

THE IMPORTANT QUESTION

"WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST? WHOSE SON IS HE?"

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"This is the Record, that GOD hath given us Eternal Life, and this Life is in His Son. "[1Jo 5: 11](#).

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"Know, Israel, the Lord thy God, He is the Elohim, the faithful God" [De 7: 9](#) ; " the God of truth and without iniquity, He is just and righteous." [De 32: 4](#).

" HEARKEN unto me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, which are borne by me from the belly, which are carried from the womb : and even to your old age I am He ; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you : I have made, and I will bear ; even I will carry, and will deliver you. Remember the former things of old : for I am GOD, and there is none else ; I am GOD, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure " ([Isa 46: 3-4,9-10](#))

The natural man is described as sensual, having not the SPIRIT ([Jude 1: 9](#)). His wisdom, which descendeth not from above is described as earthly, sensual, and devilish ([Jas 3: 15](#)). Again, it is written, " The natural man receiveth not the things of the SPIRIT OF GOD : for they are foolishness unto him : neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned " ([1Co 2: 14](#)). **The world by wisdom knoweth not GOD.**

The LORD our GOD is only known by divine revelation, by that wisdom which is from above. **JEHOVAH** is His incommunicable name. The first time it

occurs in the oracles of GOD is in [Ge 2: 4](#), where we read, **JEHOVAH ELOHIM** created the heavens and the earth. The name Jehovah is a noun singular, but the name Elohim is a noun plural, and is rendered by the word Gods, in [Ps 82: 6](#), and in [Joh 10: 34](#). After the SON OF GOD had said to the Jews, " I and my FATHER are one," they took up stones to stone Him for blasphemy, because that He being a man, made Himself GOD. JESUS answered them, " Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are (Theoi) gods ? " ([Joh 10: 30-34](#)). And is it not also written, " There are three which bear record in heaven, the FATHER, the WORD, and the HOLY GHOST, and these Three are One ? " ([1Jo 5: 7](#)). The LORD our GOD is a consuming fire : by which He has condescended to reveal the holiness and purity of His nature, and His fiery indignation against His adversaries and all ungodliness. But is there not revealed under the declaration, " a consuming fire," that there are Three which bear record in heaven, which Three are One ? Is there not in " a consuming fire " heat, and light, and air in unity ? May not the procession of light and heat from the fire remind us of the procession of the SON of GOD from the FATHER, and of the procession of the HOLY SPIRIT from the FATHER ? The SON OF GOD said to the Jews, " If GOD were your FATHER, ye would love me : for I proceeded forth and came from GOD! " And afterwards He said to His disciples, " When the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the FATHER, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the FATHER, He shall testify of me" ([Joh 8: 42](#), and [Joh 15: 26](#)). The SON of GOD proceeded from the FATHER, and GLORIFIED the FATHER on earth by humbling Himself, taking the form of a servant : and being made in the likeness and fashion of a man, He MAGNIFIED the law, and made it honourable by His obedience unto death, even the death of the cross ([Joh 17: 4](#); [Php 2: 6-8](#); [Ge 1: 1](#); [Isa 42: 21](#)). As the Holy of holies, or most holy place, was veiled from view, so was the GODHEAD of CHRIST veiled by His manhood in His humiliation, as it is written, " Verily, thou art a GOD that hidest thyself, O GOD of ISRAEL, the SAVIOUR" ([Isa 45: 15](#)). Therefore the SPIRIT OF GOD proceedeth from the FATHER, to glorify the SON OF GOD on earth with the GLORY OF THE FATHER, which He had with the FATHER before the world was ! Not only the glory which was given to Him as Mediator, but His own Divine glory as one with the FATHER in nature and essence ([Joh 10: 30](#)). " He shall glorify ME," said JESUS, " for He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the FATHER hath are mine : therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you " ([Joh 17: 5](#); [16: 13-15](#)).

