. 28).

“...and My Father will love him, and **We**... [God the Father and Jesus Christ together; this is the greatest verse in the Bible] ...will come to him and make Our abode with him” (v 23).

That means dwelling place, the earnest of the Spirit within us! That’s different than anything that God did in the Old Testament, except for the patriarchs. Isn’t that amazing? It’s still **God the Father** and **Jesus Christ**. In the Old Testament it’s **The Most High** and **The Lord God! This is the greatest work that They are doing!**

Many times we say, ‘How can this be?’ Well, that’s the time to get out the book, *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?* Remember, you were a speck of dust, less than a speck of dust and look at you now. There’s probably much more of you than you’d like to see, but that’s the way it is.

What’s it going to be when the resurrection takes place? *All the things of the flesh will be gone!* That’s why we have to be faithful to the end. Judas, not Iscariot, couldn’t understand this.

Verse 24: “The one who does not love Me

does not keep My words; and the Word that you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s, Who sent Me.” *Think about that!*

What we have with the Bible and the New Testament comes **directly from The Most High, Who is the Father, and the Lord God, Who is Jesus Christ!** We have it right in front of us! **God wants to write it in our heart and mind, so that we live by every Word of God!** That is our mind and heart is directing our lives according to the will and Spirit of God. That’s what it’s all about!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Psalm 50:1-6
- 2) Romans 6:1-2
- 3) Psalm 50:5
- 4) Romans 6:3-6
- 5) Psalm 50:5
- 6) Psalm 47:1-9
- 7) Luke 10:21-22
- 8) Matthew 28:18-20
- 9) John 1:1-4, 9-12, 14
- 10) John 6:44-45
- 11) Ephesians 1:1-3
- 12) 1 Corinthians 1:19-31
- 13) Romans 8:14-18, 10-11
- 14) John 14:15-24

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Genesis 15
- Deuteronomy 28
- 1 Corinthians 5
- Ephesians 2:10
- Acts 7
- Revelation 19; 11
- Isaiah 2
- Micah 4
- Zechariah 14
- Isaiah 9:6
- 2 Corinthians 6:14-18
- Philippians 2
- Revelation 21; 22
- John 17

Also referenced:

Books:

- *A Harmony of the Gospels* by Fred R. Coulter
- *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?* by Fred R. Coulter

Sermons: *Spirit of God, Spirit of Man, and the Seven Spirits of God #1 & 2*

FRC:bo
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Who Was Christ?

Fred R. Coulter

- Who was Jesus *before* He became a human being?

OR

- Was Jesus first created when God the Father selected Mary to have Jesus Christ?
- There are people who believe that Jesus was created and that He was not God!
- There are other people who believe that Jesus was God before He became human!
- What is the Truth on this?
- What does the Bible teach us?

Let's look at some of the statements in the Bible and see where these different teachings come from. Rev. 3 tells us clearly, referring to Jesus Christ:

Revelation 3:14[transcriber's correction]: "...These things says the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginner of the creation of God."

- What does that mean?
- Does that mean that Jesus was created the very first thing that God ever created?
- Does this mean that Jesus was the Creator?
- Does this mean that this Jesus was the beginning of the creation of God in reference to the sons of God?
- What does this mean?

Let's see what Heb. 1 tells us, because we find a very interesting statement about Jesus being made. If He was *made*:

- How could it be that He's lived forever?
- How could it be that He could have been God if He were made?

Hebrews 1:4—referring to Jesus: "Having been made so much greater than *any of* the angels, inasmuch as He has inherited a name exceedingly superior to them."

- Was Jesus made?

OR

- Was He God?

Now, here's a contradictory statement; and here is something that really seems to be a cross purposes with the first statement that I just read:

Hebrews 2:9: "But we see Jesus, Who *was* made a little lower than *the* angels..."

- Was Jesus made a little lower than the angels?
- Was He made so much better than the angels?

- Was He the beginning of the creation of God?
- Was He the Beginner of the creation of God?
- When He was resurrected out of the tomb, was that when Jesus became God?

OR

- Was Jesus God *before that*?

OR

- Was He God *before* He became human?

We're going to look into this today and answer the questions directly from the Bible.

Here's where part of the problem stems from in trying to understand about God, Isa. 45. Here we find a statement that is made that still some people today cannot understand in relationship to God. They cannot understand how there can be God the Father and the Son Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 45:5: "I *am* the LORD, and *there is* none else. *There is* no God besides Me..." People say if that is so then how could Jesus be God before He was human, if God said that He is God and 'there is none else besides Me.'

