

KNOWING GOD: LESSON 5

THE GODHEAD: JESUS, IS HE GOD?

John 17:3

I. INTRODUCTION: I

1. **2** At this point in our series of lesson on **KNOWING GOD** I thought that it would be profitable to “parenthetically” insert three lessons.
2. In this lesson I want to explore the “Godhead” and whether Christ is a man, an angel, a “god” or God; one who possesses the divine nature, a member of the Godhead.
3. In our next lesson we will consider the nature and work of the Holy Spirit. Is the Holy Spirit a divine being, a member of the Godhead or is He merely an “active force.”
4. Then in a third lesson we will explore the reliability of the Bible.
 - A. Can we trust the text? The absolute critical nature of this question is easily seen by the fact that, the only place we can turn for information whereby we can truly know God is the Bible.
 - C. If we cannot trust the accuracy of the Biblical text, we CANNOT know God!
5. **3** I’ve entitled this lesson: **The Godhead: Jesus, is He God?** Please bear with me in this lesson.
 - A. It may come across as a bit “dry”; because all of us here understand Jesus is a divine being.
 - B. However, such is not the case with most people (even many claiming to be Christians!).
 - C. Much of the material in this lesson is material you will need if you are ever confronted with a person who is confused about the deity of Christ (e.g., Jehovah’s Witnesses).

II. DISCUSSION:

I. **4** The Godhead:

- A. **Definition:** The word “Godhead” and its cognates occur 5 times in the New Testament (Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:20; Col. 2:9; 2 Pet. 1:3, 4):

****Acts 17:29:** “Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man’s device.” (KJV)

- (1) Here “Godhead” is translated from the Greek word “*theios*” (from *theos*, God) “a noun with the definite article, to denote “the Godhead,” the Deity (i.e., the one true God). (Also, same word used in **2 Pet. 1:3 & 4:** “According as his **divine power** hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the **divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”; KJV)

- (2) ****** In Romans 1:20 the word “Godhead” is from the Greek word “*theiotes*” “divinity.”

Rom. 1:20: “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and **Godhead**, so that they are without excuse,” (KJV)

- (a) This word is derived from *theios*.

- (b) ****** Vine: “In Rom. 1:20 the Apostle is declaring how much of God may be known from the revelation of Himself which He has made in nature, from those vestiges of Himself which men may everywhere trace in the world around them. Yet it is not the personal God whom any man may learn to know by these aids; He can be known only by revelation of Himself in His Son;”

Col. 2:9: "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;" (KJV)

- (3) ** "Theotes" also derived from *theios*. "Paul is declaring that in the Son there dwells all the fullness of the absolute Godhead; they were no mere rays of Divine glory which gilded Him, lighting up His Person for a season and with a splendour not His own; but He was, and is, absolute and perfect God; and the Apostle uses *theotes* to express this essential and personal Godhead of the Son". *Theotes* indicates the Divine essence of Godhood, the Personality of God; *theiotes* the attributes of God, His Divine nature and properties."

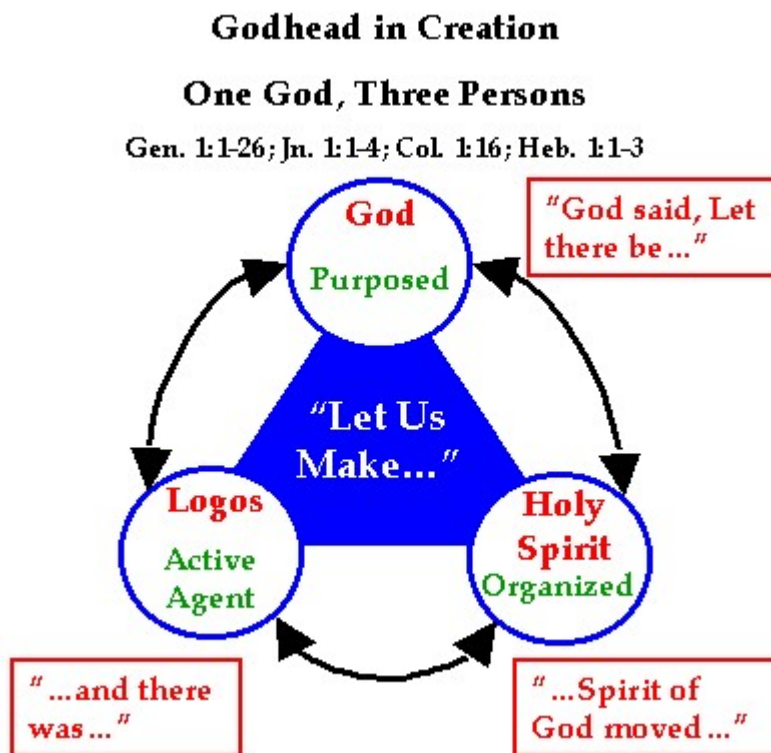
B. 5 KEY TO UNDERSTANDING: **Godhead** = **Godhood**. The fundamental meaning is the state, condition, or quality of being God or Divine. Similar words: **

