

I. Intro

A. Series Text: **2 Pet. 1:13-19**

¹² Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. ¹³ I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, ¹⁴ since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. ¹⁵ And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. ¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, (2 Pet. 1:13-19)

1. For the next 5 weeks, we are going to focus in on the glory of the Son.
 - a. Beholding his Beauty.
 - i. Hearing Him.
 - ii. Pondering His Power.

B. Pt. 1: The Begotten Son

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (Jn. 3:16 - NKJV)

1. "Begotten" for some has become a boulder in the road.
 - a. Only Begotten: *only of its kind, single one who is preferred above any other.*
 - b. With our limited vocabulary, some have equated "begotten" with "created".

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2. This problem in the church goes back at least to the 4th Century.
 - a. Approximately 300 bishops descended upon the city of Nicaea (in modern-day Turkey).
 - b. Fought the error of a small faction who was teaching a strange doctrine concerning Christ.

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father, through whom all things came to be... (Creed of Nicea, 325 A.D.)

3. The writer, C.S. Lewis, says it this way:

“When you beget, you beget something of the same kind as yourself,” Lewis explains. “A man begets human babies, a beaver begets little beavers and a bird begets eggs which turn into little birds. But when you make, you make something of a different kind from yourself. A bird makes a nest, a beaver builds a dam, a man makes... say, a statue. If he is a clever enough carver he may make a statue which is very like a man indeed. But, of course, it is not a real man; it only looks like one. It cannot breathe or think. It is not alive.” (C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity)

- a. When God made man, He created man in His own image and His own likeness.
- b. But when the Son of God was begotten, He proceeded forth from the same stuff as God the Father.
 - i. God of very God.
 - ii. Begotten, not made.
- c. Every attribute of God the Father is shared by God the Son.

**We could go on searching this out for centuries. But for today, we will behold the Deity and Eternity of the Son.*

II. Body

A. The Son Is Eternal

⁵¹ Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.”
⁵² Then the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, ‘If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.’” ⁵³ Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?” ⁵⁴ Jesus answered, “If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. ⁵⁵ Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.”
⁵⁷ Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.” ⁵⁹ Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by. (Jn. 8:51-59)

1. Jesus was having a real conversation with the Pharisees.
 - a. Jesus: “I AM”
 - i. I AM: to be, the self-existing one, the one who is all that.
 - ii. Translated: “YHWH”
2. When Moses ran into the burning bush in Ex. 3, Moses asked who it was that was sending him into Egypt to lead the people out of captivity.
 - a. Same declaration.
 - i. I AM sent you. (YHWH)
3. Jesus didn’t arbitrarily become the Son at some finite point in time.
 - a. Just as the Father is without beginning or ending, so is the Son and the Spirit.
 - i. Eternal in the Heavens!

B. The Son is Creator

1. The Son and the Spirit were with the Father before there was a beginning.

¹ *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* ² *He was in the beginning with God.* ³ ***All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. (Jn. 1:1-3)***

- a. Similar to **Genesis 1:1-3**
 - i. The Word (the Son) always was.
- 2. The Son and the Spirit were not only there (in the beginning) but created what we call the beginning.
 - a. He is the initiator.
 - i. He is the creator.
 - b. There is nothing that was made that wasn't made by him!
- 3. All things were created by Him, for Him, and is held together by Him.

¹² *giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.* ¹³ *He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,* ¹⁴ *in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.* ¹⁵ *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.* ¹⁶ *For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.* ¹⁷ *And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Col. 1:12-17)*

- a. The Son is the image of the Father. (**v. 15**)
- b. Firstborn: Jesus' title of "The Firstborn" refers to his exalted position and does not speak to his birth.
- c. He created all things. (**v. 16**)
- d. All things were created for Him. (**v. 16b**)
- e. He holds all things together (**v. 17**)

C. The Son of God is God

- 1. The Son forgave sins (paralytic man)

¹ And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. ² And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, my son; **your sins are forgiven.**” ³ And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” ⁴ But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵ For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? ⁶ But that you may know that **the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins**”—he then said to the paralytic—“Rise, pick up your bed and go home.” ⁷ And he rose and went home. ⁸ When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men. (**Matt. 9:1-8**)

- a. His miracles are not mere signs that He is gifted or anointed.
 - b. His miracles are actually glimpses of His Divine and Eternal authority.
 - c. His miracles lead us back to the reality that He is the only One who can annihilate sin.
2. The Son shares the divine name (YHWH) and the divine nature of the Father and Spirit.
 - a. Before Abraham was, I AM (**Jn. 8:58**)

⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “**who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.**” (**Rev. 1:7-8**)

3. The Son rules (in unison with the Father and Spirit) and is worthy of receiving divine worship with the Father and Spirit.

⁶ And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden

bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." ¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped. (Rev. 5:6-14)

4. All scripture is fulfilled in Him.

III. Conclusion: The Begotten Son is the Eternal Son

A. Historical Error: One of the enemy's tactics throughout history has been to tempt the church to lower our view of the Son.

1. Created like us.
2. All we have to do is come to the knowledge of who we really are.
 - a. Rise up from our lowly physical states to our rightful place in the heavens.
3. If we can rise up to God, we don't need a Savior who is true God of true God to save us.

B. If we view Jesus in His rightful, exalted, eternal place...

1. Realize that it takes God (Himself) to come down and save us.
 - a. Only He can bridge the gap of sin.
 - b. The only One who can come and save has to be fully God.

C. The Only Begotten Son is the Eternal Son

1. Begotten not created.
2. True God of True God.