

IN THE MOMENT OF PRESENT TRUTH

"THE GODHEAD"

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*That He may open the “perfectly sealed” book
And deliver you from all iniquity*

*And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.
Revelation 22:10*

*And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly...
Romans 16:20*

*For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness:
because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth.
Romans 9:28*

*Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know
them, and be established in the present truth.
2 Peter 1:12*

A SURE FOUNDATION

This study is Part 2 in our series entitled *In the Moment of Present Truth*. I want to take concepts that I have carried for years and years, and bring them into the moment of present truth. With all of the other things the Lord is revealing to His church, I want to take the old and combine it with the new. The study today is on the divinity of Christ – I want to call this *The Godhead Study*. This is something... ever since I was a Christian, ever since I was converted in 1979, I have been studying the divinity of Christ – that is something all of us, I know, are interested in. But when I say “Godhead,” most of us think *Father, Son, Holy Spirit*. Well, in this study, let’s key on the Father and the Son... Let’s key on *the Father* and *the Son*. The “Holy Spirit” study is something that we’ll look at next – right now, let’s key on the Father and Son.

Jesus Christ is “divine” - Jesus Christ is *God* – I want to make that clear from the very beginning. John 1:1 states: *In the beginning was the word, the word was with God, and the word was God*. I think if I were to paraphrase that, it would be: *In the beginning was the word, the word was with God, and the word was God, too*. He also is God. Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, is divine and should be honored even as the Father is honored. The foundation of the church is Jesus Christ, and that’s where I want to begin. I want to ask you to turn in your bibles to Isaiah 28:16 and read

along with me. It's important that you have your bibles open and that you read these texts with me because we need that *impression* from the scriptures, from God, as we read the scriptures. We need that impression to instill in us the concepts that I'm getting ready to share with you.

Isaiah 28:16

16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure [3245] foundation: he that [believes] shall not make haste.

Now, look at that word "sure" – and I have put beside it the Strong's number [3245]. I want to turn to 2 Chronicles 3 and read verse 3:

2 Chronicles 3:3

3 Now these are the things wherein Solomon was instructed [3245] for the building of the house of God. The length by cubits after the first measure was threescore cubits, and the breadth twenty cubits.

Notice the word "instructed" – I have put [3245] beside that because this word that we read in Isaiah 28:16 -- *the sure foundation* and 2nd Chronicles 3:3, is translated "instructed." What does that mean to us? Christ is the only foundation given for God's church and in Isaiah 28:16 we see He is the "cornerstone," but we see He is a "sure" foundation, or an *instructed* foundation – now that's important. What scripture can you think of that tells us Christ was instructed – needed to be taught anything? Well, the first verse that comes to my mind we'll find in Hebrews, chapter 5 – starting in verse 7:

Hebrews 5:7-10

7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

9 And being made perfect, he [came to be] the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

10 ¶ Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

The scriptures are plain, that Christ, though He were a Son, *yet learned He obedience* -- He is the *instructed* foundation; the *founded* foundation. He learned obedience through the things which He suffered. Now, listen to what he said: *And being made perfect, He came to be the author of eternal salvation*. Christ's suffering was through His humanity. To say that He was made complete through the suffering implies He wasn't complete before He became a man. Think of a grain of corn planted in the ground and how it grows, how it's "perfect" every day, yet it isn't until it bears fruit – it reaches a *completed perfection*. That is how we've got to recognize Christ – the man never sinned; He was perfect in God's eyes, yet, *He learned obedience through the things which He suffered, and being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all those that obey Him*.

What I'm telling you is the foundation for God's church and yet, I think there are many Christians out there who have never considered these scriptures – who have never sat and thought through exactly what the Lord was trying to tell us.

GOD AND FATHER

I want to show you where this leads, again, recognizing the divinity of Christ, but also recognizing He had not reached a *completed* perfection. When I talk about a *completed perfection*, I am speaking of the “inward” man – I’m not talking about his physical makeup, because He *learned obedience* through the things which He suffered, you see? That is dealing with the *inward man*. Now, let me show you some texts concerning the divinity of Christ -- let’s start with Ephesians 1:3:

Ephesians 1:3, 17

3 ¶ Blessed be **the God and Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ, who [has] blessed us with [every] spiritual [blessing] in heavenly places in Christ: [Notice the beginning: *Blessed be the God and Father of Christ* -- verse 17:]

17 That **the God** of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

Ephesians 4, starting at verse 4:

Ephesians 4:4-6

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as [you’re] called in one hope of your calling;

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 **One God and Father of all**, who is above all, through all, and in you all.

