



BEHOLD HIS GLORY

A Four Part Study of the Doctrine of Christ

Michael Gibson

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1

Jesus is God

Genesis 1:1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Isaiah 44:24. Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, "I am the Lord that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens ALONE; that spreadeth abroad the earth by MYSELF."

In reading these two scriptures together, we find two important truths. These are, first of all that God is the creator of all. Second, we see he created all things alone and by himself. There were no co-creators with him.

John 1:10. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

Here the apostle John informs us that Jesus is the Creator. God created all things alone and by himself, yet here we find out that Jesus is the Creator. The only thing this could mean is that Jesus alone is God, and that Jesus alone is the Creator. He had no other helpers.

Exodus 3:13-15. And Moses said unto God, "Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, 'The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you'; and they shall say to me, 'What is his name?' What shall I say unto them?" And God said unto Moses, "I AM THAT I AM," and he said, "Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you," and God said moreover unto Moses, "Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, 'The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you.' This is my name forever; and this is my memorial unto all generations."

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob wants to be remembered as I AM.

John 8:57-58. Then said the Jews unto him, "Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?" Jesus said unto them, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, before Abraham was, I AM."

Jesus boldly proclaimed to his friends and his enemies that he is, himself, the one who is I AM.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord, and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

We are called upon to believe in and worship the one true God of Israel. We are allowed to serve no other.

John 20:26-31. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them. Then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace be unto you." Then saith he to Thomas, "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless, but believing." And Thomas answered and said unto him, "My Lord and my God." Jesus saith unto him, "Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou has believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book, but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through his name."

We are to love and serve the God of Israel and to have no other gods before him. Jesus revealed himself to all of the apostles as their Lord and their God. Therefore, he is exalted to the highest place of honor in the universe. Also note, in John's comments verses 26-31, Jesus is referred to as Lord, God, Christ and the Son of God. We are to believe he is all that John says he is.

Deuteronomy 32:3-6, 18. Because I will publish the name of the Lord: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he. They have corrupted themselves, their spot is not the spot of his children. They are a perverse and crooked generation. Do ye thus requite the Lord, O foolish people and unwise? Is not he thy FATHER that hath bought thee? Hath he not made thee, and established thee? (emphasis added)

Verse 18. Of the Rock that begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee.

Moses refers to God as the Rock. He says plainly that the Rock is their father in verse 6. Since he is the one in verse 18 who has begotten them again he confirms the Rock is their father.

Psalms 89:26. He shall cry unto me, "Thou art my father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation."

Here we are shown by God himself how he was addressed by David. My FATHER, My GOD, and the ROCK of my salvation.

1 Corinthians 10:1-4. Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea: And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink, for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that ROCK WAS CHRIST.

The apostle Paul told the Corinthians "that ROCK WAS CHRIST" (v. 4). Therefore it is clear that Paul believed, before his coming to earth as a man, Jesus was in fact God the father.

Isaiah 43:10-11. "Ye are my witnesses," saith the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he. Before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no Saviour."

God is emphatic that he is the only Saviour.

John 4:42. And said unto the woman, "Now we believe, not because of thy saying, for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world."

We gather from these several verses that God alone is the Saviour. Yet the people said that Christ was the Saviour of the world. Therefore, there is no doubt Christ is God coming as the Saviour of his people.

Isaiah 44:6. Thus saith the Lord, the King of Israel, and his redeemer the Lord of hosts, "I am the first, and I am the last; and BESIDE ME THERE IS NO GOD." (emphasis added)

The same one who says he is the first and the last says, there is no God beside him. He did not know anything about a multi-person godhead. He is saying, "I, and no one else, am God."

Revelation 2:8. And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive.

Jesus is the one who died and rose again. He claims to be the one who is the only God, period. If there is no God except the first and the last, nobody else can be God except Jesus. Many believe Jesus is merely the second of three persons who are God. They would have him as the one in the middle. Yet he says that he is both the first and the last. So if God the father is the first person, then Jesus is God the father. If the Holy Ghost is the third (last) person, then Jesus is the Holy Ghost, because he is the first and the last.

