TWO GLORIES ON EXHIBITION IN EARTH'S FINAL CRISIS. PART 8

Why Only The Son of God?

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 4: 19-26

Remember we have to answer the question: Why is the Son of God the only One Who can reveal the Father's Love and Glory? (And this question involves another: Do we know what we worship?)

That's the question, and it arose when we read John 1:14,18 and Desire of Ages 22:

"To know God is to love Him; His Character must be revealed in contrast to the character of Satan. This work <u>only</u> <u>one Being</u> in <u>all</u> the universe could do. <u>Only He</u> who knew the height and depth of the <u>Love</u> of God could make it known."

Presenting the Godhead as Three Beings, Each the same as the Others, and Each completely God on His own, cannot make any sense of John 1: 18 and the above quotation from **Desire of Ages**, because any One of the Three or at least Two would be able to reveal God's character! **But only one could do it**!! That is the reason we must go deeper than simply proving the Deity of each, in addition we should seek to understand, (as much as is revealed), the absolute eternal relationships in the **Divine Nature**. Otherwise the question can be asked of us: do we know what we worship?

FIRST PRINCIPLES FOR SUCH A STUDY.

Isaiah 55: 8,9 and 1 Corinthians 2: 9-13 must be the key principles guiding such a study in order to arrive at conclusions based on weight of evidence by rightly dividing the scriptures. Since God's ways and God's thoughts are infinitely higher than our human thoughts and ways, we should not jump to conclude that language describing what happens in God's *Nature* means the same as when applied to us humans. Rather we should let God's Spirit teach us by comparing spiritual things with spiritual. Even in merely human matters a word may have entirely different meanings depending on what it is applied to; *software* in Computer Science *does not mean* the same as *software* in shoes! We also need to understand that God is *not* a material or fleshly Being, rather, as Jesus tells us: "God is a Spirit". John 4: 24

The Mystery of all mysteries is the existence of God without beginning and without end! But even *true science* leads us to conclude, from the First Law of Thermodynamics, that some form of power/energy *must have always* existed and must be the source of all other existence. In other words there must be Infinite, beginningless Power, <u>Eternal Power</u> as the first source of all existence. And this is in harmony with scripture!

Since this study is deep, it is best to introduce it through a simple approach at first and then later on go deeper. Such a method will facilitate a clearer understanding of this profound subject. Let us proceed.

SIMPLE BUT PROFOUND NEW TESTAMENT STATEMENTS

In Matthew 6: 13 Jesus informs us that the kingdom, the *power* and the *glory* belong to His heavenly Father. In Romans 1:20 the Apostle Paul also affirms that *eternal Power belongs to the Father and also states that the Godhead or Divine Nature* (*theiotes*) *is His.* Here we are introduced to Infinite *Eternal Power*.

Since there can be **no** existence without eternal Power the inevitable conclusion must be that God the Father is the Source of **all** being and this is confirmed by the Apostle Paul in 1 Cor.8: 6 "**But to us there is but one God, the Father,** of whom are all things.....".

Or as the **NIV** translates it:

"Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from Whom all things came..."

And remember what Paul told the Athenians: "For in Him we live, and move, and have our being" (Read Acts 17:28,29)

GOD, THE FATHER. THE ANCIENT OF DAYS. DANIEL 7: 9

"He is the Source of <u>all</u> being and the origin of all law." LF197.2 (Note carefully that though His law is as beginningless, and eternal as He is, yet He is the origin of His law.)

God The Father's Knowledge or Thought of Himself, The Logos

God *must* have a *Knowledge* of Himself and this *Knowledge* of Himself must be as beginningless, as eternal, as infinite, as perfect as He is, in fact, <u>all</u> that God is must be in His *Knowledge* of Himself and this *Knowledge* of Himself is in Him! *Only one conclusion can be drawn from these Facts*:

The Father's **Knowledge of Himself** must also be God!