Verse 22: "Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I *am* God, and *there is* none else." Even the Jews are in a quandary:

- How can there be God?
- and*
- How can there be another God, if God says that there is no other God besides Him?
- Therefore, they reject the Divinity of Jesus Christ!***
- But is this what the Bible says?
 - Is this what the Bible means?

Oh, these statements are true, and we will prove that these statements are true, but it can refer to more than one being who is God!

Let's go back to the beginning. We're going to see another reference later on referring to Gen. 1:1:

Genesis 1:1: "**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.**" It doesn't say that in the beginning God created His first expression Jesus Christ. It means exactly what it says, "In *the* beginning **God created** the heavens and the earth."

Let's see something very interesting, which has to do with the creation of man; v 26: "And God said, 'Let Us... [He didn't say, 'Let Me...'] ...make man in **Our** image, after **Our** likeness..."

How on earth can you have God—Who

people believe is singular—have a statement where He says, ‘Let Us...’ The answer lies inherently in the Hebrew word for God: ‘Elohim,’ which means *more than one*, because the ‘im’ on ‘Elohim’ means *plural*, much like the word *family, church or group*. But that group or church or family has many members in it.

In this case the Bible reveals that there are two Who are called *God!* We will see that as we follow through all the way.

God: Who is Elohim... Let’s see more about God and what He says. There are many different names of God referring to the different attributes of God, which we’ve gone over in the past. {Note sermon series: *Names of God*}

In this particular case we want to delve into the names that God has revealed Himself to Israel. When Moses was called to take the children of Israel out of Egypt, God sent him on his way to go. Moses says, ‘Who will I say as sent me?’ (Exo. 3).

Exodus 3:14: “And God said to Moses, ‘**I AM THAT I AM.**’ And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, “**I AM has sent me to you.**”’”

I AM THAT I AM has the broad meaning that *I am, I have been and will be and shall continue to be!* I want to zero in on the words *I AM*, because that becomes very important later on.

God is the only One Who is the *ever-living, self-existing, life-inherent Being: I AM!* Human beings have somewhat of a different thought. There’s one philosopher who says, ‘I think, therefore, I am.’ That’s a wrong statement, and it shows the illogic of human reasoning. *You are, therefore, you think!*

If you didn’t have an existence and a mind, you couldn’t think. You don’t come into being because you have a mind. You come into being because you were created.

God is different! God is saying, ‘**I AM, the ever-living One!**’ Yes, ‘Elohim’ means *more than one God!* So, how are we going to resolve this, and how does this show that Jesus was God before He was a human being?

Let’s take this one step further, and here is quite an important statement that we need to realize. At different times *God reveals Himself to different people under different names!* That becomes very important! One of the most important names in the Old Testament is the Hebrew term ‘Yahwah’ meaning *the Eternal Ever-Living One!* When the children entered into their covenant, they entered into it with ‘Yahwah’ Who also said, ‘I AM THAT I AM.’ That means that I AM THAT I AM is part of

‘Elohim’ because God said, “Let Us make man in Our image after Our likeness.”

Now when we come to the historical point of God revealing Himself to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, here is what we find:

Exodus 6:3: “And I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as God Almighty [El Shaddai]....”

He did not appear to Isaac and Jacob as ‘Yahwah.’ He did not appear to them as ‘Elohim.’ In the creation of Adam and Eve, God was to them ‘Elohim.’ But to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob He was ‘El Shaddai’ or *God Almighty!*

To Israel, He is going to reveal Himself as ‘Yahwah’ [Jehovah] the *Covenant God!* Someone reads that and start a brand new church and we’re going to call it *The Jehovah Witnesses*. See how people get off all ‘half-cocked’ and their brains kind of crossed, because they don’t follow the Word of God. They want a doctrine and a conclusion. They start with a conclusion and go back and find what they want, and then they create something all new, which was never there, and God never intended it.

“...But I was not known to them *by* My name JEHOVAH” (v 3). But He did reveal Himself to Israel as Yahwah. The same One Who was the Creator, that same One Who said, ‘Let’s make man in Our image, in Our likeness.’ Now He’s revealing Himself as ‘Yahwah.’