Consider with me: Jesus Christ is the word of God; He was with God and He also is God. But on the other hand, the apostles taught He *has a God*, and that there is one God – the Father. Now, before I go on, let’s look at some more texts dealing with the fact that Jesus Christ has a God:

1 Peter 1:3

3 ¶ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy [has] begotten us again unto a [living] hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Look at Revelation, chapter 3, verse 12 – Christ is speaking:

Revelation 3:12

12 Him that [overcomes] will I make a pillar in the temple of **my God**, he shall go no more out: [I’ll] write upon him the name of **my God**, the name of the city of **my God**, which is new Jerusalem, which [comes] down out of heaven from **my God**: and I will write upon him my new name.

The gospel of John, chapter 20, verse 16:

John 20:16-17

16 Jesus [said] unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and [said], Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

17 Jesus [said] unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to **my God**, and your God.

Now, back to Hebrews, looking at Hebrews 1:8:

Hebrews 1:8-9

8 But unto the Son he [says], Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

9 [You have] loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, **even thy God**, [has] anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

I have read to you scriptures bearing the testimony of the apostle Paul, Peter and Christ Himself, and the Father stating that Jesus Christ has a God and that God is His Father... and that may help us better understand what we read in Ephesians 4, that *there is one God, the Father; there is one Lord, one faith* – see? There is one way to see this.

SUBMISSION

Let's read another text that shows us the "one God" and "the Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 8:6-7

6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

7 ¶ Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: ...

Now, I have been told if Christ is called "Lord," that that is equivalent to God, but let's take this idea: *There is one God, the Father, and one Lord Jesus Christ*, and read Acts 2:36:

Acts 2:36

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God [has] made that same Jesus, whom [you] have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Jesus Christ is "Lord" and "Christ" because God, the Father, *made Him so*. That implies submission on the part of the Son – the Son of God has a God, and it's His Father. The Father made Jesus both Lord and Christ – what does "Christ" mean? "Christ" means (it's Greek) – it means *Anointed One*. The Hebrew of it is "Messiah." Greek is "Christ"; English – "Anointed," the Anointed One. *Our Father in heaven has made Jesus both Lord and the Anointed One. There is one God, the Father, and one Lord, Jesus Christ.* The God of Jesus is His Father. I said, at the beginning of this study, that Jesus Christ is divine; He is God, and we should honor Him even as we honor the Father. But in their sphere, between the two of them – the Father and the Son – you will always see the Son worship and submit to the Father. You'll never see the Father submitting to the Son, or worshipping His Son. As we view them from our earthly perspective, looking at it through sinful flesh, we would honor them the same – we would *worship* them. But again, in their sphere, there is but one God—the Father; and there is one Lord—Jesus Christ.

Let's turn to Colossians 2, reading verse 9:

Colossians 2:9

9 For in him [dwells] all the fulness of the Godhead bodily [speaking about the Son of God, of course]. [But look at chapter 1, verse 19:]

Colossians 1:19

19 ... it pleased the Father that in him should all [the] fulness dwell;

Again, what do we have? Confirmation from what Luke told us in Acts, in Peter's sermon, that God has *made* Jesus both Lord and Christ. In Christ dwells *all* the fullness of the Godhead bodily, why? Because it pleases the Father to do so. I want to show you another "submission" scripture in 1 Corinthians 15 -- starting at verse 26:

1 Corinthians 15:26-28

26 The last enemy that [should] be destroyed is death.

27 For he [has] put all things under his feet. But when he [says] all things are put under him, [it's] manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

Here is a scripture telling us that the Son of God will be subject to His Father throughout all eternity. Is the Son *absolutely* equal to His Father? The answer to that is: No. Again, in our eyes we honor them the same; between the two of them, in the sphere in which they live, the Father is *the God* of Jesus Christ, and the Son will always be subject to His Father.

There is a major difference between understanding the Father and the Son – looking at the Godhead, I want to read a text for you found in Romans, chapter 8, starting at verse 9. You really need to pay close attention to what Paul brings out here – Romans 8, verse 9:

Romans 8:9-11

9 But [you] are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be the Spirit of God [dwells] in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10 ¶ ... if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead [dwells] in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken [or *give life to*] your mortal bodies by his Spirit that [dwells] in you.