Of course the *Knowledge* of God is infinite Wisdom! God the Father is the Source or Origin of this *Knowledge*, *this Wisdom*, which though *not* <u>separate</u> from Him is *distinct* from Him and is with Him.

All this is comprehended in John's amazingly deep declarations in John1: 1 and 1John 1: 1to 5.

"In the beginning was the **Logos** (Greek=Word in English) and the **Logos** was with God and the **Logos** was God." John 1: 1.

This **Logos** is the Son of God!!

"He(Christ) was the Word of God—God's thought made audible." DA 19

lJohn 1: Ito 5 NIV

"1That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our[a] joy complete.5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all[b] sin."

That this *Knowledge* or *Thought* or *Word* or *Wisdom* of God is His Son can be even more clearly proven from scripture, and this proof we shall carefully examine, for, as we shall see, John got his basic concept of <u>Logos</u> (*Greek*) from mysterious Hebrew words written by Solomon in Proverbs. But before that deeper analysis, let us continue with this comprehensive introduction to the Son of God. So far we have established the basic evidence for two Persons: God the Father and His eternal *WORD* His *Son*; the *First* and *Second Persons respectively*. The numerical terms, *First* and *Second*, have nothing to do with One being older or younger, but with the fact the Father is the *eternal Origin of His eternal Logos* or *Word*, His Son. Though both are beginninglessly eternal, yet the Father is the Source or Origin of His Wisdom. The Son can never be correctly called the *First Person* of the Godhead, He is the Second Person!

THE EXACT IMAGE OF THE FATHER

Since the Son is the Father's *Knowledge* of Himself, He, the Son, must be the exact image of God the Father. That is exactly what the Apostle Paul tells us in Hebrews 1: 3:..... *being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person*..... There we have it! The Son is the brightness of the Father's *glory*, the exact likeness of the Father's person. That is why the Son is the *only* One Who can reveal the Father's glory!

Since the infinite Power of the Father can only function through His *Knowledge*, His *Wisdom*, the Father does everything *through* or *by* His **Son**. Let us read Paul again in 1Cor.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."

And from the NIV: "Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, <u>from</u> Whom all things came and for Whom we live and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, <u>through</u> Whom all things came and through Whom we live" 1 Cor. 8:6.

And Colossians 2:1-3 ESV.

"For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of *understanding* and *the knowledge of God's mystery which is Christ*, <u>in whom are hidden all the treasures of Wisdom and knowledge</u>."

The Son must be constantly surrendered to the Father, and must constantly give Himself to His Father and the Father must channel His infinite power always through His Son. This mutual self-giving of Each to the Other is the primary eternal circuit of Beneficence between the Two. Let us analyze the *Composition* of this circuit.

ETERNAL AGAPE LOVE (1 JOHN 4:8 & ROMANS 5:5)

God the Father and His Son must <u>Love</u> each Other with a <u>Love</u> that is infinite, perfect, eternal, in other words, the Two <u>Love</u> each other with <u>all</u> of Their Beings and Personalities, therefore this <u>Love</u> contains all of the Father and the Son and therefore must also be God as well and must also be a distinct Person, whose <u>Personality</u> comprises the infinite flow of Father and Son to Each Other and is therefore a mystery beyond our comprehension! This infinite Love of God is the <u>Holy Spirit</u>, and must be reckoned as <u>the Third Person</u> in the Godhead! The Holy Spirit is usually represented in scripture as <u>oil</u>, or <u>water</u> or <u>wind</u> or <u>tongues of fire</u> or a flying <u>dove!</u> Why? The Personality of the Holy Spirit is infinitely <u>dynamic</u> and <u>mysterious</u> and <u>beyond our comprehension</u>. The Holy Spirit <u>flows between</u> and <u>dwells within</u> and can be <u>everywhere present at the same time</u>. The Son is eternally begotten of the Father, the Spirit is eternally effused from the Father through the Son and out to all the universe.