Verse 4: “And I have also established My covenant with them...” *That’s why ‘Yahwah’ means the Covenant God!*

In the Old Testament, we have what people like to call *monotheism, one God!* But that’s now quite exactly true. God calls Himself Yahwah, El Shaddai and Elohim, and in Exo. 20 we want to look at a word in the Hebrew, which is ‘elohim,’ but is translated differently than ‘Elohim’—singular God. In this particular case it is translated ‘gods’ in the plural, the way that ‘elohim’ should be properly translated.

Exodus 20:1: “And God... [Elohim] ...spoke all these words, saying, ‘I *am* the LORD your God [Elohim], Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods [elohim] before Me’” (vs 1-3).

One of the things that people can conclude is that God reveals everything all at once to everybody at the same time. We just saw that that wasn’t so. God was not known by Abraham, Isaac and Jacob by the name Yahwah; He was known as El Shaddai. Adam and Eve knew God as Elohim.

Here God says, ‘I *am* the LORD [Yahwah] your God [Elohim].... You shall have no other gods [elohim—plural] before Me.’

- What else does the Old Testament reveal about God?
- Does it show more than one God?

or

- Is that something that is revealed a little later?

Here is a Scripture that even the Jews did not understand, and Jesus brought this out to them. They couldn’t answer the question.

Psalms 110:1: “The LORD [Yahwah] said unto my Lord [Yahwah], ‘Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies as Your footstool.’”

- Are there two Yahwahs?
- or
- Does it confirm the fact that Elohim means more than one and we are dealing with two in the Godhead?

Not three as some people would like to have it with the Holy Spirit, or four by adding Mary into it! Here the Bible reveals that “The LORD said unto my Lord...” So, when Jesus was talking to the scribes and Pharisees, He ask them:

- Who is the Christ?
- Whose Son is He?

They answered, proudly, that He’s the son of David! Then Jesus asked:

- Tell Me, how then does David, in the spirit, call Him LORD—referring to “the LORD said unto my Lord...” if He’s the son of David?

They couldn’t answer it, because they’re not willing to believe the Scriptures! There are a lot of people who claim to believe the Bible. There are a lot of people who claim to believe in **God**, *but they want to believe in God their own way!*

- Not the way that God says!
- Not the way that God has revealed Himself!

I want you to think on this: ***If you tell God what you will or will or not do, then you become ‘God’ because you make the standard!***

- Do you think that God is going to submit *to you* because *you want* to tell God what you’re going to do?
- Can God remain God if He submits to human will?
- **NO!**

The Bible says that *every knee is going to bow!* So, we need to rid of

- ***our*** thoughts
- ***our*** human logic
- ***our*** pet little doctrines that we want to hold onto, which makes us different and exclusive

God makes us different and exclusive enough!

Here’s the second Scripture in the Old Testament, Dan. 7, that reveals and shows that there is more than one God being. But it also reveals that there are two: “The LORD said unto my Lord...” and in this case,

Daniel 7:13: “...**One like the Son of man came** with the clouds of heaven, and came **to the Ancient of Days...**”

We know that “...the Son of man...” refers to the One Who became Jesus Christ. So, we have *two* revealed in the Old Testament, but only in two Scriptures. There are a lot of people who say, ‘The more Scriptures there are about this, the more it proves it.’

- Does it really?
- If God says it once, is that not sufficient?
- If God says only one thing *one time*, does that mean because you don’t find it again that it’s not valid?

That’s the way a lot of people reason! If God says it one time, that true, ***because God said it, and God cannot and will not lie!***

Let’s see one of the reasons why Jesus Christ came. One of the very basic Scriptures is in Matt. 11. One of the most important things to understand when studying the Bible is that you study the Bible for ***what it’s going to teach you!*** You don’t study the Bible to find out what *you want to justify as your doctrine!* I can take through many different things in the Scriptures, where if you take part here and part there, you never come up with the full Truth.

So, you have to go to the Scriptures and use the Spirit of God that God gives you, if you have the Spirit of God, and ***let the Word of God teach you and show you!*** Then you will come to the right conclusion. *Never bring your own pre-conceived notions to the Bible so that you will find what you want to find! You will find what you want to find, which is not what God wants you to learn!*

If you don’t understand that, just think on it!

Now, after talking to John the Baptist and people, who didn’t understand about John the Baptist and what Jesus was doing:

Matthew 11:25: “At that time Jesus answered and said, ‘I praise **You, O Father, Lord**

of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and have revealed them to babes.”

