

GODHEAD COURSE

Lesson 14

Tri-une Sonship

The three-fold sonship of Jesus and their implication on the plan of salvation:

1. The divine Son
2. The Human Son
3. The resurrected Son

Divine Sonship or begotten as God

The Divine Sonship of Jesus is the first, most important, most contested and controversial sonship.

Jesus, the Saviour of mankind had to be a divine Being in whom is found life and righteousness, thus Jesus had to be 100% divine otherwise there is no plan of salvation.

It has been established from scripture that Jesus is the Son of God because he was begotten in the days of eternity possessing the nature of God and equally divine with his Father.

The Bible applies the sonship or 'begotten' principle to Christ in more than one setting with a common theme:

1. Begotten in the days of eternity
2. Begotten through Mary
3. Begotten from the dead

The Days of eternity:

Set up

*"The LORD **possessed** me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. **I was set up** from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, **I was brought forth**; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills **was I brought forth.**"* Proverbs 8:22-30

- *Possessed* is used to mean gotten a son (Genesis 4:1)
- *Brought forth* is used to mean born
- *Set up* means anointed

According to this passage, back in the days of eternity, God the Father begat His Son (Proverbs 8:22) and anointed him with His spirit. Two things occurred: He was begotten and anointed.

We don't know much about what happened back then other than we know HE was begotten and He was anointed.

Divine-Human Sonship

The Second phase of Christ's sonship began when He entered the human race.

In order to save man, God not only had to bring eternal life and righteousness into the human race, but He also had to restore the broken relationship. He had to unite divinity and humanity again.

That is why Jesus was made of a woman made under the law (Galatians 4:4). Jesus was begotten of God through Mary. He became the Son of God and the Son of Man. In Him, divinity and humanity were united.

Why was it necessary to be made like us?

“Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.” Hebrews 2:17

“For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.” Hebrews 2:18

To only be the divine Son of God was not enough. He had to be born of a woman, He had to become a man in order to be a merciful and faithful high priest, in order to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. Hence Jesus was born of Mary. This is the second time He was born, or begotten.

Was Jesus anointed on earth?

He was anointed at His baptism (Matthew 3:16, 17) and He was anointed from birth. He was born of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 1:18). He was born filled with the spirit of God

- He was begotten and anointed in Heaven. That is why He is the divine Son. This qualified Him to give humanity righteousness and eternal life. It qualified Him to represent God to Man
- He was begotten and anointed on the earth. That made Him the divine human Son. This qualified Him to represent Man to God and to unite humanity with divinity.

Begotten from the Dead

The third phase of Jesus's sonship is His being begotten from the dead:

“And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,” Revelation 1:5

“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.” Colossians 1:18

The death and resurrection of Jesus was the means by which God secured the salvation of man.

“And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.” 1 Corinthians 15:14

Through His death and resurrection Christ Conquered death:

“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.” Revelation 1:18

“Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,” 2 Timothy 1:9

*“But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who **hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel**” 2 Timothy 1:10*

It is important to understand that the death of Jesus death was dependent on and closely tied to His first birth. The ability to lay down His life was because He received it from the Father.

Jesus was, and still is the divine son of God, possessing eternal life and the fullness of the Godhead. Regardless, He still died!

Had He not been begotten in the days of eternity, like some would have us believe, He would not have been able to die, lay down His life and cease to exist. Christ's death and resurrection and His begetting from the dead, brought life to the human race. Through His death we were reconciled to God, but through His life we were given life. *Romans 5:10*

Consider a fishing hook, initially it is in your hand. By attaching bait, it takes upon itself the form of food. As far as fish are concerned it looks like food. Thrown in the water, it sinks deep and when reeled in, it brings up fish.

Jesus came from heaven. He took upon himself the nature of man. He died. And when He was begotten or raised from the dead, He brought with Him the whole human race. And as He sat on the right hand of God, the human race was seated with Him in heavenly places.

*“Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us **together** with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)” Ephesians 2:5*

*“And hath raised us up **together**, and made us sit **together** in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:” Ephesians 2:6*

In Christ, the human race has been given life and made to sit in heavenly places.

Was Jesus anointed after His Resurrection? The bible tells us that Jesus was anointed on the day of Pentecost (Hebrews 1:8,9; Acts 2:32, 33; 3:13)

The three times Jesus was begotten (born):

- He was begotten in heaven - fully and only Divine (Proverbs 8: 22, Psalms)
- He was begotten on earth - divine and Human with sinful flesh (Romans 8:3)
- He was begotten from the dead - divine and Human with a glorified flesh (1 Corinthians 15: 35-58;)

All three instances differ in their application

As a man, Jesus was born of marry. He had a human mother and a divine Father.

His divine birth, however, was not like that. He did not have a mother. God the Father did not have a wife.

And his begetting from the dead was different as well.

None of these three-sonship happened in the same manner. The manner in which they occurred differ from one to another, but the underlying principle is the same, hence they are all illustrated as being begotten. The sonship principle is applied to the three of them.

The reason the sonship principle or the begetting principle applies to Jesus in these three stages is because in all three, the Father gave life to His Son:

- In heaven, God was the source of life to His Son Jesus (John 5:26)
- Incarnation, God was the source of life for His Son (the power of the highest will overshadow thee" Luke 1:35)
- And in the resurrection, God was the Source of life for His Son. (God raised His Son) Acts 2:24, 3:15,4:10, 10:40, 17:3, 1 Peter 1:21
- The first birth was the source of His divinity
- The second was the source of His Humanity
- The third was the source of His glorified Humanity

He completed the deal for the human race.

He was also anointed three times:

- He was anointed In Heaven (Proverbs 8:23; Psalms 2:6, 7)
- He was anointed at birth (born of the spirit) and at His baptism (Matthew 1:18; Matthew 3:16, 17)
- He was also anointed after His resurrection (Pentecost) (Hebrews 1:8,9; Acts 2:32, 33; 3:13)

This sealed the deal and unleashed God's blessing on humanity.

Jesus' sonship is crucial to His identity and to the plan of salvation:

- His divine sonship qualified Him to represent God to man
- His Human sonship qualified Him to represent man to God
- His resurrection qualified Him to present eternal Life and righteousness to the Human race. It qualified Him to fill all things. (Ephesians 4:10)

It is important to understand the three-fold sonship of Jesus and the three times Jesus was begotten. Surface readers will point to the fact that Jesus was begotten from Mary, or begotten from the dead and say His resurrection, or birth on earth is the reason why Jesus is called the Son of God.

This fallacy crumbles when the biblical teaching is understood that:

1. The Sonship or begetting principle is applied to Jesus at three different stages, in heaven, at the incarnation, and at the resurrection,
2. Each of those three differ in their application. The begetting was manifested differently
3. Even though the manifestation or application differed, the underlying principle is the same. The Father gave life to His Son

The Sonship of Jesus indicates many things, one of which is the fact that He received His life from the Father.

When considering the second and third sonship, no one debates the fact that He was both begotten and anointed. It is widely accepted that Jesus's begetting from Mary and from the dead indicates Him receiving life from God.

Why accept the last two and reinterpret the first one to mean something else? That can not be. Scripture, logic and consistency demands we apply the same principle to Jesus's first begetting, when He was brought forth from the father in the days of eternity.

Jesus' sonship is everything to us as a people. His first sonship was the source of His divinity, the second was the source of His humanity and the third was the source of His glorified humanity and our salvation.