

SON OF GOD (Part 2)

Who is the 'Son of God'? The obvious answer is *Jesus*. However, nowadays this answer is so not so obvious!

A recent study revealed that, among professing Christians in America, a little more than 'half' (around 56%) believe that Jesus is God or the Son of God. And, according to this same study, this number is getting increasingly smaller among Millennials and Gen-Zs!

We said to you last week that unless we believe that Jesus is God (or Son of God), we cannot be saved.

John 8:24

24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.

The word "he" doesn't actually appear in the *original* text. So, Jesus is REALLY saying, "Unless you believe that **I Am**, you will die in your sins." Furthermore, the phrase "I Am" was a phrase that was used *exclusively* to refer to God!

Exodus 3:14

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.

Therefore, Jesus is saying, "Unless you believe that **I AM GOD**, you cannot be saved!" Again, we spoke to you last week about why this is so important. Today, I want to move away from examining how Jesus is God, or the Son of God, and talk to you about how **WE** are sons of God!

Romans 8:29

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.

Notice, Christ is the firstborn among **MANY BRETHREN**. In other words, Christ isn't the **ONLY** son of God. We are sons of God too! However, it's important to ask the question...

IN WHAT WAY IS OUR SONSHIP **SIMILAR TO
CHRIST'S, AND IN WHAT WAY IS IT **DIFFERENT**?**

Hebrews 1:5

⁵ For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

Clearly, angels are NOT “sons” of God at least not in the same sense that Jesus is. Angels are at times *called* sons of God, but Jesus is a “begotten” or born Son. We are begotten sons of God too!

Hebrews 2:11

¹¹ For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

The reason Jesus is not ashamed to call us *brethren* is because we are all of one Father! Someone might argue, “Yeah, but Jesus is the ONLY divinely born son of God.”

John 1:18 New American Standard Bible

¹⁸ No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.

This seems to suggest that God has only ONE divinely born Son. However, we must ask ourselves, “If we are truly born of God, in what way are we like God?” Can God give birth something that does not share His nature? If what is born of God shares His nature, isn’t it in some way GOD?

Now, some people might consider this blasphemy. They say, “You are placing man on the same level as God. You are diminishing the uniqueness of Christ.” First, I’m not suggesting ‘man’ (our flesh) is God. I’m saying that ‘God’ is whatever that comes forth from God. Lastly, claiming equality with God (Jesus) doesn’t diminish His uniqueness.

Colossians 1:18

¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Notice, Jesus is called the firstborn. As a result, has the preeminence. The word “preeminence” means highest in rank or position. So, the difference between the ‘sons’ of God and the ‘Son’ of God is POSITION. ALL the ‘sons’ of God have the same NATURE, but the ‘Son’ of God has a more superior POSITION. Coincidentally, the same can be said about God the Father and the Son!

John 10:30

³⁰ I and my Father are one.

Notice, Jesus clearly states that He and the Father are ONE. Yet, this claim in way challenges or denies the Father's unique identity!

John 10:29

29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Jesus openly admitted that the Father was 'greater' than He was. In spite of this, the Jews still accused Him of blasphemy.

John 10:31–33

31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. 32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? 33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.

Even though Jesus was clearly not diminishing the Father's greatest, He would not back down from His claim to be the 'Son of God'!

John 10:34

34 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?

Jesus is pointing to a passage in the Old Testament ([Psalm 82](#)).

Psalm 82:1

1 God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; He judgeth among the gods.

This is speaking to human magistrates and judges who were sometimes referred to as 'gods' in Scripture!

Exodus 22:8

8 If the thief be not found, then the master of the house shall be brought unto the judges, to see whether he have put his hand unto his neighbour's goods.

The word "judges" is the Hebrew word **ělōhîm** (God).

Exodus 22:8 American Standard Version

8 If the thief be not found, then the master of the house shall come near unto God...

Exodus 22:28

28 Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people.

The reason magistrates/rulers were referred to as ‘gods’ is because they represented God on earth. Moreover, they were given the Law of God and expected to govern according to the Law. Unfortunately, this did not always happen!

Psalm 82:2–4, 6, 7

2 How long will ye judge unjustly, And accept the persons of the wicked? Selah. 3 Defend the poor and fatherless: Do justice to the afflicted and needy. 4 Deliver the poor and needy: Rid them out of the hand of the wicked. 6 I have said, Ye are gods; And all of you are children of the most High. 7 But ye shall die like men, And fall like one of the princes.

Notice, the same ones who were called ‘gods’ would be judged and die like men when they did not walk (or rule) as God!

Again, Jesus is using this passage in [Psalm 82](#) in order to defend His right to be called ‘Son of God.’

John 10:35–36

35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; 36 Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?

They (rulers, magistrates) were called ‘gods’ as far as they had ‘received the word of God.’ However, Jesus was God (Son of God) because He was the word that was sent. If ‘men’ are called sons of God because they receive the word that came to earth, how much more is He which came to earth God!

Jesus said, “I am the living bread which came down from heaven...the bread that I give is my flesh.” When we receive His bread (teaching), we receive His flesh (or His life). When we receive His life, we receive GOD!