Brethren, "**WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST? WHOSE SON IS HE ?** " " For this is the record, GOD hath given unto us eternal life, and this life is in His Son" ([1Jo 5: 11](#)).

The God of truth hath recorded in His holy Scriptures, "The mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in CHRIST JESUS our LORD" ([Eph 3: 11](#)). And blessed be the GOD and FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST for having revealed His eternal purpose, namely, that He hath predestinated an innumerable company of mankind unto the adoption of children by JESUS CHRIST to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made them accepted, or highly favoured, in the Beloved ; for He had blessed them with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in CHRIST JESUS, according as He had chosen them in Him before the foundation of the world, that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love; perfect holiness and perfect love in the beatific vision of God ! ([Eph 1: 3-6](#)).

The LORD created all things for Himself: and the apostle John heard the angelic host saying, " Thou art worthy, O LORD, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created" ([Re 4: 11](#)).

God hath no pleasure in wickedness: it is the abominable thing He hates; and He hateth all the workers of iniquity ([Ps 5: 4-5](#); [Jer 44: 4](#)) ; The Lord knew that, by one man sin would enter into the world, and death by sin: and that death would pass upon all men, for that all in him would be sinners [Ro 5: 12](#) and, therefore, He chose His predestinated children according to His foreknowledge, from the beginning unto salvation, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto the obedience and sprinkling of the blood of JESUS CHRIST, and to the belief of the truth ; whereunto He would call them by His glorious Gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our LORD JESUS CHRIST ([1Pe 1: 13](#); [2Th 2: 13-14](#)).

The LORD hath also made known unto us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, namely : that in the dispensation of the fulness of times, He would gather together in one all His predestinated children in CHRIST, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him ([Eph 1: 9-10](#)).

This Mystery was evidently revealed to the patriarch Jacob ; for when he was dying, and his family was gathered around him, he by the Spirit of prophecy spake, saying, " The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be" ([Ge 49: 10](#)). And when Shiloh was come, Caiaphas the Jewish high priest prophesied, that Jesus should die; not for the Hebrew nation only, but that also He should gather together in one the children of GOD that were scattered abroad ([Joh 11: 51-52](#)).

The LORD in infinite wisdom hath veiled from our knowledge who are the children of God, until they are made manifest through the sanctification of the SPIRIT, and belief of the truth, whereunto they are called by the preaching of the Everlasting Gospel of the SON OF GOD. Hence, therefore, the LORD, who is Truth itself, commanded His disciples to " Go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the NAME of the **FATHER**, and of the **SON**, and of the **HOLY GHOST**" ([Mt 28: 19](#)). He did not command them to teach or baptize in assumed names ; for (upokritai) hypocrites personate false characters, and assume names ! Nor did He command them to teach all nations, baptizing them in the names (as in the plural), but in the name (as in the singular number) of the **FATHER**, and of the **SON**, and of the **HOLY GHOST**, for **JEHOVAH OUR GOD IS ONE JEHOVAH**. Neither did He command them to teach, baptizing in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; for then, unbelievers might say there was in His command no positive Revelation of the Three which bear record in heaven! but, He commanded His disciples to teach, baptizing in the name of the **FATHER**, and of the **SON**, and of the **HOLY GHOST** ; for the prepositive article (tou) "of the" is set before the word " **SON**," and also before the words "HOLY GHOST," as well as before the word " **FATHER** ; which it would not have been if Three distinct witnesses or recorders had not been set forth in His command !

No one who holds the mystery of faith in a pure conscience will say that He, who is the Truth, really meant His disciples should teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father as **GOD**, and of the Son as **MAN**, and of the Holy Ghost as an attribute or emanation ! But let all who dare assert that Truth itself did so mean, remember, that by such a declaration he accuses the **SON OF GOD** with directing His disciples to commit an impious breach of the first commandment, by joining a creature with the Creator in the same doctrine as of one essence ; and, by separating **GOD the FATHER** from the **HOLY SPIRIT** by introducing a creature between them, give to a creature the priority, or precedence to the **HOLY GHOST**; and by representing the **HOLY GHOST** as an emanation, they may commit that sin which shall not be forgiven unto men.

