

Lesson 22

Understanding the Godhead

Opening Verse: **John 1:1; 14**

¹ *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

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.*

Introduction:

In this lesson, we are going to explore the INFINITE God **before** the “beginning,” Who was named in the Old Testament as the “I AM.” We are likewise going to study the FINITE God **at the beginning of time and space**, Who is the “Word (Logos) made flesh.” And the New Testament revealed His name as Jesus.

There is only ONE Person in the godhead but God has revealed His **QUALITIES** to us in scripture by using a variety of **TITLES**, depending on its specific purpose for that time (how the quality/aspect of God was operating at that time). When we fully understand the use of titles in scripture, we can clearly see why it does not represent a plurality of persons in the godhead but that it gives us a deeper revelation of the many awesome aspects of our ONE God!

The Foundation of the **I AM** and the **LOGOS**

Before there was anything, **THERE WAS GOD**. He is the **INFINITE** God that’s NOT LIMITED by TIME and SPACE.

God had NO BEGINNING (and no ending) and the ONLY One with no beginning is God Himself. Our soul is eternal but it had a beginning. The angels are also eternal, they do not have an ending but they had a beginning. Only God is infinite or unlimited in time.

God’s “quantitative” existence is also infinite. He cannot “fill” the Universe because the Universe is in Him! So we cannot say that He fills all time and space because time and space are limited AND **all of time** (past, present and future of the Universe) and **space are IN the Infinite God**.

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The INFINITE God is **OUTSIDE** of TIME and SPACE:

Psalm 90:1-2

¹ *Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.* ² **Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever *thou hadst formed the earth and the world (UNIVERSE), Even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art (YOU ARE) God.***

In this Psalm, Moses declares God as Existing in the present tense: From everlasting - You are, after everlasting - You are, and right now - You are.

Living Bible - You are God without beginning or end.

Bible of Basic English - Before time was and forever, You are God.

1 Kings 8:27 *But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee ...*

The **FIRST NAME** of God that was revealed to man was **I AM**, which means the **SELF-EXISTENT ONE**. →

That's what He told Moses at the burning bush. So the **I AM** represents the **Infinite** God (that's outside of time and space) that pre-existed Creation.

And the Infinite One or the Great I AM is LOVE.

And when there was nothing and nobody but God, who was the I AM going to fully express Himself to? How was the God of Love going to fulfil Himself? You can't do that by loving yourself. And if He IS LOVE, then this kind of LOVE would want to GIVE. But give to whom, or give to what? Since there wasn't anyone else but God.

So the **CHALLENGE** for the I AM Infinite God was, is, and always will be these:

- 1) How can He love someone else?
- 2) He can only relate with another "infinite" being BUT it's impossible for another infinite being to exist since He alone is the Infinite One.
- 3) And if a finite being existed - the infinite cannot possibly relate with the finite.

So how does the INFINITE give Himself to something else because He's the only Infinite One and anything else there would ever be will always only be FINITE? And because He is INFINITE, He cannot relate or connect with the FINITE.

God's Initial Solution on WHO TO LOVE: The **I AM** in His own **MIND**, decided to create and bring something into being that's NOT God or is FINITE.

- In the infinite, there's only one room for ONE infinite. Because if there are TWO distinct beings in the infinite, neither one of them is infinite. That's why there could only be ONE "Almighty" God.
- And when the I AM **decided** to bring a being or beings into existence that He could love and that could love Him in return, in His mind, everything was created.

NOTES

The only biblical measurement of God is **HE EXISTS** or **I AM**. For God can never be accurately identified, described or understood from within time and space ONLY. In fact, doing that in effect un-deifies Him because it denies Him of His most unique characteristic as God = His **LIMITLESSNESS**. And any doctrine of God that does not harmonize with what the Bible says about God both BEFORE and after TIME cannot be a true teaching about God.



Please Take Note:

The instance He thought of it, it all **EXISTED in His MIND**.

And the **moment** He brought something into existence **in His MIND** that He could create – that and everything about that immediately **became FINITE**.

God's Solution on HOW TO LOVE His Finite Creation: The LOGOS

- Because God was infinite and could not change His state of being infinite - **He could NOT CONNECT with His finite creation.**
- So He had to have a **MEANS** whereby He could **CONNECT** to the **finite** (His human creation) without "un-doing" His infiniteness.
- And so that was **LOGOS**, that's what came being into His mind.

The LOGOS was all of God that it could be EXCEPT it couldn't be infinite.

- It's not a separate God, any more than your thoughts, your plans are a separate person from you.
- And the **Logos** of God that came into being in God's mind was God's BLUEPRINT or plan that contained everything that God would do or ever do.

John 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word (Logos), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

The **LOGOS** was **not** a separate God but an **EXPRESSION of the infinite God into the finite.**

The **Logos** is all of the infinite God possible expressed into the finite.