Isaiah 45:21-22. Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? Who hath told it from that time? Have not I, the Lord? And there is no God else beside me, a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth, for I am God, there is none else.

If God is plain about anything it is the fact there is no God but he. If he is plain about anything it is that there is no Saviour except himself. And also notice he is the Saviour of all nations. If anyone on earth desires to be saved it must be through him alone.

Titus 2:11-13. For grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Paul is very strong in his assertion that Jesus is both our God and Saviour. As in creation he needs no one besides himself to accomplish his purpose.

Isaiah 9:6-7. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his

government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

All Christians agree this is a prophecy of the coming of Christ into the world as the Saviour and ruler. It indicates that this son who is given unto us as Saviour and ruler is in reality the one true God himself. His name shall be called MIGHTY GOD-EVERLASTING FATHER, put very plainly God the Father. The Christ is both the child who was born and the everlasting Father! So the mystery of Christ is that he is both the Father and the Son .

1 Timothy 3:16. And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

So my friends, when was God manifest in the flesh? Was it not when Jesus was born the Son of God? That was the fulfillment of the MIGHTY GOD-EVERLASTING FATHER coming in the flesh.

1 Timothy 1:17. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen

Here we see Paul believed in one who was the ONLY WISE GOD. He is the King eternal who is immortal. Now let us see who Paul believed was the only true God!

1 Timothy 6:14-16. That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath 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

If Jesus is indeed the King eternal (Kings of kings) he is the only wise God. If Jesus is indeed immortal he is the only true God, for he ONLY has immortality.

Revelation 22:6. And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

Who did John believe was the LORD GOD of the holy prophets?

Revelation 22:16. I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

So again Jesus impresses upon the apostle John he is both our Lord and God.

Malachi 2:10. Have we not all one father? Hath not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

The one God would have always been God if he had never created anything. But he also became the father of all things by the miracle of creation. So if there is only one God and Jesus is the MIGHTY GOD there can be no other. If we all have but one father and Jesus is the EVERLASTING FATHER then he alone is God the Father! It is my earnest desire through this study many will see there is only one God who is the Father of the universe and that Jesus is himself God.

2

The Invisible God Revealed

1 John 4:12...No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

1 Timothy 6:16...Who only hath 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

Several places in the word of God we are told God has never been seen.

Isaiah 6:1-5...In the year that King Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne high and lifted up and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphim, each one had six wings, with twain he covered his face and twain he covered his feet and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another and said Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts: the whole earth is fully of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried. and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I Woe is me! For I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips for mine eyes have seen THE KING THE LORD OF HOSTS.

So the question must be asked who or what did Isaiah and various others see when they proclaimed they had seen God? In the revelation of this mystery we will discover a truth that will honor Jesus to the highest place in the universe.

1 Kings 8:27...But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?

Solomon recognized that in his essence as omnipresent spirit God was bigger than the universe he created. Before creation he dwelt alone with himself. Since he never had a beginning he had an eternity to plan the creation of the universe. Since he as omnipresent spirit would be bigger than creation itself he desired to find a way to come inside what he would make and be part of it.

John 1:1-3...In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.

Before the beginning God had no need of a form. He was omnipresent spirit dwelling alone so there was no one else to see him. But since he desired to be seen in his creation it was necessary for him to create a visible manifestation of himself.

This form or visible manifestation would be everything that he himself was except in reduced, visible form. This was not another person who was God but God himself dwelling in the visible form. This form he took would be the same as the angels who he would later create. That way when they were created he would be sitting there on his throne and would explain to them who they were and what he was. So they would not be seeing him as omnipresent spirit, they would be seeing him in angelic form as the image of the invisible God.

The Greek for WORD in these scriptures is LOGOS. Many meanings are given for this word in Strong's concordance. In context the one that seems to fit here is THE DIVINE EXPRESSION. For this visible angelic manifestation of the omnipresent spirit of God would be the full expression of himself. Today certain companies will have a little picture or design stamped on their product and we call that a logo. The purpose of the logo is that when people see it the actual company itself will come to mind. In the same way God's logos is what he has given creation as a small yet all-powerful expression of his own person.