The Revelation of the GOD of Truth is, and must be, incontrovertibly true ; for He is Truth in the abstract : and His essential attributes are all pledged that the revelation He hath made is true, even as Truth itself, which can never lose its nature ! His people are sanctified through His Truth by the **SPIRIT** of Truth ! And the **SPIRIT** testifies that the **FATHER** sent the Son the Saviour of the world ; for it is the **SPIRIT** that beareth witness, because the **SPIRIT IS Truth** ([1Jo 4: 14; 5: 6](#)).

The Revelation of the Mystery of God is infinitely beyond the comprehension of angels or men. Nor is it revealed—for the benefit of the wise in their own eyes, nor for the prudent in their own wisdom—for where the mystery of the faith begins, their religion ends : but it is revealed unto babes (who are not reasoners on Divine Mysteries), for "even so," saith the SON OF GOD unto the FATHER, " for so it seemed good in Thy sight " ([Mt 11: 25-26](#)). And it is revealed for our comfort, that our hearts might be knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, not for us to pry into what is beyond the comprehension of all the hosts of angels, or of men ; but it is revealed for our benefit⁷ who hold the mystery of faith in a pure conscience ([1Ti 3: 9](#)); unto the riches of the full assurance of UNDERSTANDING (of the Truth), to the ACKNOWLEDGMENT of the MYSTERY of GOD, and of the FATHER, and of CHRIST; in whom dwelleth all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge ; and in whom dwelleth ALL THE FULNESS of the GODHEAD BODILY ! ([Col 2: 2-9](#)). They who acknowledge the mystery of GOD have the truth dwelling in them ; and it shall dwell in them for ever. And as through Grace they love the Truth, so, through the same Grace by which they love it, they are found walking in the Truth ([2Jo 1: 13](#)); for they acknowledge without controversy that the Mystery of GOD manifest in the flesh is great and incomprehensible ([1Ti 3: 16](#)) : for GOD sent (ton uion autou) the SON OF HIMSELF in the likeness of sinful flesh to be the propitiation for our sins : and He was manifested to take away our sins ! ([1Jo 4: 10](#), and [1Jo 3: 5](#)). The SON made the worlds ; who is the Brightness of Glory, and the express image of His Father's person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, hath by Himself purged our sins, and hath sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high ([Heb 1: 2-3](#)). And He gave Himself for our sins, to " deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of GOD and our Father : to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen " ([Ga 1: 4-5](#)). " Therefore," said the Soii OF GOD, " doth my FATHER love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my FATHER. I and my FATHER are ONE " ([Joh 10: 17-18,30](#)). And when He rose from the dead, He was declared to be the **SON OF GOD** with power, according to the SPIRIT of Holiness " ([Ro 1: 4](#)).

" **Thus saith the SON OF GOD**, who hath eyes like unto a flame of fire, and His feet like unto fine brass. All the churches shall know that (ego eimi o ereunoon) I AM He that searcheth the reins and the hearts : and I will give unto every one of you according to your works " ([Rev. 2: 18, 23](#)). " Search the Scriptures ; for in them ye think ye have Eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" ([Joh 5: 39](#)). And they are " mighty through GOD to the pulling

down of strong holds : casting down imaginations [or reasonings], and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of GOD, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" ([2Co 10: 4-5](#)).