This Love of the Father and of the Son whereby infinite Power through infinite Wisdom accomplishes all things,(creation and redemption) is the eternal counsel of peace between Father and Son, it is in fact the *Primary Circuit* of **Beneficence** extended to all creation, and, when disrupted by Adam's Fall, re-extended through the incarnate Son of God to accomplish the redemption of humanity! Romans 5: 5; 1John 4: 8.

"In the temple in heaven, the dwelling place of God, His throne is established in righteousness and judgment. In the most holy place is His law, the great rule of right by which all mankind are tested. The ark that enshrines the tables of the law is covered with the mercy seat, before which Christ pleads His blood in the sinner's behalf. Thus is represented the union of justice and mercy in the plan of human redemption. This union *infinite wisdom* alone could devise and *infinite power* accomplish; it is a union that fills all heaven with wonder and adoration. The cherubim of the earthly sanctuary, looking reverently down upon the mercy seat, represent the interest with which the heavenly host contemplate the work of redemption. This is the mystery of mercy into which angels desire to look—that God can be

just while He justifies the repenting sinner and renews His intercourse with the fallen race; that Christ could stoop to raise unnumbered multitudes from the abyss of ruin and clothe them with the spotless garments of His own righteousness to unite with angels who have never fallen and to dwell forever in the presence of God." GC 415.2

"And the counsel of peace shall be between Them both." The *love* of the Father, no less than of the Son, is the fountain of salvation for the lost race. Said Jesus to His disciples before He went away: "I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: for the Father Himself loveth you." <u>John 16:26, 27.</u> God was "in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." <u>2</u> Corinthians 5:19. And in the ministration in the sanctuary above, "the counsel of peace shall be between Them both." "God so *loved* the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." <u>John 3:16." GC 416.4</u>

NOT ARBITRARY BUT ABSOLUTE

That there are three Persons in the Godhead is **not** the result of an *arbitrary* arrangement. Nothing **in** or **about** God is arbitrary, every reality in and of Him is based on the infinite *absoluteness* of His *eternal Nature*. Since Infinite Power, Infinite Wisdom and Infinite Love are absolute beginingless, eternal realities in the Godhead, then, of absolute eternal *necessity*, there must be three Persons. Each Person is *distinct*. The Father cannot be the Son, the Son cannot be the Father, neither of Them can be the Holy Spirit nor can the Holy Spirit be the Father or the Son. Each is a *distinct* Person, together the Three comprise the *One* Godhead. The idea that the Son is not *absolutely* the Son but was called the Son because He would be the One chosen to redeem humanity *is incorrect*. The idea that any One could be Anyone is also *incorrect*. By the infinite, absolute, eternal Nature of the Godhead the *Personal* mode of *Being* is multiplied by 3, while the Divine Nature and Divine infinite Life remains One! Therefore the infinite Life of each is original, unborrowed and underived! There is God the Father, His Word and His Love. And God's Word is the eternal Son and His Love is the eternal Spirit. Three Persons, each infinite, beginningless, *not separate* but *absolutely distinct*, yet One Godhead!

In our next chapter, we shall go more deeply into the *knowledge of the Son of God* and provide even more amazing evidence from **Proverbs** 8 that He is absolutely the eternally begotten <u>Son</u> of God the Father, and the *only* One Who can *reveal* the Father's glory.

And this is eternal life, that they may know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. John 17:3. ESV (English Standard Version)

CLOSING GEM

In His prayer to the Father, Christ gave to the world a lesson which should be graven on mind and soul. "This is life eternal," He said, "that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent." John 17:3. This is true education. It imparts power. The experimental knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ whom He has sent, transforms man into the image of God. It gives to man the mastery of himself, bringing every impulse and passion of the lower nature under the control of the higher powers of the mind. It makes its possessor a son of God and an heir of heaven. It brings him into communion with the mind of the Infinite, and opens to him the rich treasures of the universe. COL 114.2

AMEN!