So when we are told in the beginning was the Word it means the beginning of time. The Word existed from the beginning of time but the one who dwelt in the Word existed from eternity. So

at creation the WORD spoke and the omnipresent spirit moved to bring all things into being. We are told the Word was with God. It was a PORTION of his own being. So when John says and the WORD was God he is not implying the existence of two God's. Rather he is showing that the image of the invisible God is the ETERNAL GOD HIMSELF. Now we will show powerful proof that WORD was an angelic form that God used to manifest himself visibly to creation.

Exodus 3:1-4...Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Median: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the ANGEL OF THE LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place where thou standest is holy ground. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

When God introduced himself to Moses we are told the Angel of the Lord is what he saw in the bush. Even though what he saw was the Angel of the Lord yet we are told it was God who called to him out of the bush. So this is how Moses knew God face to face. He saw him in the person of the Angel of the Lord.

Isaiah 63:7-9...I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.

Who was it that carried Israel? Who was it that was afflicted in all their afflictions? Who was their Saviour? Isaiah the prophet tells us it was the Lord. Yet, it was the Lord doing all these

things through the ANGEL OF HIS PRESENCE. When the angel of the Lord was present, the Lord Himself was present. As Israel saw the angel of his presence, they saw him, that is God Himself.

Genesis 32:24-30...And Jacob was left alone: and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. And he said unto him, What is thy name? and he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

So here we have the story of Jacob wrestling with an angel. Yet upon remembering this event, he said he had seen God face to face. Why? Because the angel of God WAS GOD.

Hosea 12:3-5...He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God. Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us; Even the Lord God of hosts; the Lord is his memorial.

Here Hosea reiterates the story of Jacob wrestling with the angel. It says by his strength he had power WITH GOD. And why did he make supplication to the angel? Because he was THE LORD GOD OF HOSTS.

Genesis 48:15-16...And he blessed Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day, The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads: and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

On his death bed Jacob says plainly the ANGEL OF GOD who had been with him all his life was God himself. So what is our point in all of these scriptures? The biblical writers tells us "no man hath seen God at any time". So what is it about God no one has ever seen? Is it not his essence of omnipresent spirit? In his omnipresence God fills the whole universe and even

beyond, because it is too small to contain him!

So what is it about God that men claim to have seen? In his wisdom the omnipresent creator formed an angelic image of himself as his visible expression that he may have personal, face to face, communication with that which he has created.

John 1:1... In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The Angel of the Lord was the Word that was with God and also was God!

John 1:14. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

When the time came for God to redeem fallen mankind, something happened to the Word. The Word had always dwelt in unapproachable light (omnipresent spirit). To become our Saviour he would have to have a human nature including a body of flesh. At just the right moment, the omnipresent Holy Spirit transformed the Word into a seed small enough to fit into the womb of a young virgin named Mary.

Matthew 1:18...Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Luke 1:35... And the angel (Gabriel) answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Notice that in both of these verses it is the Holy Ghost (omnipresent spirit) who is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. All during the years of his life when he spoke of, and prayed to his Father he was talking about the Holy Ghost. Now the Word which was God's visible image had been changed from spirit to flesh. And Gabriel told Mary that holy thing shall be called THE

SON OF GOD. So this child who was born, this son who was given, had pre-existed as the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father. Now Jesus had two natures. Or two modes of existence.

John 3:13...And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

As a human being on earth he was a man, the Son of God. At the same time in heaven he remained God-the Everlasting Father. While he walked around on the Earth as man he was overseeing everything that was happening on every Planet in every Galaxy in the Universe! He was fully man and fully God at the same time. While he was here as a human being he knew the same limitations and temptations as any other man yet without sin. [b] So even though in Christ there are two separate natures, or modes of existence they are somehow linked together. The mighty works of healing and casting out of devils and prophetic visions were done through his connection to the Father.

This is what Jesus meant when he said my Father is greater than I. The God nature that he still held in his heavenly existence was greater than his human nature.