The Glorious Gospel of the Blessed GOD is the Glorious Gospel of **CHRIST the SON OF GOD** ([1Ti 1: 11](#); [2Co 4: 4](#)) ; as it is written in the prophets, " Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee !" John was a man sent from GOD ([Joh 1: 6](#)) ; he was " filled with the HOLY GHOST even from his mother's womb : " he went before the LORD his GOD in the SPIRIT and power of Elias, to make ready a people prepared for the LORD ([Lu 1: 15-17](#)). But so infinitely great was the humility of the SON OF GOD, that John the Baptist said, "I knew Him not : but that He should be manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. And John bare record, saying, I saw the SPIRIT descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon Him. And I knew Him not: but He that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the SPIRIT descending and remaining on Him, the same is He which baptizeth with the HOLY GHOST. And I saw and bare record that this is the SON OF GOD !" "He that believeth on the SON OF GOD hath Everlasting life: and he that believeth not the SON shall not see life; but the wrath of GOD abideth on him " ([Joh 1: 31-34](#); [3: 36](#)). " He that believeth not GOD hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that GOD gave of His SON" ([1Jo 5: 10](#)). Our LORD said unto the Jews, "I am one that bear witness of myself, and my FATHER that sent me beareth witness of me." Which GOD the FATHER did by an audible voice from Heaven, saying (o uios mou o agapeetos) " This is my SON, that beloved in whom I am well pleased" ([Mt 3: 17](#)).

The Mystery of CHRIST is the Mystery of the Gospel, which is revealed to them who hold the Mystery of the Faith in a pure conscience, and who call (Kurion Jeesoun) **JEHOVAH JESUS**, or **JESUS LORD**, by the HOLY GHOST ([Eph 3: 4](#); [Col 4: 3](#); [1Ti 3: 9](#); [1Co 12: 3](#)). For "No man knoweth who the SON is, but the FATHER; and who the FATHER is, but the SON, and he to whom the SON will reveal Him" ([Lu 10: 22](#)). The SON OF GOD was revealed to Peter and Paul by GOD the FATHER. The apostle Paul saith, "It pleased GOD to reveal (**ton uion autou**) the SON OF HIMSELF in me " (an internal revelation), that he might preach, as he did, in the synagogues at Damascus and elsewhere, that **CHRIST is the SON OF GOD:** and preach that faith which once he endeavoured to destroy ([Mt 16: 16-17](#); [Ga 1: 15-16](#); [Ac 9: 19-20](#); [Ga 1: 23](#)). When our LORD had gathered from His disciples the general sentiments of men concerning His person, He desired to know what was their opinion of Him. And when Simon Peter said, " Thou art the **CHRIST**, the **SON**

OF THE LIVING GOD," our LORD confirmed the truth of Peter's testimony; for He said, "Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona, for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my FATHER which is in heaven. And I say unto thee, upon this ROCK I will BUILD my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

And the apostle Paul also saith, " Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of **CHRIST**; and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the Mystery, which from the beginning of the world, hath been hid in GOD, who created all things by **JESUS CHRIST**, the **SON**, by whom He made the worlds; and who upholds all things by the word of His power" ([Eph 3: 8-9](#); [Heb 1: 2-3](#)). " For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His Eternal Power and Godhead" ([Ro 1: 20](#)): The name "**BEN**" is the Hebrew word for **SON**; it comes from **Banah**, " he builded ;" and in the 3rd chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews, the SON OF GOD is declared to be the builder of the house (the Church of GOD) ; for every house is builded by some person; but He that built all things is GOD" ([Heb 3: 3](#); [11: 9-10](#); [Mt 16: 16-17](#)). The name BEN ELOHIM ([Da 3: 25](#)) is the Hebrew name for SON OF GOD, who built all things; which is both a proof Of CHRIST'S **ETERNAL Sonship**, as it is of His **ETERNAL POWER** and **GODHEAD**.