That is so true! It's not the intelligent in the world, not the wise of the world, not the philosophers in the world. ***It's those who are willing to believe God!***

- Are you willing to believe God?
- Are you willing to accept what God teaches?

Verse 26: “Yes, Father, for it was well pleasing in Your sight to *do* this. All things were delivered to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son...” (vs 26-27).

No one can say, ‘I know Jesus.’ ***You only know Jesus because God the Father has revealed Him to you!***

“...no one knows the Son **except the Father**; neither does anyone know the Father **except the Son**, and the one to whom the Son personally chooses to reveal *Him*” (v 27).

You can't understand about God the Father unless Jesus Christ reveals it to you! You can't do it by human reasoning; ***it has to be revealed by God the Father through His Holy Spirit to you!***

Remember when the disciples were walking along and Jesus said, ‘Who do men say that the Son of man is?’ Some of the disciples said, ‘Well, some say You're Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ Jesus turned to them and said, ‘But whom do *you* say I that the Son of man is?’ Peter said, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!’

Jesus turned to him and said, ‘Blessed are you Simon Bar-jona—that is Simon, the son of Bar-jona—for flesh and blood has not revealed this unto you, ***but My Father*** Who is in heaven has revealed this to you’ (Matt. 16). So, ***the Father has to do the revealing. Christ reveals the Father, and the Father reveals Christ!***

Let's see something that is absolutely true. I was talking to a man who said, ‘If you can show me that we're going to be able to be continually expanding as spirit beings in knowledge and understanding, and that God has not put a finite cap around what we will be doing for eternity, then I will believe you.’

He will never believe, because—as I explained to him—you don't start with something you don't even comprehend, yet. That in the realm of something that God has to reveal and show. I said, ‘You have to start where you are, and with what you understand. And you have to start with the basic, simple things that God wants you to do.’

1-Corinthians 2:6: “Now **we speak wisdom**

among the *spiritually* mature... [the converted] ...however, ***it is not the wisdom of this world...***—*not the philosophy, logic or wisdom of this world, because:*

- you cannot find God by your own reasoning
- you cannot find God by thinking on it
- you cannot find God by examination and investigation

because that's the wisdom of man!

Verse 7: “Rather, we speak *the* wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom* that God foreordained before the ages unto our glory, ***which not one of the rulers of this world has known...***” (vs 7-8)—*none of the leaders of this world today or then knew or understood!*

“...(for if they had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory); but according as it is written, ***The eye has not seen, nor the ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him***” (vs 8-9).

I could give a whole sermon just on that alone! What our relationship needs to be to God. But the thing is:

- you're not going to find it by your reasonings
- you're not going to find it by taking a Scripture here or there

You're going to find it by putting it all together and by the Spirit of God, because we're talking about the things that are *spiritually revealed!*

Verse 10: “But God has revealed *them* **to us by His Spirit...**” *There has to be the added dimension that only God can give*, that can give you the understanding that God has to give, ***IF*** you're willing to accept the basic, beginning principles of God. We're covering today one of the very first basic, beginning principles.

“...for the Spirit searches all things—even the deep things of God” (v 10).

So, the gentleman I talked to cannot understand the deep things of God, because they have to be revealed *spiritually!* Paul says that ‘We look through a glass darkly.’ So, we don't know all of those things that we're going to be doing for eternity. We don't know how we're going to function and be, other than what God has revealed in His Word, and by His Spirit. ***Then we will know! When the resurrection comes and we're in the Kingdom of God, then we will know, and we will see God as He is for we will be like Him!***

Just think on that! That's a tremendous statement, indeed!

Verse 11: "For who among men understands the things of man except *by* the spirit of man, which *is* in him?...."

So, the only thing that a man can know is just the physical things. But he has the spirit of man that needs to have the Holy Spirit of God unite with that to be a complete and whole person so that they can understand the spiritual things.

"...In the same way also, the things of God no one understands except *by* the Spirit of God. Now, we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that *is* of God, so that we might know the things graciously given to us by God" (vs 11-12).

This becomes the very important beginning place to understand ***Who and What Jesus was before His human birth!***

John was the last apostle to write. He had an overview of:

- all the problems that were ensuing in the Church
- all of the false doctrines that were coming along
- all of the false teachings that were taking place

So, John was going to set the record absolutely straight!

John 1:1: "In *the* beginning..." Didn't we start at the beginning? *In the beginning God created...* So, John is taking us right back to the beginning, because that is the place that is important to be!