At this present time Jesus (Jesus Christ) is simultaneously God and man.

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 1 Timothy 2:5

If there is only one who is God it must be Jesus in his existence as YHWH. In his humanity he is the man chosen of God to be his exact representation. If we want to see God we must see him in Christ.

In Old Testament times the image of the invisible God was the angel of the Lord. Those people who lived then could only see God through him. He was their mediator. If and when you saw the angel of God you saw God.

In our times the Son of man is his visible image. If we are seeking God today we need look no further than his mediator, even Christ Jesus!

3

Three Manifestations of the One God

Matthew 10:19-20. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

Mark 13:11. But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

If the Father and the Holy Ghost are separate and distinct persons which inspired writer is correct? Matthew tells us the Spirit of the Father will speak, but Mark says it will be the Holy Ghost.

Luke 21:14-15. Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

And now to add fuel to the fire Luke records the same discourse by saying it is Jesus who will do the speaking! Is it not very likely they were all three inspired to write what they wrote because THESE THREE ARE ONE?

Romans 6:4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of THE FATHER, even so we also should walk in the newness of life.

1 Peter 3:18. For Christ also hath suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by THE SPIRIT.

As concerning the resurrection we see the apostle Paul states Christ was raised from the dead by the Father. Then Peter says he was raised (or quickened) by the Holy Ghost. Did it take two separate and distinct persons who are both God to raise one man from the dead?

John 2:18-21. Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I WILL RAISE IT UP. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body.

Now we have the ASTOUNDING statement by Jesus that it is HE HIMSELF who will resurrect HIMSELF! Saints of God, It would not take three divine persons to raise ONE MAN from the dead! No doubt the Holy Spirit wants us to see that these three are one and the SAME SPIRIT.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the SAME SPIRIT, And there differences of administrations, but the SAME LORD. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the SAME GOD which worketh all in all.

So who is working the gifts in the believer? Verse 4 says the SAME SPIRIT. Verse 5 says the SAME LORD. Verse 6 says the SAME GOD.

1 Corinthians 12:11. But all these worketh that ONE AND THE SELFSAME SPIRIT, dividing to every man severally as HE WILL.

So evidently the same Lord, the same Spirit and same God is a HE. He is one and the SELFSAME SPIRIT. God never says he is three, but always that he is ONE!

Ephesians 4:4-6. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

The apostle Paul knew only one Lord. Who was he?

Acts 9:5. And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I AM JESUS whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

The ONLY LORD Paul knew was Jesus .

The apostle Paul knew only one Spirit. Who was he?

2 Corinthians 3:16-17. Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away. Now THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

So to Paul Jesus was the only Lord. And now the same man writing under inspiration says, THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT! Jesus himself is ONE SPIRIT Paul knew.

Paul knew only one who was both God and Father. Who as he?

Isaiah 9:6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Now we see the all powerful truth that it is THE SON (Jesus) who is both THE MIGHTY GOD THE EVERLASTING FATHER! So if Jesus is both God and Father, then he is the ONLY GOD AND FATHER. Because the apostle Paul said there is ONLY ONE who is both God and Father.

1 John 5:7-8. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

The blood, water, and spirit AGREE IN ONE. The Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost ARE ONE. Can you see there is a difference between agreeing in one, and BEING ONE? If the spirit wanted us to believe there are three divine persons each one God IN HIS OWN RIGHT he would have said these three agree in one. He did not! He said these three ARE ONE.

Matthew 28:19. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

This command of Christ is cited as a basis for Trinitarian doctrine. Was Christ commanding the apostles to preach three separate, co-eternal, co-equal members of the Godhead? Notice he says to baptize in THE NAME. Singular. Let us see how the apostles obeyed this command.

Acts 2:38. Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:16. For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 10:48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

Acts 19:5. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The apostles in every case in the book of acts baptized converts into the name of Jesus Christ (Jesus).

Why did they do this? They had spent some three years walking with him and hearing his teachings before he was crucified. They walked with him forty days after his resurrection. THEY KNEW THE TRUTH!

The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are three manifestations of the ONE BEING WHO IS GOD.