It was the **AGENCY** whereby the infinite God could **CREATE the finite and still be infinite** AND it was also the **AGENCY** whereby God could **RELATE TO and have a relationship with the finite.**

And by the LOGOS, He created everything.

- The **Logos** and the **Spirit** are **not** two different beings. **God** is a **SPIRIT** (John 4:24). But the Spirit "had" thoughts so it was the **MIND** of God or the **LOGOS** of God that created everything.

And then the Logos became FLESH.

John 1:14 *And the Word [Logos] 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.*

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The FOUNDATION of WHO God Is:

There are only **TWO ELEMENTS/EXPRESSIONS of God** that existed BEFORE the creation of time and space:

- (1) The **I AM** (or the Infinite God)
- (2) and His expression as **LOGOS.**

The **I AM** and the **LOGOS** is the **foundation of WHO God is.** And everything else in the Bible, **all the other Biblical TITLES of God – they will point either to the I AM or the Logos.**

Here's what was going on in the MIND of God BEFORE CREATION:

- God knew that these beings that He was going to create were going to possess some characteristics that are just like Him, and the most significant was their **ABILITY TO DECIDE OR CHOOSE**.
- By giving them free choice, He knew that in their finite being - they would not always make the right choices.
- Thus, in the beginning before He brought anything into existence, in His own mind - **He expressed that Logos into that existence by ROBINING IT IN THE FLESH of those beings that He would create.**
- So, we can say that "Jesus" (Logos that was made flesh) existed before creation, in the MIND of God.

The Lord Jesus Christ was God's AGENCY for us.

The finite form of the Infinite God was necessary **TO SAVE US AND TO CONNECT WITH US**.

- Our souls can only be redeemed by sinless blood and a human agency (flesh) was necessary to fulfil that requirement. (*Heb. 9:22*)
- And we need the redemptive work of Jesus Christ to be applied into our lives continually in order for us to "stay saved." (i.e. the ministry of His Word & Spirit)
- Jesus is the visible image of God to us, the only "face" of the infinite God (*Col. 1:15, 2 Cor. 4:6*).
- The bodily form of God was the only way for the Infinite God to possibly love another being and to receive love from that being.

John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

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

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not ...

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John 3:16 becomes more relevant once we see the foundation of God's love and His "only" means to express His love!

And we will cover the topic of the **Sonship** on the next pages of this lesson.

The Lord Jesus Christ is God

When Peter was proclaiming his first gospel mention, he made this statement:

Acts 2:36

*³⁶ Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same **Jesus**, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.*

The significance of these two titles of Jesus:

LORD = Spirit of God (the “anointing” One)

CHRIST = Word made flesh (the “anointed” One)

So the **Spirit of God** was “within” the **Word made flesh**. And **Jesus** was/is God by being **both “Lord and Christ” = Having the Spirit of God dwelling in the flesh of Jesus**.

The **Spirit of God** directly represents the **DEITY** and the manifestation of the **I AM** “in” Christ. And Christ (or the Logos made flesh) is the **visible** representation of the **invisible** Spirit of God.

***2 Corinthians 3:17** Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.*

***Romans 8:9b** Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*

***2 Corinthians 4:6** For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

***Colossians 1:15** Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:*

The Son of God

The Logos or the Word made flesh (*John 1:14*) was called the **SON** because He was born of a woman.

Galatians 4:4

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

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Jesus is the I AM God.
***John 8:58** Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.*

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Jesus was both WORD and SPIRIT and we need **both elements** “to get to the Father” (as we must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth, *John 4:24*). Thus, as I **pursue His Truth**, my pursuit has to be empowered by, enlightened by, and **operated by the Spirit of God IN me**, in my mind, my spirit, my heart, or in all of my being.

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Thus, the **Son is not a separate person**, but it is a different **TITLE** of God to represent God’s form in the flesh. Because flesh was necessary to redeem the sins of man.

The Titles of Father and Son = PARABLES

In the Book of John, chapter 16 records the last teaching session of Jesus with the Disciples before the day He was crucified. In verse 25, Jesus was talking about the Father and the Son to the disciples:

John 16:25

These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.

(AMPC)

*I have told you these things in **parables** (veiled language, allegories); the hour is now coming when I shall no longer speak to you in figures of speech, but I shall tell you about the Father in plain words and openly (without reserve).*

So Jesus Himself declared the **terminology of Father and Son** in regards to himself **AS A PARABLE**.

A **PARABLE** is a **statement** or comment that conveys a meaning indirectly by the use of comparison, analogy or the like. A parable is an **example** or illustration from the natural or the temporal realm that is used by God to communicate supernatural or eternal principles. And the bible is full of parables - using natural things He created to illustrate to finite man, heavenly principles.

Since a parable takes natural examples and uses them to illustrate spiritual principles, it should not be taken literally.