"...**was the Word...** [Greek: 'Logos'] ...and the Word **was with** God..." (v 1)—'Elohim'—plural—created the heavens and the earth, and said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness.'

"...and **the Word was God**" (v 1). Can anything be clearer than that? He wasn't *made* greater than the angels. He was made 'lower' than the angels, and after His resurrection ***He was made greater*** than the angels.

God had to give up something! God had to give up Himself, the One Who 'Logos' Who *was* God had to become human in order to be that perfect sacrifice for all human beings. The whole mystery and understanding of what God is doing, and what Jesus Christ did, is absolutely fantastic.

- the more that you understand it
- the more that you yield to God

- the more that you let God's Spirit guide you and lead you
- ***the more that you're going to understand the magnitude of what God has done through Jesus Christ!***

"...and **the Word was God**" (v 1). Very clear! Before His birth, ***Jesus was God!*** Nothing can be clearer than that!

Verse 2: "He was in *the* beginning **with** God. **All things came into being through Him...**"—by the 'Logos,' because the 'Logos' is the Word, the Spokesman! God is so fantastic in His ability, God is so great and profound in what He does, that ***God merely speaks and it is!*** Think on that for a while!

If you think you're big, strong and tough and you know everything in the world, or that you're confident and have self-esteem, self-love and kick God out, *you think on that for a minute!* If you think you're big and powerful, *you think on that for a minute!*

Can you speak and command and it happens? ***God spoke and said let there be light and there was light!***

Read all the first chapter of the book of Genesis. Even Jesus—when He was a human being on the earth—commanded the winds in a raging storm to stop, and it was calm as could be, because the Word of God is true! That's why He's called ***the Word! The Word of God is powerful and spiritual!***

(go to the next track)

Verse 14 is where we talk about what Jesus was made, what Jesus did, because God had to do a fantastic and a tremendously humbling act with the One Who became Jesus Christ. The Father had to do a tremendous and powerful work to make it happen, for Jesus—Who was God—to become human, a pinprick of life and be born as a human being!

Verse 14: "And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us..." Jesus Christ, the Word, the Spokesman, the Logos ***Who was with God, Who was God, Who created everything that there is, was made flesh!***

Philip. 2 will verify and substantiate that Jesus Christ was God before He became a human being!

Philippians 2:5: "Let this mind be in you, which *was* also in Christ Jesus." *People today like to talk about:*

- all their mental abilities
- the ingenuity of man
- all of scientific and technological advances
- how great man is

- how great our minds are

That's just so much puff! What kind of thinking process do you and I need? ***We need the mind of Christ!***

Verse 5: “**Let this mind be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus; Who, although He existed in the form of God... [He was God] ...**did not consider it robbery to be equal with God**” (vs 5-6).

All human beings are equal in the level of existence of having human life. Every human being has human life! Absolutely true! So, *Jesus was equal with God in God life!* He said in John 14 that ‘My Father is greater than I,’ *because there can only be one in charge*, even though it is the God Family!

Verse 7: “But emptied Himself...” He gave up His name of *Elohim, El Shaddai, Yahwah!* Gave up His name as *The Word, the Spokesman!* ***Gave up everything that He was, and made Himself of no reputation!***

- How humbling was this for God?
- How humbling was this for the One Who became Jesus Christ?
- How humbling was this for the One Who stood in the vastness of the universe and called the heavens and earthy into being?
- How humbling was this for the One Who made all the stars, created them and spread the heavens out like a curtain and calls everyone of the stars by name and number?

To become a pinprick of life so small that the human eye cannot see it!

- Have you ever humbled yourself?
- Do you think you've gone through humbling circumstances?

Then to see what Jesus did, to see what He let His creation do to Him because of sin! ***We need more of the mind of Christ!***

Verse 7: “But emptied Himself, *and* was made in the likeness of men, *and* took the form of a servant... [a slave] ...and being found in the manner of man... [all of the bodily human functions that we have, Jesus had; it was necessary that He did] ...He humbled Himself, *and* became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (vs 7-8).

There isn't any human being that's going to come and say, ‘God, look what **I** suffered for You.’ You need to look at what Jesus suffered for you, “...even the death of the cross.”

Verse 9: “Therefore, God has also highly exalted Him and bestowed upon Him a name, which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *beings* in heaven and on earth

and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father” (vs 9-11).

In that is a tremendous amount of spiritual knowledge and understanding that needs to be working in your mind through the Spirit of God.