We have in the oracles of GOD another proof of the ETERNAL SON SHIP of CHRIST: for the SON OF GOD, the author of Eternal salvation, many years before the Babylonian captivity of Israel, gave unto the children of Israel a gracious promise that He would be with them when walking through the fire, that they should not be burned ; neither should the flame kindle upon them, for He was the LORD their GOD, **THE HOLY ONE** of Israel, their SAVIOUR ([Isa 43: 1-3](#))—which promise He literally fulfilled: for Nebuchadnezzar having ordered Shadrach and his two companions to be bound and cast into the burning fiery furnace, the mighty men who cast them into the furnace were consumed by the fire: but the fire had no power over Shadrach and his companions; it loosened their bonds, but not a hair of theirs was singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire passed upon them, for the Son of God was with them. And Nebuchadnezzar was so astonished, that he said, " Lo, I see four (geberim) mighty persons walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like Ben Elohim, the **SON OF GOD**." Again, the **Eternity of the SON OF GOD** and the Eternity of His priesthood are expressly or typically set forth in the 7th chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews,

for He is there declared to be without beginning of days or end of life ; and His priesthood to be after the power of an endless life.

That highly-favoured servant of GOD, the late Dr. Hawker, in a note to his Introductory Sermon on the Divinity of Christ, which he added to the last edition of his writings, saith :

"I take occasion thus early in the prosecution of the work to observe to the reader, that in this edition, I have totally omitted speaking of the gracious acts of **JEHOVAH**, in His Trinity of Persons towards His people, as was injudiciously done in the former editions, under the form of once. I know it is much used by many well-taught souls of the LORD'S people; and I fell into the same error.

But, according to my present views, I consider the term highly unsuitable and degrading: yea, somewhat worse than both. **JEHOVAH** hath indeed, in **His Trinity of Persons**, graciously condescended, to guarantee to His Church in Christ, an assurance, that each glorious Person in the **GODHEAD**, in the economy and covenant of grace, will fulfil all 'the good pleasure of His will,' and confirm all His promises in CHRIST.

But while GOD our FATHER hath engaged in all these blissful things as our FATHER, shall we call this fatherly love an office? Is that unparalleled instance of love, in one of the Persons taking into union with Him our nature, an office ? And all the rich comforts and consolations of the HOLY GHOST, so many offices? We do not so in the common charities and relations of life. My father in nature is not my father in office, but in reality: and by that tie we are brought into a very sweet and endearing relationship. How infinitely more in those spiritual and eternal connexions into which the Church is brought by our adoption as children in CHRIST! John would not have called such acts of grace, acts of office, when, under the impression of that love which passeth knowledge, he cried out, 'Behold! what manner of love the FATHER hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of GOD' ([1Jo 3: 1](#)).

The learned Dr. Gill saith with great propriety, and by way of caution, "We are not to make a carnal or natural generation the rule and measure of the **SONSHIP OF CHRIST**—for it is incomprehensible: and, as it is incomprehensible, we have no authority to put a literal or carnal interpretation to the words 'bosom of the Father,' or to give a literal or carnal interpretation to the words 'the only begotten Son in the bosom of the Father' ([Joh 1: 18](#))."