For example, Nicodemus, a master/teacher of the Jews, could not understand when Jesus told him to be “born-again.” (*John 3:3-8*) For he asked if he was supposed to enter the second time into his mother’s womb and be born. The Lord was explaining spiritual things to Nicodemus by using natural things that he was familiar with BUT Jesus did not expect him to take them literally.

On John 3:9, this is Nicodemus’ response: *Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?*

- Notice Jesus’ response to him (*John 3:10 – 12*). ➡

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*When I say the terms, “**Father and Son**,” how many am I talking about?*

It all depends.** If I’m talking about the **TITLES** or the **NATURES** of God, then there are two. But if I am talking about the **PERSONS** or **BEINGS** of God – then there’s only **ONE!

We will discuss more about the **TITLES** of God on the next pages.

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John 3:10-11

¹⁰ *Jesus answered and said unto him, **Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?***

¹¹ *Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.***

¹² ***If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?***

Why would God use Parables?

God uses the **NATURAL PRINCIPLES** for us to see how it correlates with the **SPIRITUAL** to gives us more understanding! But God also uses parables to test hearts.

Matthew 13:1–3; 10-13 *The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. ²And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. ³And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;*

*¹⁰And the disciples came, and said unto him, **Why speakest thou unto them in parables?** ¹¹He answered and said unto them, **Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.** ¹²For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. ¹³**Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.***

Matthew 11:25 *At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent (THOSE WHO ARE PURSUING GOD INTELLECTUALLY), and hast revealed them unto babes.*

The Lord God's USE of PARABLES was **INTENTIONAL**. They revealed Truth to those with eyes to see and ears to hear AND hid Truth from those that didn't have spiritually discerning eyes and ears.

Examples of parables that you will find being used in scripture, natural things with spiritual application: Marriage, being a husband, being a wife. Families, parenting, being a son, being a daughter. The Tabernacle and temple that the Jews built. The scriptural Laws. Spiritual authorities. The body and soul. Water – one time it's described as a well, and in other places as a river. Creation. The sun, the stars, agriculture, seasons, day and night. Sleep. Growing, aging and dying are all used as a parable.

- "As I die daily." (1 Cor. 15:31) Natural death is intended to help us to understand how to die spiritually.

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Each time you study God's Word and come across a PARABLE, ask this question:

What biblical PRINCIPLE/S and/or specific PLAN of God is being revealed?

For example:

The Wheat and Tares (Matt. 13: 24-30, 36-43)

The harvest is the end of the world (end of the Church age). After the rapture, the angels will be the reapers of all souls who were born into God's kingdom. They will separate the **wheat** (those who followed the will of God) from the **tares** (those who followed their own will/iniquity). The wheat will be kept in a safe place while the tares will be thrown immediately into the fire.

This is a very interesting parable that tells us that the "tares" (who will first look like "wheat") will be part of the rapture! But will not be saved!

Now the **ULTIMATE PARABLE** in the Bible is the FATHER and the SON.

Synonymous Titles:

Christ = Son

Lord = Father

Is there a distinction between the Father and the Son? Certainly! The title FATHER refers to God's **DEITY**, while the SON refers to God's **humanity** or more accurately referred to as the humanity through which the Father made Himself known to man. Because God did not have any flesh, and flesh in itself cannot represent His Deity.

The Apostle Paul made it very clear that he believed that God is the FATHER.

1 Corinthians 8:5–6

⁵For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) 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.**

And Paul also declared that the **SON** (or Christ) is the “express image” of the Father. Which means that the SON is not a different person or Deity but that it's the “visible” image of the invisible God.

Hebrews 1:2–3 ²(GOD) Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his **Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; ³Who being the brightness of his glory, and the **express image of his person** ...

2 Corinthians 4:3–6

³But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: ⁴In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of **Christ, who is the image of God**, should shine unto them. ⁵For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God **in the face of Jesus Christ**.

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So the **title of the FATHER** will always refer to the Spirit of the Father that dwells inside the body of Jesus Christ (God's DEITY) and the **title of the SON** will always refer to the human form of Jesus Christ. Thus, we can conclude that Jesus IS the eternal spirit of God or the Father, dwelling in the flesh.

And in short, **JESUS IS GOD**. For He is the **express image of the Father**, or the DEITY of God.

Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the **image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Colossians 1:15 Who is the **image of the invisible God**, the firstborn of every creature:

Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge **after the image of him that created him**:

Yes, Jesus IS the IMAGE of God!

As we read about it in the Gospels, is the **RELATIONSHIP between the FATHER and the SON** a “literal” relationship? Or is this supposed to be a **PARABLE**?