Let's see what the book of John reveals to us about Jesus before He became a human being. Now, this is John the Baptist talking about Jesus Christ:

John 3:31: “He Who comes from above is above all. The one who is of the earth is earthly, and speaks of the earth...” *This is clearly saying in talking about Jesus that He came from heaven to this earth!*

You can read the account in Luke 1 about the begetting of Jesus Christ. The reason that the Bible calls Him *the only begotten Son of God* was because He was the ***only begotten Son of God*** where there was God the Word Who became the pinprick of human life for the impregnation within the womb of Mary to be born as a human being. ***He was the only One that God the Father had in that manner, for a purpose for us!***

When it talks about Jesus being the Firstborn from the dead, the Greek is ‘prototokon’ that means *to be born from the dead!* But the Only Begotten—Greek: ‘monogenes’ means the *only, sole, single one*—that God the Father has begotten. He is from above, but the rest of us are from the earth, *earthly* and speaks of the earth.

“...He Who comes from heaven is above all” (v 31).

John 5:19: “Therefore, Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Truly, truly I say to you, **the Son has no power to do anything of Himself...**’”

- How much did Jesus love the Father?
- How much was Jesus obedient to the Father?

Jesus said that He ‘did nothing of Himself,’ He did nothing of His own initiative!

“...but only what He sees the Father do...” (v 19). That's a very interesting statement here, if you understand it. This gives us a little understanding of the kind of communication that went on between God the Father and Jesus Christ when Jesus Christ was a human being on this earth. But it also refers back to what God the Father was doing *before* Jesus became human.

Verse 37: “And the Father Himself, Who sent Me, has borne witness of Me. You have neither heard His voice nor seen His form at any time.”

This verse tells us clearly that the One Who spoke to all the different human beings in the Old

Testament was *not* God the Father, *because no one has heard His voice nor has seen His shape at any time!*

But they did see God, the One Who became Jesus as Elohim, El Shaddai and Yahwah! That's why Jesus had to reveal the Father!

John 6:38—showing where Jesus came from: “For I did not come down from heaven to do My own will, **but the will of Him Who sent Me.**”

- Jesus was in heaven
- Jesus was God before He became human

Verse 51: “I AM the living Bread, which came down from heaven...” He speaks an enigma, which is spiritually understood, *that the Jews didn't understand!* And there are a whole lot of other people who don't understand it today!

“...if anyone eats of this Bread, he shall live forever; and the bread that I will give is even My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world” (v 51)—*that's another whole topic!* The point I want to emphasize is the He was the *living Bread Who came down from heaven!*

John 8:23: “And He said to them, ‘You are from beneath... [talking to the religious leaders there] ...**I am from above.** You are of this world; **I am not of this world.**”

As strange as it may seem, I heard someone say that Jesus was of this world. Jesus said, “**...I am not of this world.**” Just because someone:

- sounds religious
- looks religious
- acts religious
- quotes Scripture
- tells you a statement

How are you going to know it's true unless you get into the Word of God to understand it? Jesus said:

“**...I am not of this world.** That is why I said to you that you shall die in your sins; for **if you do not believe that I AM**, you shall die in your sins” (vs 23-24).

Didn't we cover that earlier in Exo. 3? ‘Who shall I [Moses] say has sent me?’ **I AM that I AM**, say that **I AM has sent you!** So, Jesus is telling the Jews very clearly that *unless you believe that I AM you're going to die in your sins!* Jesus is saying Who He was! **I AM!**

Verse 25: “Then they said to Him, ‘Who are You?’ And Jesus said to them, **‘The One that I said to you from the beginning.’**”

I want you to read all of John 8. Jesus said of the spiritual leaders of Judaism that *they were of*

their father the devil! If they were really honoring God the Father, they would do the works of Abraham and not seek to kill Jesus.

Verse 47: “**The one who is of God hears the words of God...**” That's important for each one of us individually.

- Do you say that you are of God?
- Do you say that you belong to God?
- Do you say that you believe in Jesus Christ?
- Do you say that you are willing to go to the death for Jesus?

Even Peter said, ‘Lord, far be it from You that You're going to be crucified. I'll go to the death with You!’ “**The one who is of God hears the words of God...**”

- Are there things in the Bible that upset you?
- Are there things in the Bible that you won't do?
- Are there commandments of God that you don't agree with?