- (1) Manhood: are the qualities which makes a man a man.
- (2) Childhood: are the qualities which makes a child a child.
- (3) Brotherhood: the qualities which makes a person a brother (physical or spiritual).

C. ** Thus, there are **three distinct personalities** in the "Godhead" beings that possess the essence of "Godhood," the "Divine nature".

D. 6 To more clearly understand the "Godhead" we can consider two of God's most important "acts"; **creation** and **salvation**:

- (1) **Creation**:



Gen. 1:26: "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;'"

- (a) Gen. 1: Hebrew word translated "God" here is *Elohim*. *Elohim* is translated hundreds of times in the Old Testament. *Elohim* is PLURAL! Therefore:

Jn. 1:1-4: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men." (KJV)

(b) ** We learn these **FACTS** concerning the pre-incarnate Son:

- (i) Eternal existence: Jn. 1:1-2 The “Word” (*logos*) was “in the beginning,” He was in “existence” when all things were created; therefore, He was antecedent to all created things.
 - ☛ He WAS when nothing created existed, thus, He is SELF-EXISTENT, DEITY (Jn. 1:3: “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”).
 - ☛ Jn. 17:5: “And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”
 - ☛ The “Word” (*logos*) expresses both reason and speech, thought and expression.
 - ☛ Jn. 1:14: “And the Word became 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.” (He became flesh, v. 14; therefore, He was “Immanuel” which is translated, ‘God with us’! Matt. 1:23).
- (ii) Distinct personality: Jn. 1:1: “the word was with God” expresses interaction and association with God; therefore, the Word is a distinct personality. (cf. Jn. 17:5).
- (iii) Divine personality: Jn. 1:1: “and the word was God.”
 - ☛ He is a member of the Godhead.
 - ☛ The Word is declared to be the same in nature as He who is called God and here and afterwards we will rightly call Him the “Father.”

(2) **7 Salvation:**

Godhead in Salvation

One God, Three Persons

Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Cor. 2:6-13; Eph. 1, 3:1-5; 10-11; Col. 1



- (a) God the Father **PLANNED** salvation (Eph. 3:11: “according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,”; **Father not same as the Son**: Jn. 8:16: “And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me.”).

- (b) God the Son **FULFILLED** the plan of salvation (**Eph. 1:4-7**: “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;” (KJV); **Jesus is not same as Holy Spirit: Acts 10:38**: “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”).
- (c) God the Holy Spirit **REVEALED** the plan of salvation (**Eph. 3:5**: “which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets.”; **Holy Spirit is not same as the Father or the Son: Jn. 14:26**: “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”).
- (d) **** SUMMARY**: the Godhead then are those “beings” possessing the “divine nature,” divinity, deity:
- ✓ **God the Father**
 - ✓ **God the Word (incarnate, Jn. 1:14, as God the Son; Matt. 1:23)**
 - ✓ **God the Holy Spirit (Comforter; Jn. 14:26; 15:26; 16:13)**
- E. Thus, the Godhead consists of three **distinct persons** that are **one** in nature, **one** in **quality**, and **one** in **purpose**.
- F. Each performs **distinct** and **different** offices in the work of creation and salvation, yet are ever in **perfect harmony** and **unity**.
- G. **8 Parallel: “brotherhood”**
- 1 Pet. 2:17**: “Honor all people. Love the **brotherhood**. Fear God. Honor the king.”
- (1) **** Def.**: **brotherhood** here used in a spiritual rather than physical sense. It denotes those (male or female) that possess the qualities which makes a person a brother in Christ.
- (2) **** When the “brotherhood” functions as God intended**:
- (a) Brethren are perfectly united, **one** in **nature**, **one** in **qualities**, and **one** in **purpose**:
- 1 Cor. 1:10**: “Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”
- Jn. 17:21**: “that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.”
- (b) **** Yet, very importantly, we still have **distinct functions**, and therefore, **distinct personalities****:
- Rom. 12:4**: “For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function,”

2. **9 Who or what was Jesus?**

☛ **Was Jesus “just” a man?**

☛ **Was Jesus an angel?**

A. **Jesus was/is...**

✓ **More than “just” a man!**

☛ **Was Jesus a “god”?**

☛ **Or, was/is Jesus God?**

✓ **More than an angel!**

✓ **More than a “god”!****BECAUSE...**

- (1) ** He accepted worship: e.g., wise men worshipped Him after His birth (Matt. 2:1-2).
- (2) Numerous persons worshipped Him during His public ministry!