The Bible wants to teach us the principles that this parabolic relationship between the Father and the Son demonstrated, as an example to us, the body of Christ:

- How the **Son depended** upon the Father and how he was **continually led by** the Father
- How the Son operated in the **power and authority of His Father**
- How the **flesh was submitted to the Spirit**
- How the **Son of man had to yield to the Father’s will**, and had to **die to his own flesh and will**

AND if this relationship was actually a literal thing – **how could you apply the last verse of this scripture?**

John 14:6-10 ⁶Jesus saith unto him, *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.* ⁷If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. ⁸Philip saith unto him, *Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.* ⁹Jesus 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?* ¹⁰*Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and **the Father in me?** the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the **Father that dwelleth in me**, he doeth the works.*

- **Is that a LITERAL statement that can be applied?**
Can a father exist “inside” the body of his son??

We know that that’s not physically possible because the Lord was not talking about a literal relationship between a Father and a Son but this was only a PARABLE!

- **For the DEITY of the Father was “IN” the Son!**

It’s just like the **TYOLOGY** between our **BODY and SOUL**:

- Our body and soul make up one person
- Our body is the visible image of our soul
- Our soul is who we really are – the seat of our mind, will, and emotions.

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More for Study:

John 14:20

At that day (the coming of the Holy Ghost) ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

What do these mean?

I am in my Father =

The **Logos** originated from the **I AM** God (in His Mind); the Logos is also the Word or the plan of God; and the Logos is the agency that “fulfils” the will of God.

Ye in Me = We first become the **body of Christ** by the infilling of the Spirit, and then we are “in” Christ when we, as His body, are fulfilling His will on earth.

I in You = the Holy Ghost dwelling in us

Since there is only ONE Spirit (*Ephes. 4:4*) and we know that the Holy Spirit is the same Spirit of Christ. Thus, Christ is “in” us when we are filled with His Spirit.

(pray for God to give you more revelation on this)

The PRIMARY Parabolic TITLES

- **FATHER** is the **primary parabolic title of the I AM in time and space.**
- **SON** and/or **CHRIST** are the **primary parabolic titles of LOGOS in time and space.**
- THESE WERE **NOT** GOD'S TITLES **BEFORE CREATION.**

So God wasn't the FATHER before Creation? **Only in His MIND.** And how about the SON? Wasn't He created before the foundation of the world? He was created in the mind of God = LOGOS! **Logos knew He was going to be robed in flesh.**

SUMMARY of the Foundation of God Before Creation:

- The **INFINITE God (I AM)** is (and will always be) **OUTSIDE of time and space.**
- The Infinite God is **LOVE** and desired to express His love with another being. He could not create another INFINITE being but He could only create FINITE beings.
- And these FINITE beings would be part of time and space which would make it impossible for the INFINITE God to connect with them.
- But the I AM had a plan! And that was the **LOGOS!**
- The **LOGOS is all of the I AM that can be expressed in the finite** (or in time and space).
- Before the Logos was activated, the plan started in the **MIND** of the Infinite God (I AM). And then the Logos was activated when **CREATION** began.
- All things were created by the Logos because the Infinite God could not do that directly. The Logos was the MEDIATOR for the finite to exist: For Logos was necessary for both **man's Creation and Redemption.**
- The I AM and the LOGOS refer to the same God or Person but One is **infinite** (outside of time and space) while the Other is **finite** (being part of time and space).
- The **Infinite was and still is invisible**, while the **finite expression was and is still visible.** We can't see Him now but we'll get to see Him in His GLORIFIED body when it's our time to leave this earthly dimension. And the glorified body of Christ in heaven will still have the Spirit of the **I AM** because the Spirit form represents the Deity of God.

NOTES

ALL OF THOSE PARABLES and all of that talking back and forth in our terminology was basically trying to help us to **understand the RELATIONSHIP between the I AM and Himself (Logos) expressed in time and space.**

And the **CONNECTION** between the Logos and the I AM will always be there because the only **DEITY** is the **I AM.**

If we get the **foundation of the I AM and the Logos**, then we **WILL** be able to understand all the parabolic relationships or purposes of the TITLES.

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More on the MIND of God: The Infinite God always had a MIND and His thinking and His LOVE was NOT limited by time. So He saw the future of the Son before creation, He saw the future of humanity through the Logos, and He saw the future of the body of Christ before creation and after time. And He loved His creation before it was even there. Because He's infinite.

The NAME is Different from the TITLE

The Bible clearly states the **NAMES of God**:

- **I AM** was the first NAME that God revealed to man.

Exodus 3:13–14

¹³ 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? ¹⁴ 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.

In the following verse, God states another Name:

Exodus 3:15

¹⁵ And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The **LORD (YHWH)** 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 for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.**


- The **YHWH** name is 4 Hebrew consonants and no vowels and it was unpronounceable for a reason. Man added vowels to it (from the word Adoni) and came up with *Yahweh* or *Jehovah*. But anything that's not in the Bible that man added, are "extra-biblical" terms.
- And take note that the name of **JESUS** in **Hebrew** is literally = **YHWH SAVES!**

Matthew 1:21

And she shall bring forth a son, and **thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.**

JESUS is the revealed name of God in the New Testament that was unpronounceable in the Old Testament.