Then you're not of God! Because Jesus said that *‘he who is of God hears God's Word!’*

“...For this reason you do not hear, because you are not of God.’ Then the Jews answered and said to Him, ‘Are we not right in saying that You are a Samaritan... [because He was born in Nazareth] ...and have a demon?’ Jesus answered, ‘I do not have a demon. But I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. Yet, I do not seek My own glory; there is One Who seeks and judges. Truly, truly I say to you, if anyone keeps My words, he shall not see death forever.’” (vs 47-51).

Verse 52: “Then the Jews said to Him, ‘Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham and the prophets died; yet, You say, “If anyone keeps My words, he shall not taste of death forever.” Are You greater than our father Abraham who died? And the prophets, *who* died? Who do You make Yourself *to be*?’” (vs 52-53).

Isn't this the accusation that people have toward God in many ways even today?

Verse 54: “Jesus answered, ‘If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing. It is My Father Who glorifies Me, *of Whom* you say that He is your God. Yet, you have not known Him; but I know Him. And if I say that I do not know Him, I shall be a liar, like you. But **I know Him, and I keep His Word**’” (vs 54-55).

Those are very strong fighting words, because right after this episode they sought to kill Him right on the spot! *But it wasn't His time!*

Verse 56^[transcriber's correction]: “‘Abraham your father was overjoyed to see My day; and he saw it, and rejoiced.’ Then the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not even fifty years *old*, and You have seen Abraham?’ Jesus said to them, ‘**Truly, truly I say to you, before Abraham was born, I AM**’” (vs 56-57). *The Jews clearly understood that was the name of God! I AM!* He told them very clearly Who He was!

John 10:29: “‘**My Father, Who has given them to Me, is greater than all;** and no one has the power to seize *them* from My Father’s hand. **I and the Father are one**’” (vs 29-30).

Verse 32: “Jesus answered them, ‘Many good works I have showed you from My Father. **For which of them are you about to stone Me?**’ The Jews answered Him, saying, ‘We will not stone You for a good work, but **for blasphemy, and because You, being a man, are making Yourself God**’” (vs 32-33).

If He wasn’t the Son of God, *if* He was not God before He became human, *then* it would be blaspheme! *But it wasn’t blaspheme, because it He was God before He became a human being!*

Verse 34: “Jesus answered them, ‘Is it not written in your law, “I said, ‘You are gods’”? If He called them gods, to whom the Word of God came’ (and the Scriptures cannot be broken), ‘*why* do you say *of Him* Whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world, “You are blaspheming,” because I said, “I am *the* Son of God”?’” (vs 34-36).

John 13:3: “Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into *His* hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God”—*because He was going back to God after the crucifixion!*

John 14:28—where Jesus says: “...My Father is greater than I.”

John 17 becomes a very important foundational part of answering the question: Who was Jesus before He became human?

John 17:1: “Jesus spoke these words, and lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify Your own Son, so that Your Son may also glorify You; since You have given Him authority over all flesh, in order that He may give eternal life to all whom You have given Him. For this is eternal life, that they may know You, **the only true God**, and Jesus Christ, Whom You did send’” (vs 1-3).

That’s a profound statement! Let’s think on this with what we already know with the Scriptures:

- in the beginning ‘Elohim’—more than one
- you shall have no other ‘elohim’—more than one—before Me

- the LORD said unto my Lord
- One like the Son of man came unto the Ancient of Days

Now Jesus becomes a pinprick of life—a human being—and He’s praying to the Father. In heaven, how many Gods are there? *Because Jesus revealed the Father, the One Who became the Son was on earth!* How many Gods were there in heaven at the time Jesus was praying? *One!*

That’s why He said here, “...**the only true God**, and Jesus Christ, Whom You did send. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work that You gave Me to do. And now, Father, **glorify Me with Your own self, with the glory that I had with You before the world existed**” (vs 3-5).

So, you have to conclude that Jesus was God before His human birth. God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son are ***the only two*** revealed Gods that we have in the Bible. When Jesus was on earth as a human being, there was one left in heaven: *God the Father!* That’s why He was “...**the only true God**...” at that time! Jesus Christ was resurrected, and He also *is God!*

Verse 24: “Father, I desire that those whom You have given Me may also be with Me where I am, so that they may behold My glory, which You have given Me; because You did love Me **before the foundation of the world**.”

So, we put all of these Scriptures together:

- in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God
- Jesus came from heaven
- He emptied Himself and became a human being
- it was not robbery to be equal with God, because He was
- the glory that He had with Him before the world existed
- God the Father loved Him before the foundation of the world

There’s absolutely no getting around it whatsoever that Jesus was God before He became a human being!