☛ Leper, Matt. 8:2	☛ Some of the “11”, Matt. 28:17
☛ Ruler w/sick daughter, Matt. 9:18	☛ The man blind from birth, Jn. 9:38
☛ Disciples on the boat in the tempestuous sea, Matt. 14:33	☛ God the Father commanded the angels to worship Him! Heb. 1:6
☛ His disciples (post-res.), Matt. 28:9	
- (3) ** The disciple Thomas, upon seeing the risen Savior, exclaimed: **Jn. 20:28:** “*And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”*”
- (4) The Bible teaches us: **Jn. 5:23:** “*that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.*”
- (5) And, we’re told: “*You shall have no other gods before Me.*” (Ex. 20:3; Deut. 5:7)
- (6) ** Now, consider the **FACTS**:
 - (a) Men and angels (created beings) are never to be worshipped:

Acts 10:25-26: “*As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. 26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, ‘Stand up; I myself am also a man.’*”

Rev. 22:8-9: “*Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. 9 Then he said to me, ‘See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.’*”
 - (b) Yet, men worshipped Jesus and He **accepted** that worship! **AND**, God approved the worship of Jesus (e.g., God never condemned or reprimanded Him for accepting this worship.):

Acts 2:22: “*Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:*” (KJV)
 - (c) God even commanded angels to worship Jesus:

Heb. 1:6: “*But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: ‘Let all the angels of God worship Him.’*”
 - (d) God’s word also makes the following commands:

Ex. 34:14: “*(for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God),*”

“*You shall have no other gods before Me.*” (Ex. 20:3; Deut. 5:7)

Matt. 4:10: “*Then Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’*”
- (6) Now take all these facts into consideration and use the intellect God gave you!
 - ✓ **God commands us not to worship men, angels or other “gods.”**
 - ✓ **Jesus accepted worship from men.**
 - ✓ **Jesus was “approved by God.”**
 - ✓ **God commanded the angels to worship Jesus.**

✓ **We are only to worship God!**

- (a) Was Jesus just a man? NO! He accepted worship of men and was approved of God!
- (b) Was Jesus an angel? NO! God commanded the angels to worship Him!
- (c) Was Jesus a “god”? NO! He accepted worship, God commanded angels to worship Him and God does not “approve” worship of any other “gods”!
- (d) Who alone is worthy of worship? GOD!
- (e) Who then is Jesus? Just a man? Just an angel? Just a “god”? Or is He God?

B. 10 The Bible tells us that Jesus is Creator!

- (1) **Creator: Jn. 1:3:** “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

Col. 1:16: “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.”

- (2) **Pre-existed creation: Jn. 17:5:** “And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”

- (3) If Jesus “created” “all things” and if He pre-existed before creation, He is:

- ☛ Not a man! Men are created beings! (Gen. 1:27)
- ☛ Not an angel! Angels are created beings! (**Psa. 148:2-5:** “Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! 3 Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all you stars of light! 4 Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, And you waters above the heavens! 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, For He commanded and they were created.”).
- ☛ But He is God! (“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” **Gen. 1:1**)

C. ** The Bible tells us that Jesus is equal to God! **Phil. 2:5-8:** “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”

- (1) **V. 6:** “who being in the form of God”: Jesus “existed” in the “form of God.”

- (a) “Form” is from Greek *morphe* (e.g., morphology: form and structure of an organism).
- (b) Robertson “In the form of God *en morfee Theou*. *Morfee* means the essential attributes as shown in the form. In his preincarnate state Christ possessed the attributes of God and so appeared to those in heaven who saw him. Here is a clear statement by Paul of the deity of Christ.” (from Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament, Electronic Database. Copyright © 1997, 2003, 2005, 2006 by Biblesoft, Inc. Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament. Copyright © 1985 by Broadman Press.)
- (c) Vincent: “As the ‘form’ of God was identified with the ‘being’ of God, so Christ, being in the form of God, was identified with the being, nature, and personality of God.” (from Vincent's Word Studies in the New Testament, Electronic Database. Copyright © 1997, 2003, 2005, 2006 by Biblesoft, Inc. All rights reserved.)