And we've learned that the name of the Father is Jesus (John 5:43), and that the name of the Son (Matt. 1:21) and the name of the Holy Ghost is Jesus (John 14:26)

- WHY are they all the same name? BECAUSE **Jesus is the FAMILY Name** of heaven and earth. 

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In the Old Testament, **LORD** (with all caps) was in reference to the unpronounceable name of God (YHWH).

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Ephesians 3:14–15

¹⁴ For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

All the **VARIATIONS of the Name of God** in the Bible: **I AM, I AM THAT I AM, YHWH, Jesus, Lord Jesus, Christ Jesus, and Lord Jesus Christ.**

And the **NAME of Jesus** is the **eternal, forever name of God**, which is also the name of the Logos (Word made flesh), through which the Infinite God (I AM) chose to reveal Himself to man eternally.

Any OTHER word that is used in REFERENCE to God is NOT a NAME, but it is a TITLE.

The following are most of the **Biblical TITLES** that are used in regards to the **I AM** or **LOGOS** or both:

God, Lord, The Almighty, Savior, Master, Rabbi, Teacher, Father, Christ, Emmanuel, Son of God, Son of Man, Holy Ghost, Counsellor, the Spirit, Spirit of God, Spirit of the Father, Spirit of the Lord, Spirit of Jesus Christ, Spirit of Christ, Spirit of His Son, Spirit of Life, Spirit of Truth, Spirit of Wisdom, Spirit of Promise.

- All of these **DESCRIPTIVE TITLES** are intended in context to focus on some **ASPECT of God**.
- And if these are all “names” of persons – then we have a whole lot of Gods!
- So **EVERY SINGLE TITLE** in the Bible that is used in reference to God is **SIMPLY GOD TRYING TO EXPLAIN ONE PART OF HOW HE’S OPERATING.**

Furthermore, **EVERY scripture that references one of these TITLES** has to be **IDENTIFIED as to its TIME FRAME** because God revealed Himself **differently** in many different time frames.

And it’s a **PROGRESSIVE** Revelation.

So once again, if we want to correctly interpret the scripture – **WE’VE GOT TO IDENTIFY THE TIME FRAME!**

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Any NAME of God that does not have an I AM in its foundation is not a name of God. And that’s why the **TITLES** in the Bible that don’t have its roots in the **I AM** cannot be used as **NAMES** of God.

For example, “Father” is limited, “Son” is limited, “Holy Ghost” is limited. “Lord” is limited. And “Christ” is limited. They describe certain and relevant **ASPECTS** of God but they are **limited in their SCOPE and DEFINITION of God.** So therefore, they **CANNOT** be NAMES.

TIME FRAME of the Title of the FATHER

- **Did it start before Creation?** Was there a purpose for God to be called a *Father* before creation?
- You will not find even one verse in the Old Testament where God was ever addressed as “Father” in the same manner in which the Man Christ Jesus, the Son of God, addresses Him as Father.
- AND you will not find the title of the Father, as it is capitalized to represent a title of God - in any of the Old Testament, except for one verse:

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.

So the prophet Isaiah prophesied about the EVERLASTING Father, that it will be another title to describe the Son. **Why?** Because the Father and the Son are the same person.

And WHO introduced the title of the FATHER?

Calling God as the FATHER was instituted **by Christ, the Son of God**, as He was on earth.

And God is the FATHER.

The title FATHER indicates a relationship between God and humans.

And this parabolic relationship between the Father and the Son was necessary **to teach us what type of relationship that we need to have with the Father.**

Remember that the SON represented the flesh of man and the FATHER represented the Spirit and deity of God.

This teaches us that our bodies need to be fully submitted to our Father or to the Spirit of God.

And **that’s why Jesus had to pray to the Father**, because it was his flesh that was praying to the Spirit.

NOTES

Thus, the role of the Father will be relevant throughout **eternity**.

But the role of the Father did not **begin until the Son** revealed it to man.

MORE on the Parabolic Relationship between the Father and the Son:

The Book of John focuses a lot on the parabolic relationship between the Father and the Son. In **John 3:35, 5:20** and **15:9**, he states that the Father loves the Son, and in **John 17:24**, he says that the Father loved Jesus before the foundation of the world. Then in **John 14:31**, Jesus expressed love for the Father.