Peter, James, and John were with Christ in the Holy Mount, and were eye-witnesses of His glory, when there came such a voice to Him from the excellent glory, " This is my beloved SON, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him" ([Mt 17: 5](#)). John saith, " We beheld His glory, the glory of the only begotten of the FATHER, full of grace and truth" ([Joh 1: 14](#)). But God speaks to us sometimes after the manner of men, as when He saith in [Isa 45: 11](#)), " Concerning the work of my hands, command ye me ;" as one friend saith to another, When you want my service you may command me. Therefore Mr. Henry saith, " We ought to understand the term only begotten SON, as used after the manner of men, to assure us that CHRIST is not an adopted Son, but is the SON OF GOD, possessed of every Divine perfection with GOD THE FATHER : for should we suppose Him begotten, or in a covenant way, or by adoption, then He could not be the only begotten, for GOD has many begotten sons, or sons by adoption." And this interpretation of the words " only begotten " is consistent with the Hebrew word jachid, which is rendered only, as applied to Isaac in [Ge 22: 2](#)), which Hebrew word signifies only or only one ; and by the Septuagint is rendered "**monogonees**," in the [Ps 22: 20; 25: 16](#), and [Ps 35: 17](#)), which our translators have rendered by "darling," and by "desolate," but by "only" and " only one" in the margin, as they have rendered monogonees, " only," and " only one," in the Gospel of [Lu 7: 12](#); [Lu 8: 42](#); and [Lu 9: 38](#)); and they might have rendered it by the or His only Son in the Gospel of [Joh 1: 14,18](#)): and also in the Epistle to the [Heb 11: 17-18](#)), where it is evidently improperly rendered " only begotten," for Abraham had eight begotten sons : but when he was tried, he offered up Isaac, and he that had received the promises, offered up his (jachid) only one, " Of whom it was said, that in Isaac shall thy seed be called " ([Heb 11: 17-18](#)). Therefore the term only begotten SON, when applied to CHRIST, signifies that He is the only SON of the FATHER in truth and love ([2Jo 1: 3](#)) : for it is written, " When the fulness of time was come, GOD sent forth (ton Won autou) the SON OF HIMSELF, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that they might receive the adoption of sons. And because they are sons, GOD hath sent forth the SPIRIT (tou uiou autou) of the SON OF HIMSELF into their hearts, crying, Abba, Father " ([Ga 4: 4,6](#)). Therefore it is written, " All men are to honour the SON, EVEN as they honour the FATHER. He that honoureth not the SON, honoureth not the FATHER which sent Him " ([Joh 5: 23](#)).

" I have not written unto you (saith the apostle John) because ye know not the Truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the Truth. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ ? He is antichrist that denieth the FATHER and the SON. Whosoever denieth the SON, the same hath not the FATHER " ([1Jo 2: 21-23](#)). " Herein is love, not that we loved GOD, but that He

loved us, and sent (ton uion autou) the SON OF HIMSELF to be the propitiation for our sins." " If we receive the witness of men, the witness of GOD is greater: for this is the witness of GOD, which He hath testified of His SON. He that believeth on the SON OF GOD hath the witness in Himself : he that believeth not GOD hath made Him a liar, because he believeth not the record that GOD gave of His SON. And this is the record, that GOD hath given to us Eternal life, and this life is in His SON. He that hath the SON, hath life, and he that hath not the SON, hath not life " ([1Jo 5: 9-12](#)). " He that believeth on the SON, hath everlasting life : and he that believeth not the SON, shall not see life : but the wrath of GOD abideth on him" ([Joh 3: 36](#)). " Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the SON OF GOD, GOD DWELLETH IN HIM, AND HE IN GOD " ([1Jo 4: 15](#)). In the 2nd Psalm we read—the Lord hath said unto me, thou art my Son, this day (jelid-ticha) I have brought thee forth ; that is, from the dead, as we read in the Epistle to the [Heb 13: 20](#)). And in the 13th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, the apostle Paul saith, " We declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, GoD hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that He hath raised up Jesus again ; as it is also written in the second Psalm, Thou art my SON, this day (gegennaa) have I begotten thee (or brought thee forth, as it is rendered in [Lu 1: 57](#)). And as concerning that He raised Him up from the dead," He was " declared to be the SON OF GOD, with power, by the Spirit of Holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" ([Ro 1: 4](#)).

The SON OF GOD said to His disciples, " If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin : but now they have no cloke for their sin. He that hateth me hateth my FATHER also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin; but now have they both seen and hated both me and MY FATHER" ([Joh 15: 22-24](#)). For He said to the Jews, "My FATHER worketh hitherto, and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill Him, because He said God was His (idion) **OWN FATHER**, making Himself **EQUAL WITH GOD**" ([Joh 5: 17-18](#)). Again, He said unto the Jews, "As the Father knoweth me, even so know I THE FATHER. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life ; and they shall never perish, neither shall any one pluck them out of my hand. My FATHER, which gave them me, is greater than all: and no one is able to pluck them out of my FATHER's hand. **I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE**. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not, but for blasphemy, and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God" ([Joh 10: 15,30-31,33](#)). When He was brought before Caiaphas, " They all said, Art thou then the SON OF GOD ? And He said unto them, Ye say that I AM. And they said, What need we any further witness? For we ourselves have heard of His own mouth " ([Lu 22: 70-71](#)). And the Jews said unto Pilate, "We have a