What do you see there? Three levels of being: *Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he's none of His* – level one. Level two – *If you have the Spirit of Christ, your body is dead because of sin but your spirit is alive because of righteousness*. Level three – *But if the Spirit of Him that raised Christ **from** the dead dwells in you, He that raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal body*. Consider what I'm saying because this is huge! This idea of understanding the Son of God, possessing the "Spirit of Christ," is different than possessing the "Spirit of the Father." Even though Christ possesses the fullness of God, He is the fullness of the Godhead bodily -- you can have an understanding of Him and still not see the Father, but when the Spirit of the Father dwells in you, it will bring life *even to your mortal body*. Consider that – hold your arm out and look at your flesh.... That's your mortal body and Paul has just told us: *The Spirit of God... possessing the Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead, gives life even to your mortal flesh*.

STANDING ON MOUNT ZION

We began this study looking at Isaiah 28:16: *I lay in Zion for a foundation, a stone; a tried stone, a precious cornerstone... a founded and instructed foundation*. We know that "foundation" is our Lord, Jesus Christ, but we see Jesus has a God and that God is His Father, and Paul has written twice – 1 Corinthians 8, Ephesians 4 – that there is but one God, the Father; and there's one Lord,

Jesus Christ. In 1 Corinthians 8:7, he says, *Howbeit there's not in every man that knowledge?* Well, I want to show you a group of people who have that knowledge. Turn with me to Revelation, chapter 14, starting at verse 1:

Revelation 14:1

1 ¶ I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on mount Sion, and with him an hundred [and forty] four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

However you see the “144,000” right now makes no difference. I think we can agree that they will be, eventually, the last church on this planet – *God's last church*. The 144,000 will be alive at the second coming of Christ – they will not see death; they stand on Mount Zion with the Lamb. Why is that significant? Because Isaiah 28:16 – the *foundation* of Mount Zion is the *instructed* Christ; they understand He is the Son of God, and what's “written in their foreheads”? The “name” of the Father of the Lamb... Now let me tell you what *isn't* on their forehead: “Father, Son, Holy Ghost.” The 144,000, whoever they may be, recognize there is but *one God, the Father* – they're standing on top of the mountain and they have the “name,” or the *character*... what if I said, *the Spirit*, an understanding of the Father, and as Paul has stated in Romans 8, *possessing the Spirit of the one who raised Christ from the dead will bring life, even to your mortal body*.

Suddenly, this study, the Godhead, takes on a whole new meaning – a whole new meaning of importance! We are near the end – the Lord, Jesus Christ, is very soon to come and He will have a people who recognize God **is** His Father and He is *truly* the Son of God, *born* in eternity past. I want to read a text found in Colossians that, I think, points this out readily. Let's begin reading in Colossians 1, verse 12:

Colossians 1:12-17

12 ¶ Giving thanks unto the Father, which [has] made us meet [or *able*] to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who [has – (past tense) *already*] delivered us from the [authority – King James has put “power.” It's the *authority of darkness*...], and [has] translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins:

15 Who is the image of the invisible God [*Who is the image of the invisible God*], the firstborn of every creature:

16 For [or, *Because*] by him were all things created, that are in heaven, that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or [authorities]: all things were created by him, and for him:

17 ... he is before all ..., and by him all things consist.

How does that say He was “born” in eternity past? He is the ***firstborn*** of every creature, for by Him were all things created. God created all things through Jesus Christ – Ephesians 3:9, but Christ is the *firstborn*. If He wasn't born until Bethlehem, He couldn't be called the *firstborn of all creation*. He is the firstborn and, through Him, God created all things. We see, in Genesis, how God through Christ, spoke all things into existence. By speaking: *Let there be light*, and light was, the Son of God created all things, but you cannot speak it or do it except it is in your mind to say it and to do it. Who put it in His mind? *Our heavenly Father*! God created all things through Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ is the Creator – He is the *firstborn* of all creation, because He created **all** things. Nothing was created before Him; nothing was born before Him. Now am I saying Christ is a *created* being? No, I'm not, and those who say He was created are making a terrible mistake! We've got to understand He was not created, He was **birthed**; He is the Son of the only living God

– the true, living God...the Father.

DELIVERED BY LOVE

You've got to see that He is the Son of God. We just read that through Christ we have forgiveness of sin – *through the blood of Christ we have forgiveness of sin*. Redemption – we are redeemed through His blood, and that is what I want to key on right now. Why is it important that we understand Jesus Christ to be the *Son* of the living God – *the Son of the living God*? Let's turn to Romans 5 – reading verse 8:

Romans 5:8

8 ... God [commends] his love toward us, ...