Col. 1:15: “He is the image of the invisible God,”

Jn. 1:1-2: “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.”

Jn. 17:5: “And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”

Matt. 1:23: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,’ which is translated, ‘God with us.’”

Heb. 1:3: “who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person,” (also see Jn. 14:8-9, Father and Son are the same in essence, nature, purpose, etc.)

D. **** Jesus claimed to be God! Jn. 8:58:** “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’”

(1) Was Jesus’ claim that he merely was a man or angel that “pre-existed” Abraham? No! Notice the reaction of the Jews: **Jn. 8:59:** “Then they took up stones to throw at Him;”

(2) The Jews knew exactly what Jesus meant: He said He was the “Ego Eimi” of old:

Ex. 3:14: “And God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

(3) “Ego Eimi” is present tense, not past tense as some claim (Jehovah’s Witnesses). They would have Jesus saying: “Before Abraham came into existence, I have been.” (Implying Jesus is not eternal, is not God.)

(4) Apply their (JW’s) translation “logic” to other “Ego Eimi” passages in the book of John:

Bible: Jn. 6:35: “And Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.’”

JW’s “logic” of translating “Ego Eimi”: **Jn. 6:35:** “And Jesus said to them, ‘I have been the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.’”

Bible: Jn. 14:6: “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

JW’s “logic” of translating “Ego Eimi”: **Jn. 14:6:** “Jesus said to him, ‘I have been the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

☛ **There are 69 “Ego Eimi” passages in the book of John!**

E. Jesus’ names show Him to be God! **Matt. 1:23:** “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,’ which is translated, ‘God with us.’”

F. **** Jesus forgave sins!**

Paralytic man at the pool of Bethesda: Jn. 5:14: “...said to him, ‘See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.’”

Paralytic man: Matt. 9:2-6: “Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.’ 3 And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, ‘This Man blasphemes!’ 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 you,’ or to say, ‘Arise and walk?’ 6 ‘But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins’; then He said to the paralytic, ‘Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.’”

Paralytic man let down through roof top: Mk. 2:5: “When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven you.’”; cf. Lk. 5:20

G. The Jews knew that when Jesus forgave sins, He was claiming to be God, because they knew that only God could forgive sins!

Paralytic man at the pool of Bethesda: Jn. 5:18: “Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.”

Paralytic man: Matt. 9:3: “And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, ‘This Man blasphemes!’”

Paralytic man let down through roof top: Mk. 2:7: “Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? **Who can forgive sins but God alone?**”

Jews were absolutely right! Isa. 43:25: “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.”

H. AGAIN, consider the **FACTS**:

- ☛ Jesus forgave sins while on earth.
- ☛ Jesus forgives sins now (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14).
- ☛ Only God can forgive sins.
- ☛ Therefore, Jesus is GOD!

I. **II** “Echo passages”: attributes of God in OT ascribed to Christ in the NT: ******

<u>God</u>		<u>Christ</u>
Psa. 106:21 Isa. 43:11	← Savior →	Lk. 2:11 Acts 4:12
Isa. 44:24	← Creator →	Jn. 1:1-5 Col. 1:16 Heb. 1:2, 10
Isa. 44:24 Psa. 18:2	← Rock →	1 Cor. 10:4
2 Sam. 22:2 Deut. 32:4		
Deut. 10:17	← Lord of Lords →	Rev. 19:16
Isa. 40:3	← The Way →	Jn. 14:5-6
Isa. 44:6	← First and the Last →	Rev. 1:7-8; 22:12-13
12 Jer. 23:24 Psa. 139:7-10	← Omni-present →	Matt. 28:20; 18:20
Isa. 26:4	← Our Strength →	Phil. 4:13
Psa. 130:7-8	← Our Redeemer →	Titus 2:13-14
Psa. 96:13	← Judge →	Jn. 5:22; Acts 17:30-31