Let’s see what Titus says about Jesus Christ being God; Titus 2:13: “Looking for the blessed hope and *the* appearing of the glory of **our Savior and great God Jesus Christ**.”

Let’s see where it talks about Jesus Christ being the Firstborn. There was an operation that happened, and that was with the death of Jesus Christ being in the grave three days and three nights.

When He was resurrected out of that grave, there was a *new creation* of God, which we are to follow. Jesus Christ, in that sense, is called *the Firstborn* from among the dead!

Colossians 1:15—talking about Christ: “Who is *the* image of the invisible God, *the* Firstborn of all creation”—meaning *the Firstborn of everyone created into the God Family by the power of the resurrection!*

Verse 16: “Because by Him were all things created... [John 1] ...the things in heaven and the things on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or lordships, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him and for Him. And He is before all... [the preeminence] ...and by Him all things subsist” (vs 16-17).

It says that Jesus upholds the creation by the word of His power (Heb. 1).

Verse 18: “And He is the Head of the Body, the Church; Who is *the* Beginning, **the Firstborn from among the dead...**” That’s the difference between the *only begotten* Son of God—‘monogene’—and *the firstborn*—‘prototokon’—which means *the firstborn out of the grave, from the resurrection of the dead!*

“...so that in all things He Himself might hold the preeminence. For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell; and having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things to Himself; by Him, whether the things on the earth, or the things in heaven” (vs 18-20).

This is what becomes exciting, because if God—which He did—emptied Himself and became a human being and then says, ‘I have forgiven all of your sins through My sacrifice, and now I want you—as many as He will call—to enter into the same kind of life that I have through the power of the resurrection from the dead.’

Revelation 1:5: “And from Jesus Christ, the faithful Witness, the Firstborn... [‘prototokon’] ...from the dead...” *So that we know without a doubt that:*

- *Jesus*—before He became a human being—*was God*
- He emptied Himself of all His power and glory and Divinity
- He lived a perfect life—though He was completely human—yet, filled with the Holy Spirit
- He suffered on the cross, died and was in the grave three days and three nights
- He was resurrected out of that grave as the Firstborn from the dead

That becomes very important for us to understand!

Rom. 8:28 is something to really hang onto. Ask God to help you grow in the grace, knowledge and understanding as God reveals it through His Spirit to you.

Romans 8:28: “And **we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose**, because those whom He did foreknow He also predestinated **to be conformed to the image of His own Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brethren**” (vs 28-29). *That’s what is so fantastic about it!*

God is saying to you:

- *Come!* Enter into My Family!
- *Come!* Accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ!
- *Come!* Let me resurrect you at the end of the age so that you will be just like I am!

This becomes the whole goal, the whole purpose of what God is working out here on this earth! This is the very reason for our existence, and why it is so shallow to have all of the terrible and silly arguments over doctrine! ***Let’s get our eyes and mind on the goal!*** On the things in heaven above, not just the little flim-flam things here on the earth.

1-John 3:1: “Behold! What *glorious* love the Father has given to us, that we should be called the children of God! For this very reason, the world does not know us because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are the children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be; but **we know** that when He is manifested, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him exactly as He is” (vs 1-2).

That’s why Jesus was God before He became a human being, so that He could bring many sons unto glory and fulfill and complete the plan of God!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 3:14
- 2) Hebrews 1:4
- 3) Hebrews 2:9
- 4) Isaiah 45:5, 22
- 5) Genesis 1:1, 26
- 6) Exodus 3:14
- 7) Exodus 6:3-4
- 8) Exodus 20:1-3
- 9) Psalm 110:1
- 10) Daniel 7:13
- 11) Matthew 11:25-27
- 12) 1 Corinthians 2:6-12
- 13) John 1:1-2, 14
- 14) Philippians 2:5-11

- 15) John 3:31
- 16) John 5:19, 37
- 17) John 6:38, 51
- 18) John 8:23-25, 47-57
- 19) John 10:29-30, 32-36
- 20) John 13:3
- 21) John 14:28
- 22) John 17:1-5, 24
- 23) Titus 2:13
- 24) Colossians 1:15-20
- 25) Revelation 1:5
- 26) Romans 8:28-29
- 27) 1 John 3:1-2

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 16
- Luke 1
- Hebrews 1

Also referenced: Sermon Series: *Names of God*

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