

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE GOD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

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PART 1: THE DIVINE IDENTITY OF JESUS

INTRODUCTION

In speaking to a lot of Christians over the years, I have found that most believe that God the Father is the God of the Old Testament and that Jesus is the God of the New Testament. This is not only theologically wrong, but it is a false teaching that has permeated the Christian church and been repeated for so long that people rely upon it as truth.

JESUS IS THE CREATOR

The Bible teaches that God is one but that He expresses Himself in three forms:

1. God the Father
2. God the Son
3. God the Holy Spirit

Jesus was incarnated into a physical body that was birthed by Mary. The common teaching among the Jewish leadership during that day was that the Messiah (Anointed One) would be a man empowered by God like Samson, and this is still the belief among Jews today. **Judges 13:1-25**

Jesus was God inhabiting a human body while the Jewish messiah is merely a man anointed by God. This is a big distinction! Christians take it for granted that our Messiah is divine whereas the messiah of Judaism is only a man. When the Jewish messiah shows up, he will shock the Jews by entering the temple and making the declaration of being god.

"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? (2 Thessalonians 2:1-5)



The Jews rejected the divinity of Jesus. Anyone who claims that Jesus was not God in the flesh has the spirit of the Antichrist.

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.

We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.” (1 John 4:1-6)

When Jesus made Himself equal with God, it enraged the Jews to the point that they wanted to kill Him. **John 8:31-59**

When the apostle John wrote his account of the life of Jesus, he wanted to make sure that people understood from the onset that Jesus was both God and the Creator:

“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 any thing made that was made.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

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.” (John 1:1-14)

John defines the Word as Jesus. Let's make a substitution and read the first four verses again:

In the beginning was Jesus, and Jesus was with God, and Jesus was God. Jesus was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Jesus; and without Jesus was not any thing made that was made. In Jesus was life; and the life was the light of men.

The apostle Paul also stated Jesus is the Creator:

“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.” (1 Corinthians 8:6)

“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

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. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 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. 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.” (1 Corinthians 15:22-28)

Now, if we remove the pronouns and insert the names of God the Father and Jesus, it reads like this:

“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Then cometh the end, when Jesus shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when Jesus shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For Jesus must reign, till Jesus hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For God hath put all things under Jesus' feet.

But when God saith all things are put under Jesus, it is manifest that God is excepted, which did put all things under Jesus. And when all things shall be subdued unto Jesus, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto God that put all things under Jesus, that God may be all in all.” (1 Corinthians 15:22-28)

CLEAR TEACHING BY PAUL

It is in the letter to the church in Colossae that Paul makes it crystal clear Jesus is the Creator. By default this also makes Jesus the God of the Old Testament. There is nothing in this universe that was not made by Jesus.

“For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

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. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell...” (Col 1:9-19)

JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

It was Jesus that created Adam and Eve and walked with them in the Garden on a daily basis. **Genesis 2:7-25; 2:8**

It was Jesus and two angels that visited Abraham. **Genesis 18:1-33**

It was Jesus that wrestled with Jacob. **Genesis 32:24-32**

It was Jesus that spoke to Moses from the burning bush. **Exodus 3:1-6**

It was Jesus who led the children of Israel for 40 years. **1 Corinthians 10:1-4**

It was Jesus that came to Joshua prior to the battle of Jericho. **Joshua 5:13-15**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?