That word “commendeth” is [4921] and it means *to exhibit*. God *exhibits* His love toward us in that while we were sinners, Christ died for us. Think it through: *God the Father exhibits His love for you by allowing Christ to die*. Let me ask you a question: What would be easier to sacrifice, your life or the life of your *only* child? It's easier for you to die yourself than to turn and allow your only child to die. God exhibits His love for us in that Christ died. The same concept is brought out in Romans 8, verse 32:

Romans 8:32

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

See, there's the concept: *For God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son*. If you make Jesus Christ anything other than the Son of the living God, then you're still in your sin, because it is that truth that will deliver you from the “old man” – from the *sin nature*. Again, the “sin nature,” we discussed in *The Introduction* study – having that feeling of “no value”; recognizing that you're born into this world – you do not know God... You don't know *your value to God*. Someone may tell you “God loves you,” but you still don't understand the value He places on you. It is that value that He places on you that begins to fill the vacuum created by not knowing how much He loves you, and the value He places on you. You have a vacuum...you try to fill the void by reaching for anything around you, whether it's alcohol, sex, drugs, money – whatever it is, you find those things that give you value. That's why you marry who you marry...they make you feel good about yourself. They either tell you that you're handsome, beautiful, rich, smart, creative – *they feed you what your heart is longing for*. “Value” – you need something to give you value, so our heavenly Father commends His love – He exhibits His love for you in that while you're a sinner, Christ dies. *He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all*...see, there's that concept – *He that spared not His own Son*.

If our heavenly Father was willing to allow His Son to die in order to show you how much He loves you, then that should be telling us that we are as valuable to God as Jesus Christ is! ***God loves you as if you were His only birthed child***. That understanding, having it become more than just simply an intellectual understanding, but allowing our heavenly Father to impress you Himself that this is truth, will slay the “old man” – will slay the *sin nature* and deliver you from the need of finding fulfillment in the things around you.

1 Corinthians 15 tells us that when the kingdom is delivered up, not only will the Son be subject to the Father, but God will be *all in all*. God will be all – He will fill *every* crevice of the heart when

we begin to open up, recognizing *He gave His only begotten Son to convince me of His love.*

I want to tell you a story, a parable concerning my children. If my children (I have two little girls) ... if they were out in the front yard playing and someone came in, a stranger came in and killed one of them, you would see an instant retaliation on my part. But what if one child killed the other? You would see a totally different response from me – why? Because *I love them both the same* – I would be heart-broken that one child was dead, but on the other hand, I would do everything I could to protect the one who killed the other, because I love them both the same. *That* is what happened at Calvary! **Jesus Christ did not die so that God could forgive you.** I want to read some texts in a minute and prove that to you. Jesus Christ died to exhibit the love of God for you, so that God could show you how much **He loves you.** You see, the Son of God was crucified by humanity. On the third day, God raised Him up as proof *this really is the Son of God* – and there was no retaliation on God's part. He allowed His Son to be crucified and used that event as a manifestation of His love for you, to help you recognize **He loves you as much as He loves Jesus.** Let's read that in John 17, starting at verse 22:

John 17:22-23

22 And the glory which [you gave] me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

23 I in them, and [you] in me, that they may be made [complete] in one; and that the world may know that [you have] sent me, and [have] loved them, as [you have] loved me.

God, the Father, loves us as much as He loves Jesus, and it is recognizing that Jesus *is* the Son of God that helps us see the passion of a Father's love, in that He is willing to allow that Son to die to show you there'll be no retaliation here.

A FATHER'S PASSION

Now, I was always told, all my Christian life: *Christ died so God could forgive me.* Well, let's look at Matthew 18. In Matthew 18, there is the parable of "the unforgiving servant." I want to begin reading at verse 21:

Matthew 18:21-32

21 ¶ Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how [often] shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

22 Jesus [said], I say not unto [you], Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

23 Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25 But forasmuch as he had [nothing] to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment be made.

26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay [you] all.

27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

28 ... the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me [what you owe].

29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me,

and I will pay [you] all.

30 And he would not: but [he] went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

31 So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told their lord all that was done.

32 Then his lord, after he had called him, said, O [you] wicked servant, I forgave [you] all that debt, **because [you desired] me**:

Before I read this, who paid that debt owed the man's lord? Nobody paid it... the lord simply forgave it. Now, let's keep going:

Matthew 18:33-35

33 [Should not you] also have had compassion on [your] fellowservant, even as I had pity on [you]?