All of these statements do not mean the presence of distinct two persons, loving each other. *But isn't it strange that if there were indeed 3 persons in the godhead, that these passages OMIT the Holy Ghost from the love relationship?*

But these verses are expressing **the RELATIONSHIP of the MAN to the ETERNAL SPIRIT**. The Spirit loved the man and vice-versa. So what is this parabolic relationship teaching us? **That the Spirit loved the man Jesus as He loves all humanity, and that the Man Jesus loved God as all people should love God.**

In God's Mind, His Future Son represented His love for humanity because the Son was going to be the way for humanity to come (Logos created man) **AND** the expression of His love to Man (Christ dying to redeem humanity).

God loved His Son = God loved His creation through Logos
In His Mind, we pre-existed and He loved us. For God's love was not limited by time as God is infinite. His love for us was infinite, even before time.

And the **Son** came to the world not only to show us how much God loves us but also to be our example on how we should love God.

For these two objectives to be achieved, the Father and the Son had to show love for each other. In God's mind - He knew before the world began that He would manifest Himself as the Son. So He loved His Son from the beginning, as He loved all of us from the beginning of time. **Because the Son represented His love for humanity.**

TIME FRAME of the Title or Role of the SON

First of all, there is no such thing as an “Eternal Son” or “God the Son” because the **Sonship had a beginning** and it **will also have an ending**.

WHEN did the Sonship or the role of the Son BEGIN?

When the child was conceived in the womb of Mary.

Galatians 4:4

⁴ But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

- The Son came in the fullness of time - not in eternity past.
- Although the Son existed in the mind of God before creation.

The Sonship did not only have a beginning, but it will also have an ENDING.

1 Corinthians 15:23–28

*²³ But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. ²⁴ Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is 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.***

- The Role of the Son will end after all the purposes of His Sonship are accomplished.

What was the **PRIMARY Purpose of the Son of God?**
TO BE OUR SAVIOR. (Luke 19:10)

The Son of God refers to a specific role that was part of God's plan to redeem mankind from his sins.

Hebrews 9:22 *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

NOTES

Hebrews 2:14 (NLT)

¹⁴ Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had^[a] the power of death.

OTHER PURPOSES of the SONSHIP:

TO PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD TO MAN, revealing God's LOVE to us, demonstrating the great power of God in a way that we could understand. Remember that Jesus was God in the physical form that the disciples and the people could hear and witness.

Another purpose of the Son is **TO PROVIDE A FULFILMENT OF MANY PROMISES in the Old Testament** to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, the nation of Israel and David.

- Jesus Christ will completely fulfil the promises relating to the descendants of these men, and He will do it in the millennial kingdom on earth (Revelation 20:4). He will literally be the King of Israel and of all the earth (Zech. 14:16-17; Jn. 1:49).
- God promised David that his house and throne would be established forever (11 Samuel 7:16) and Jesus will fulfill this literally in Himself, being of the actual bloodline of David through Mary and being the heir to the throne of David through His legal father, Joseph.

The Sonship also allows God **TO JUDGE HUMANITY**. And our God is just and merciful as He decided not to judge humans until He actually experienced all the temptations and problems of humanity and until He had demonstrated that it is possible to live righteously in the flesh when we yield to the power of the Holy Ghost. **The Bible states specifically states that the Father will judge no one and that only the Son will judge.**

John 5:22; 27 ²² For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

²⁷ And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

Romans 2:16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Our God will judge the world in the role of ONE who lived in the flesh, who overcame sin in the flesh, and who made the same overcoming power available to all humanity.

NOTES

This is the last purpose of the Sonship of God.

WHEN does the Sonship role end?

AFTER the MILLENNIAL REIGN and the last judgment is when all the purposes for the Sonship will be fulfilled and the reign of the Son will end.

After Satan is cast into the lake of fire and all sin is judged at the last judgment (Rev. 20), there will be no further need for the Son to exercise the throne of power. Jesus Christ will cease acting in His Sonship role and will then be God as the Everlasting Father.

WHAT ABOUT THE TITLE OF THE HOLY GHOST?

- The phrase **HOLY GHOST** was never used in the Old Testament.
- The phrase **HOLY SPIRIT** is only used THREE times in the Old Testament and never in caps and never in direct reference to THE Holy Spirit of the New Testament.
- And **NEITHER** the phrase *Holy Ghost* and *Holy Spirit* is EVER used in the book of Revelation anywhere. *Spirit* is there but not the *Holy Spirit*.

Jesus said that GOD is A (singular) Spirit.

John 4:24 ²⁴ *God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*

What does this mean? That every time there is a phrase that says, *Spirit of the Lord, Spirit of the Father, Spirit of Christ*, etc. – it is all in direct reference to some aspect of God because there can only be ONE Spirit! And if there's only ONE Spirit – then the Spirit **in** the Father, and **of** the Father **IS THE SAME SPIRIT** that's **in** the Son, and **of** the Son. And it's the same Spirit that we call Holy Spirit. Not three spirits or separate persons or beings.

Ephesians 4:4 ⁴ *There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;*

The titles Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit are only found in the New Testament because it had a **different purpose** of God's aspect for that period time. But it's still ONE Spirit from the same Source.

