

Studies on the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Lesson 3

The Sovereignty of God, the Father

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The Sovereignty of God, the Father



What does the Bible have to say about the sovereignty of the Father? Here are some facts about God, the Father that will shed some light on this topic.

1. The Father is the ultimate Source of all things.

1 Corinthians 8:6 "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."

2 Corinthians 5:18 "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;"

Romans 11:36 "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

Ephesians 3:14,15 "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,"

2. The Father is the God of Christ.

a. During the Incarnation

Matthew 27:46 "And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

b. After His Resurrection

John 20:17 "Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God."

Ephesians 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:"

Revelation 3:12 "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out:



and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name." (see Hebrews 1:9, 1 Peter 1:3)

3. The Father is exclusively called the Most High ...

Compare the following two verses:

Psalms 78:17 "And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness."

Isaiah 63:8-10 "For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old. But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them."

God, the Father is the subject of these verses. Two Beings are mentioned, God, the Father (who is called "their Saviour") and Christ

(who is called "the angel of his presence").

... While Jesus is called the "Son of the Most High".

Mark 5:7 "And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not."

Luke 8:28 "When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not."

The above verses clearly distinguish between the Father and the Son. The Father is called "the Most High", while Jesus is called the "Son of the most high God".

4. The Father is older than Jesus.

John 14:28 "Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I."

The word "greater" in the above text comes from (G3187 " $\mu\epsilon$ ίζων" meizon) which can mean "older" as translated in Romans 9:12, "It was said unto her, the elder shall serve the younger".

5. The Father is greater than all.

John 10:29 "My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."

6. The Father is the head of Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:3 "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God."

7. The Father is above all.

Ephesians 4:4-6 "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

8. The Father is the Lord of heaven and earth.

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, and hast revealed them unto babes." (See Luke 10:21)

Not only that, but the Bible also reveals to us some things which

Jesus received from His Father which sheds a bit more light on the sovereignty of God, the Father.

9. What did Jesus receive from His Father?

a. His life

John 5:26 "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;"

b. His power and authority

Matthew 28:18 "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." (see Matthew 11:27; John 5:22-27; 17:2)

c. His kingdom

Daniel 7:14 "And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion,



which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed."

Luke 1:32 "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:" (see also 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:22)

d. His right to receive worship

John 5:22 "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all

judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him." (see Acts 2:36; Philippians 2:9-10; Hebrews 1:6)

e. His name

Philippians 2:9 "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;"

Hebrews 1:4 "Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they."

f. All things

John 3:35 "The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;" (see Hebrews 1:2)

The above verses are ample evidence to prove to us the sovereignty of God, the Father. But by this we do not diminish the position, value and divinity of Jesus, the Son of God. (For further information on the equality of the Father and the Son, please refer to Lesson 5.)



Notes

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