34 ... his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do unto you, if [you] from your [heart] forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Now consider the parable we just read: Christ applies the parable to His heavenly Father and the sinner. The sinner owes God a debt – he can't pay it, but when he cries out, "Forgive me," the Father forgives him...and he says in Matthew 18:32: *I forgave you that debt **because you desired me**, not because someone else is going to come in your behalf and pay Me back.* He never says that – that principle is not in the scripture, and yet we have been told all of our lives: *Christ died to appease an angry God.* This parable states otherwise. The Father did not need a payment in order to look at you and say, "I forgive you." When you cry unto God with all of your heart, the Father will grant you that forgiveness, and *nobody has to pay a debt for you.* The Son of God did not die for the Father's payment. The Son of God died to exhibit God's love toward you, to fill the emptiness of the human heart; to help you know assuredly *God loves you as much as He loves His only birthed Son.* And again, if you make Christ anything other than the Son of the living God, you take away the passion of a Father's love. It's recognizing the *passion* that God had for His only birthed Son, that He was willing to endure the suffering He saw His Son go through in order to convince *you* of **His love for you.**

Are you a parent? Do you recognize the love, the passion you have for your own children? I challenge you: Go to the Lord in prayer. Get on your knees before your heavenly Father and recognize that passion of love you have for your children, He has for Christ, and if He was willing to allow Christ to die, then that passion of love He has for you – and it is that passion of love that will slay the "old man" in you... turn your sin nature around from the "I don't have any value to God...God needs a human sacrifice before I can have value" – He will turn you from that to the fact that, in order to *bring many sons to glory*, He allowed His only birthed Son to endure even the death of the cross.

Stand with me at the foot of that cross – look at the death of the Son of God, recognizing what is actually going on, recognizing what happened that day as the apostle John did, standing there with Mary, the mother of Christ. John was the only one of the apostles who stood at the foot of the cross and saw the death of the Son of God, and it was to that man the Revelation was given – Revelation 1: *This is the revelation which God gave unto Jesus, who signified it and gave it to His angel, who gave it to His servant John.* The Revelation was given to the apostle John because he was the one who *saw the death* – he is the symbol of the last generation church who can have the courage to

look at the truth of Calvary and, when you see it, *He will give you the revelation of Jesus Christ*. I'm telling you, the prophecies found in the book of Revelation will begin to open up and you will begin to see the truth of yourself, the truth of the end of all things and what is to happen, and the truth of your Heavenly Father. Just as the 144,000, you can stand on top of Mount Zion, the foundation of the church, Jesus Christ, the *sure foundation*, the *instructed* foundation. You can stand on Mount Zion with the 144,000, having the name, or the character, or the Spirit of the Father of the Lamb – and possessing that Spirit will bring life, even to your mortal flesh.

CLOSING REMARKS

I challenge you to go through these studies with me with an open heart, and allow the Lord Jesus Christ to minister to you by His Spirit – and be a part of this last day army that the Lord is calling out, that will *stand in His truth*. You know, I get this picture of Christ standing there, bleeding and broken because He said *He is the Son of God* – and across from Him are Caiphias and Pilate, putting Him to death for that very thing. Where are you going to stand? I choose to stand with Christ, and to suffer the reproach that comes on a man who claims *Jesus is the Son of the living God*. I can go into any denominational church and say, “Jesus is the Son of God” and they’ll say, “Amen.” But if I say, “No, He *really* is the Son of God,” there isn’t a *single* denominational church that would accept me into their fellowship. It is a travail, a wrestling that we go through concluding these truths, but when you stand faithful and firm in the assurance that Jesus is the Son of God, He is standing with you in a way you have never experienced before. Are there a “Father” and a “Word” and a “Holy Spirit” that bear record in heaven? Absolutely. Are they “one”? Absolutely. But John 17:22 tells us *we are to be one with them, even as they are one*. That “one” means *united*. No one is denying that there is a “Father” and a “Son” and a “Holy Spirit” – what I am denying is that the Father and Son are absolutely equal. I am saying the Son of God was *brought forth* in eternity past for the very reason of revealing the love of God to humanity – He was *slain before the foundation of the world*. Our heavenly Father saw us and the problem, *problems* that we would have, and He brought forth a Son to bear witness that He loves us as much as He loves Jesus.

Remember what we read in Colossians 1, I believe it was verse 15, that Christ is the *image* of the invisible God. Well, I want to conclude this study in 1 Timothy, chapter 6, verse 13:

1 Timothy 6:13-16

13 ¶ I give thee charge in the sight of God, who [quickens] all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

14 That [you] keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

15 Which in his times he [will show], who is the blessed and only [Authority – King James put “Potentate.” ... The *only Authority*...], the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

16 Who only [has] immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

“... Whom no man hath seen, nor can see” – the “invisible God, the Father of all.” John 17:3 – *For this is life eternal, that they might know You, the only true and living God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent*. Let our hearts be open to receive the truth as it is in Jesus.

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Ascending from the east

Having the seal of the living God