So What is the PURPOSE of the Holy Ghost?

If the Holy Ghost is simply God or the Spirit of God, why is there a need for this title?

If we can only find the title of the *Holy Ghost* or the *Holy Spirit in the New Testament* and NOT anywhere in the Old Testament or in the Book of Revelation, then **the role or purpose of the Holy Ghost or the Holy Spirit must be exclusively for the CHURCH.**

NOTES

The **role of the Holy Ghost began on the Day of Pentecost** (*Acts 2*). And it wasn't available before that time (*John 7:37-39*).

Purposes of the Holy Ghost for the CHURCH:

The Holy Ghost is the **AGENT in our New Birth** (*John 3:5*). We need the Holy Ghost to overcome our flesh, to subdue the temptations of this world and to resist the spirits of darkness.

2 Peter 1:4

*Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

But the power of the Holy Ghost does not stop there. It's not just for us to receive our salvation but it is also the power of God in us, as the body of Christ to fulfil His will on this earth.

Acts 1:8 *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

And as the last Day Church – we will be the conduits for the END TIME HARVEST upon every family and nation of the world (fulfilling the Promise of Abraham). And being a WITNESS is more than just speaking a word. For it requires submission to the Spirit, doing the will of God no matter what type of opposition is in front of you. The calling of being His witness **means being led by the Spirit, ministering in the Spirit, and operating in the gifts of the Spirit for signs to follow and confirm God's Word.**

In summary, the **Holy Ghost** and the **Holy Spirit** refer to God **working among humans to regenerate their fallen nature AND to enable them to do the supernatural will of God in the world.**

And the Holy Ghost was the same Spirit that was in Jesus Christ, that was poured out to man, after He was ascended.

- *King James Version* uses the term **Ghost** as the Spirit of someone who is departed.

NOTES

John 7:37–39

³⁷*In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. ³⁸He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. ³⁹(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: **for the Holy Ghost was not yet** (given); because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

John 14:15–17

¹⁵*If ye love me, keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he **dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.** ¹⁸I will not leave you comfortless: **I will come to you.***

- **So the same deity that was in Christ Jesus was going to be the same deity to be poured out.**
- **The I AM is SPIRIT and He is invisible.**
- **And by becoming Logos, He was able to create time and space. And he injected Himself into time and space through Logos (His conduit, mediator from the infinite to the finite).**
- **And the Holy Ghost is simply, the essence, the substance of the Infinite God that's ABLE to pass through Logos/Christ and into His finite creation.**

Does the **ROLE of the Holy Ghost have an END?**

Yes, it will have an end on earth, **after the Holy-Ghost Church is caught up (raptured out of this world)**. Because there will be no more power left to stop the Anti-Christ. And for those who will be left during the Tribulation – they cannot be saved BY the Holy Ghost because there will be no more Holy Ghost available because the BODY OF CHRIST will be gone! The dispensation of Grace will no longer be applicable but these remaining souls will be saved by water baptism in Jesus name, by not receiving the mark of the beast, aside from being martyred or having their heads cut off. *(more details covered in the End Time lesson)*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What about the use of MULTIPLE TITLES of God in the Epistles?

In the beginning of most of the Epistles, it mentions God the Father AND the Lord Jesus Christ. For example, Paul wrote:

Romans 1:7 *To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from **God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.***

1 Corinthians 1:3 *Grace be unto you, and peace, from **God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.***

We already know that this phraseology is not supposed to indicate a distinction of two persons. Then what was the purpose for this in the Apostle's letters?

When we have the revelation of the Godhead we will see this phrase **describing God by a TITLE and by His NAME**. So that's ONE Title and ONE Name, not two persons. And even if it were TWO titles or THREE, it's still okay – because it's still referring to the ONE God. **Because the TITLES do not demonstrate a multiplication in God's Person or personality BUT rather a multiplication in God's aspects or qualities.**

Just keep that in mind that whenever you read the Epistles and see a combination of TITLES in a statement (or two titles and the NAME of God, etc.), that those were intentional – to reveal particular aspects of God to us.

2. How do you explain the plural pronoun for God in *Genesis 1:26*?

Genesis 1:26

²⁶ *And God said, Let us make man in **our** image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.*

- This is the only verse that uses the PLURAL word “our” and any other verse about God creating is SINGULAR.
- The book of Job tells us why, as the sons of God came before the throne of God (*Job 2:1*). The sons of God were the ANGELS, and they were called that because God created them directly.
- And later in the book of Job it says:

Job 38:4, 7

⁴ *Where wast thou **when I laid the foundations of the earth?** Declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁷ **When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?***

- So these angels “watched” while God did the Creation. **How do we know that?** Because the pronoun is SINGULAR in the following verse:

Genesis 1:27

So **God** created man in **his** own image, in the image of God created **he** him; male and female created **he** them.