There is one name that now brings salvation to the world.

Acts 4:12. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

4

God the Father Manifested in Flesh

Colossians 2:2-3. That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Paul says there is a mystery concerning God. That is why sometimes it seems difficult to reconcile statements of scripture about the identity of the Father and Christ.

Luke 10:21-22. In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him.

Jesus says that the Father has HIDDEN the truth about the Father and the Son from some. He doesn't allow those who are full of their own wisdom so see him in all of His splendor. On the other hand it is his joy to be known by the humble. Jesus says we can only understand the mystery of both the Father and the Son by divine revelation given by Himself.

2 Corinthians 6:16-18. And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Here the Lord Almighty says if we separate ourselves to him he will be our Father. So if the Lord will allow us to see who is the Lord Almighty is we will know the identity of our Father.

Revelation 1:7-8. Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him. And they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even

so, Amen. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

The subject of verse 7 is the coming of Christ. We note it is he who was pierced for us. He calls himself the Alpha and Omega. He is the Lord (which was and which is and which is to come) THE ALMIGHTY. So if Jesus himself is the Lord Almighty then we understand that he is THE FATHER of the Christian.

Revelation 21:5-7. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

We have already seen in Revelation 1:7-8, that the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending is Jesus. We are told in Revelation 21:7 the overcomers are his sons. If the overcomers are his sons that means Jesus is the Father!

Titus 1:1-4. Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour; To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Here the apostle Paul imparts blessings to Titus from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. So we have God who is the FATHER and we have the Lord Jesus Christ who is the SAVIOUR. Is Paul implying these are two separate and distinct beings of God? In that very same epistle, the same man writing, says the following.

Titus 2:13. Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the GREAT GOD and our SAVIOUR Jesus Christ;

Therefore if God is the Father and Jesus Christ is the Saviour, then Jesus Christ must be both, for Paul says our great God and our Saviour is JESUS CHRIST.

1 Corinthians 8:4-6. As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one. For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) 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.

Some see a sharp separation between the one God who is the Father and the one Lord who is Jesus Christ. We must remember that the Holy Spirit has put a cloak of mystery over the identity of the Father and the Son. True enough there is only one God and there is only one Lord. Now let us look and see who the apostles of the New Testament Church believed they were.

John 20:27-28. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, MY LORD AND MY GOD.

All the apostles were gathered together when Thomas proclaimed Jesus was both his Lord and his God. This was the truth that was plainly revealed to the apostles. So for those who have ears to hear there is one God and that is Jesus and also there is one Lord who is also Jesus. For the Lord our God IS ONE.

Revelation 22:3-5. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Notice that the throne of God and the Lamb IS SINGULAR. Also his servants shall serve him not them. They shall see HIS FACE, NOT THEIR FACES. And HIS NAME, NOT THEIR NAMES shall be in their foreheads. It is called the throne of God and of the Lamb. We know the Lamb is Jesus. Who is the Lord God that giveth them light? Thomas answered and said unto him, (Jesus) MY LORD AND MY GOD. So the throne of God is occupied by ONE who is BOTH God and the Lamb.

Ephesians 5:8. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

If Christians are the children of light then the light is their father. WHO IS THE LIGHT?

John 12:44-46. Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Jesus is the light. We are the children of light. Conclusion? Jesus is our Father.

1 John 2:28-29. And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness IS BORN OF HIM.

Are we not to abide in Jesus? Are we not to be ready for HIS COMING? John is plainly writing about Him. He says we are (born of him). If we are born of him we are his children and he is our Father.

John 14:6-9. Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

Early in our study Jesus said no man can know who the Father is unless the Son reveals it to them. Here the apostle Philip wanted to know the Father apart from Jesus. Many people today seek the same thing Philip sought. But Jesus's answer was "have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me?"

He says if you have seen me YOU HAVE SEEN THE FATHER!

Honestly friends, if you were there that day what would you have thought? Again a reminder this truth is hidden for some. To others it is revealed. If you can see the same thing Philip saw that day it is because of divine revelation. The Son has revealed the Father to you.

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

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