Psa. 27:1	←————→	Light	←————→	Jn. 8:12
Isa. 8:13-14	←————→	Rock of Offense Stumbling	←————→	Rom. 9:32-33 I Pet. 2:7-8
Psa. 23:1	←————→	Shepherd	←————→	Jn. 10:14, 16 Heb. 13:20 I Pet. 5:4
Isa. 60:19	←————→	Light in New Jerusalem	←————→	Rev. 21:23
Zech. 14:5	←————→	Coming with all saints	←————→	I Thess. 3:13
Ex. 6:3 Joel 2:32 Isa. 40:3	←————→	Jehovah (the name)	←————→	Rom. 10:11-13 Matt. 3:1-3 Jn. 1:23
Psa. 102:27	←————→	Unchange- able	←————→	Heb. 1:12 Heb. 13:8
Psa. 24:7-10	←————→	Lord of Glory King of Glory	←————→	I Cor. 2:8
Jer. 17:13	←————→	Living Waters	←————→	Jn. 4:14
Zech. 12:10	←————→	Pierced	←————→	Rev. 1:7
Ex. 3:14	←————→	I AM	←————→	Jn. 8:58

J. **15** Direct affirmations where Scripture explicitly calls Jesus God!

Isa. 9:6: “For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, **Mighty God**, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Matt. 1:23: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, ‘**God with us**.’”

2 Pet. 1:1: “Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of **our God and Savior Jesus Christ**.”

Titus 2:13: “looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

1 Jn. 5:20: “And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.”

Col. 2:9: “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;” (A. T. Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament*: “...Paul here asserts that ‘all the pleerooma (fullness, cvt) of the Godhead,’ not just certain aspects, dwells in Christ...”)

Heb. 1:5-12: “For to which of the angels did He ever say: ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You’? And again: ‘I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son’? 6 But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: ‘Let all the angels of God worship Him.’ 7 And of the angels He says: ‘Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire.’ 8 But to the Son He says: ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. 9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.’ 10 And: ‘You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. 11 They will perish, but You remain; And they will all grow old like a garment; 12 Like a cloak You will fold them up, And they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not fail.’”

- (1) General context: Christ is “better” than the prophets and “better” than the angels.
- (2) Beginning in verse 5 the comparison is between Christ and the angels.
 - (a) Christ is God’s Son (In John 5:18 the Jews understood the ramifications of this, they viewed it as a claim of equality with God, i.e., that Jesus claimed to be divine! Also see Jn. 10:30-33).
 - (b) **V. 6:** God commands the angels to worship Christ. No man or angel is worthy of worship (Acts 10:25-26; Rev. 22:8-9) (we’ve already noted the significance of this.)
 - (c) **V. 8:** God the Father applies Ps. 45:6 to Christ. The point: God the Father is making the point that Jesus His Son is *Theos*-He is God, He is Divine!
 - (d) **Vv. 10-12:** Christ is “LORD” (LORD in all capital letters means the original word is “Jehovah”; Christ is the *Jehovah* (God) that is Creator, v. 10; eternal, v. 11-12; unchangeable, v. 11-12; cf. Ps. 102).
- (3) **** AGAIN, consider the FACTS:**
 - ☛ Jesus claims to be God! (Jn. 8:58)
 - ☛ Jesus is “Immanuel, God with us”! (Matt. 1:23)
 - ☛ Jesus is the eternal “Word” (*logos*) that was with God before creation (Jn. 1:1-5), that was the active agent in creation, that “fulfilled” God’s plan of salvation/reconciliation (Eph. 1, 2; Col. 1). He is God! (Gen. 1; Jn. 1:1-3; Jn. 17:5)
 - ☛ God the Father says He is God! (Heb. 1:8)
 - ☛ The inspired apostles, guided into “all truth” (Jn. 16:13) say He is God! (Col. 2:9; Titus 2:13; 2 Pet. 1:1; 1 Jn. 5:20)
 - ☛ So, who is Jesus? Is he a man? Is he an angel? Is he a “god”?
 - ☛ Or, is he God?

III. CONCLUSION: 16

- I. I submit to you with all honesty and conviction: The volume of material in the Bible that proves that Jesus is God, that He possesses the divine nature, that He is one of the three persons in the “Godhead” is OVERWHELMING! This lesson has only “touched the hem of the garment”!

2. Consider the weightiness of the **FACT** that Jesus is God!

Phil. 2:5-11: “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

3. What was the Hebrew writer’s conclusion concerning the deity of Christ?

Heb. 2:1-4: “Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?”

4. How about you? What is your conclusion concerning the deity of Christ? Are you neglecting so great a salvation? 2 Cor. 6:2

Figure 2 on page 4 was adapted from material on Steve Rudd’s website: www.bible.ca.