- On at least one other occasion God talked to the angels and requested their opinions in formulating His plans (1 Kings 22:19-22).
- And what was the **SIMILARITY** between God and the angels that man was going to be created in? The angels knew virtue, for they had witnessed the lack of it in Satan. And **Gen. 3:22** will support that: *And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil:*

Other Biblical explanations that can be used to explain *Genesis 1:26*:

- God was speaking prophetically to the Son in His MIND since the LOGOS was His agency to create man.
- God was counselling with His own will (*Ephes. 1:11*).
- The noun was used as a majestic or literary plural in portraying God. Other examples of the use of majestic plural: *Daniel 2:36* and *Ezra 4:18*.

3. Is the RIGHT HAND of God a LITERAL Statement?

Numerous passages in the New Testament tell us that **Jesus is standing or sitting on the right hand of God.**

Acts 7:55-56

⁵⁵ *But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the **right hand of God**,* ⁵⁶ *And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the **right hand of God**.*

Stephen looked up into heaven while being stoned to death and “**saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God.**”

What does that phrase mean? Does this mean that there were two physical manifestations of God in heaven, God and Jesus, or one visible form beside another visible form? **Is this what Stephen saw?**

A physical interpretation of “the right hand of God” cannot be correct.

Since the Bible says that no one has ever seen God at any time, nor can a human see Him since God is a Spirit and as such He is invisible.

John 1:18

No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

1 Timothy 1:17

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

A careful reading of [Verse 55](#) will support the statement that **Stephen did not see God apart from Jesus** because it does **not say Stephen saw the Spirit of God but it tells us that he saw “the glory of God”** and Jesus.

- The **GLORY of God** does not imply a second deity, as it’s different from saying he saw “God and Jesus.”

Then in [verse 56](#), the only **visual image** or person Stephen actually saw was Jesus Christ since Stephen said:

Acts 7:56 ⁵⁶ *And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.*

Then [verse 59](#) shows us that **when Stephen called upon God**, that he **called on the Lord Jesus**. So that EITHER implies that **the name of God is Jesus** OR that Stephen was ignoring the other god, since he just called on one of them, right?

Acts 7:59 ⁵⁹ *And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.*

Thus, we must understand that the “right hand of God” is a FIGURATIVE, SYMBOLIC or POETIC sense and not a literal, physical, bodily sense.

Then - **WHAT DOES THIS PHRASE SIGNIFY?**

Biblically, **the RIGHT HAND signifies STRENGTH, POWER, IMPORTANT, and PREEMINENCE.**

The use of this phrase is similar in context to the English phrase “He is my right-hand man.”

In short, this phrase **represents God’s power and authority.**

Here are some biblical examples that show the association of the right hand with power:

Exodus 15:6

Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: Thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

Psalm 98:1

O sing unto the LORD a new song; For he hath done marvellous things: His right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.

Psalm 110:1

The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, Until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Then these next verses **declare that Jesus has preeminence over all** principalities, powers, dominions, and names:

1 Peter 3:22

Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Ephesians 1:20–22

²⁰ Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: ²² And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

Then back to Stephen. There was a deeper revelation on his vision of the glory of God that was displayed in the Lord Jesus Christ:

When Stephen saw Jesus, **he did not see him as the ORDINARY man that He had appeared to be while on earth.** For Christ was no longer submitted to human frailty and weakness. He was no longer the suffering servant. But He now displays Himself as the Lord of all, the righteous Judge, and the King of the whole earth. **And His exaltation began after His resurrection and was complete at His ascension.**

So even when Stephen was being stoned to death, he was captivated by his vision of Jesus. Stephen saw the glory of God when he saw Jesus. **He saw Jesus radiating the glory that He possessed as God and with all the power and authority of God.**

Jesus is the revealed glory of God and basically Stephen saw the **EXALTED Jesus**. He saw Jesus not merely as a man but as God Himself, with ALL GLORY, POWER, and AUTHORITY.

CONCLUSION:

My prayer is that we would take the time to diligently STUDY these foundational principles so that we can hide them in our heart (gain UNDERSTANDING). And this is our process of PREPARATION, so that we can always be READY to flow with God's Spirit/Rhema in witnessing and teaching His Word to the hungry souls ... in Jesus' name!

NOTES

STLH Video & Audio Teachings on Godhead:
(www.STLH.org)

God's Love For Us Part 2 & The Oneness of God –
July 14, 2021

Knowing the Godhead -
August 4, 2021

The Godhead, Part 2 –
August 11, 2021

The Godhead, Part 3 –
August 18, 2021

Study Resources:

The Godhead (Parts 1-3)
Rev. Chester Wright
(www.ApostolicIron.com)

The Oneness of God
Rev. David Bernard

Used for the time frame of Sonship and for the Answers to the Questions.