law, and by our law He ought to die, because He made Himself **the SON of GOD**" ([Joh 19: 7](#)). And when they crucified Him, they "reviled Him, wagging their heads, and saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself: if thou be the SON OF GOD, come down from the cross " ([Mt 27: 39-40](#)). We ought therefore to beware of them who justify the Jews for crucifying Christ, for saying He was the **SON OF GOD** ; for they crucify to themselves the SON of GOD afresh, and put Him to an open shame. And it may be, they do despite unto the SPIRIT of Grace, by rejecting His testimony in the Holy Scriptures, which were written by His plenary inspiration : for the **apostle John saith, the signs which JESUS did are written, that we might believe that JESUS is the SON of GOD**, and that believing we might have life through His name ([Joh 20: 30-31](#)). And we have authority to believe that the apostles, as well as Philip, did not baptize any Jews or proselytes, **but on their confession of faith that Jesus is the SON OF GOD** ([Ac 8: 37](#)).

But that many would deny Christ and His SONSHIP is foretold by John, for he saith, " Little children, it is the last time ; and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us. **He is antichrist, that denieth the FATHER and the SON.**

Whosoever denieth the SON, the some hath not the FATHER. Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye shall also continue in the SON, and in the FATHER" ([1Jo 2: 18-19,22-23](#)). "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of CHRIST, hath not GOD. He that abideth in the doctrine of CHRIST, he hath both the FATHER and the SON. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him GOD speed: for he that biddeth him GOD speed, is partaker of his evil deeds " ([2Jo 1: 9-11](#)). " That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the FATHER, and with His SON JESUS CHRIST. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the SON OF GOD ; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the SON of GOD ([1Jo 1: 3-4; 5: 13](#)).

Little children, young men, and fathers, contend earnestly for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints; for GOD is faithful, who hath called you unto the fellowship of **His SON JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD**, in whom dwelleth all the fulness of the GODHEAD bodily. And ye are complete and perfect in Him ([Jude 1: 3; 1Co 1: 9; Col 2: 9-10](#)). And He is able to keep you from falling,

and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Gracious and Almighty LORD, grant a good reward to every one diligently seeking the knowledge of thy only Son, the SON OF GOD ; and give them grace to receive the Personal Testimony of GOD the FATHER to the Person, GODHEAD, and SONSHIP OF GOD THE SON, as set forth in the Scriptures of GOD THE HOLY GHOST, which hath lately been re-printed and published, with the preface thereto, written by the late Rev. D. Hawker, of Plymouth, April 13, 1819, who, in a note to his introductory sermon on the Divinity of Christ, saith : —" It is an awful consideration, and may well merit the serious reflection of a retired hour, by way of humiliation to the pride of the human understanding, that the fall of man hath induced an effect of ignorance in the faculties, which the angels that kept not their first estate ' have not experienced, to their intellectual apprehension, in consequence of their apostasy. They, though fallen, know Christ, and **confessed Jesus to be the SON of the MOST HIGH GOD (Mr 5: 7)**. But man, with all his boasted knowledge, by nature knows Him not, neither can be brought, by all the efforts of mere reason only, to know the SON of GOD (see [Mt 11: 27](#); [Ge 1: 1](#); [Lu 4: 41](#)). May GOD THE FATHER be glorified in His DEAR SON in all our hearts and lives by the sanctifying grace of His HOLY SPIRIT, until we all unite in singing that song, which none can learn but the redeemed unto GOD, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

Amen ! F. SILVER.

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