

Ephesians Series

Lesson #010

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Dean Bible Ministries

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EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Understanding the Trinity – Part 2
Ephesians 1:3–14

Praise for the blessings provided by the Father (Ephesians 1:3–6) is followed by the praise statement in vs. 6.

Praise for the blessing of the work of the Son (Ephesians 1:7–12) ends with the praise statement of vs. 12, to the praise of His glory.

Praise for the blessings of the Holy Spirit, praise in vs. 14 (Ephesians 1:13–14).

What the Bible Teaches About

The Trinity



- 1. Old Testament passages on the Plurality of God and the Deity of Messiah.**
- 2. New Testament passages on the Plurality of God and the Deity of Jesus.**
- 3. Is the Son's submission to the Father related only to His incarnation, or is it eternal?**
- 4. The Nicene Creed.**

The Constitution of the United States

**We the People of the United States, in
Order to form a more perfect Union, establish
Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, ...**

The Treaty of Paris, 1783

**In the Name of the most Holy & undivided
Trinity.**

Duplicate.

Original Definitive Treaty
3 Sept. 1783

In the Name of the most
Holy & undivided Trinity.

It having pleased the divine Pro-
vidence to dispose the Hearts of the most

The Treaty of Paris, 1783

In the Name of the most Holy and Undivided Trinity.

The DEFINITIVE TREATY *between* GREAT
BRITAIN *and the* UNITED STATES *of*
AMERICA, *signed at* Paris, *the 3d day of*
Sept. 1783.

In the Name of the Most Holy and Un-
divided Trinity,

IT having pleased the Divine Providence
to dispose the hearts of the most serene
and most potent George the Third, by the
grace of God, King of Great Britain, France,
and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, Duke
of Brunswick and Lunenburgh, Arch-Trea-
surer and Prince Elector of the Holy Roman
Empire, &c. and of the United States of

John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:3, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

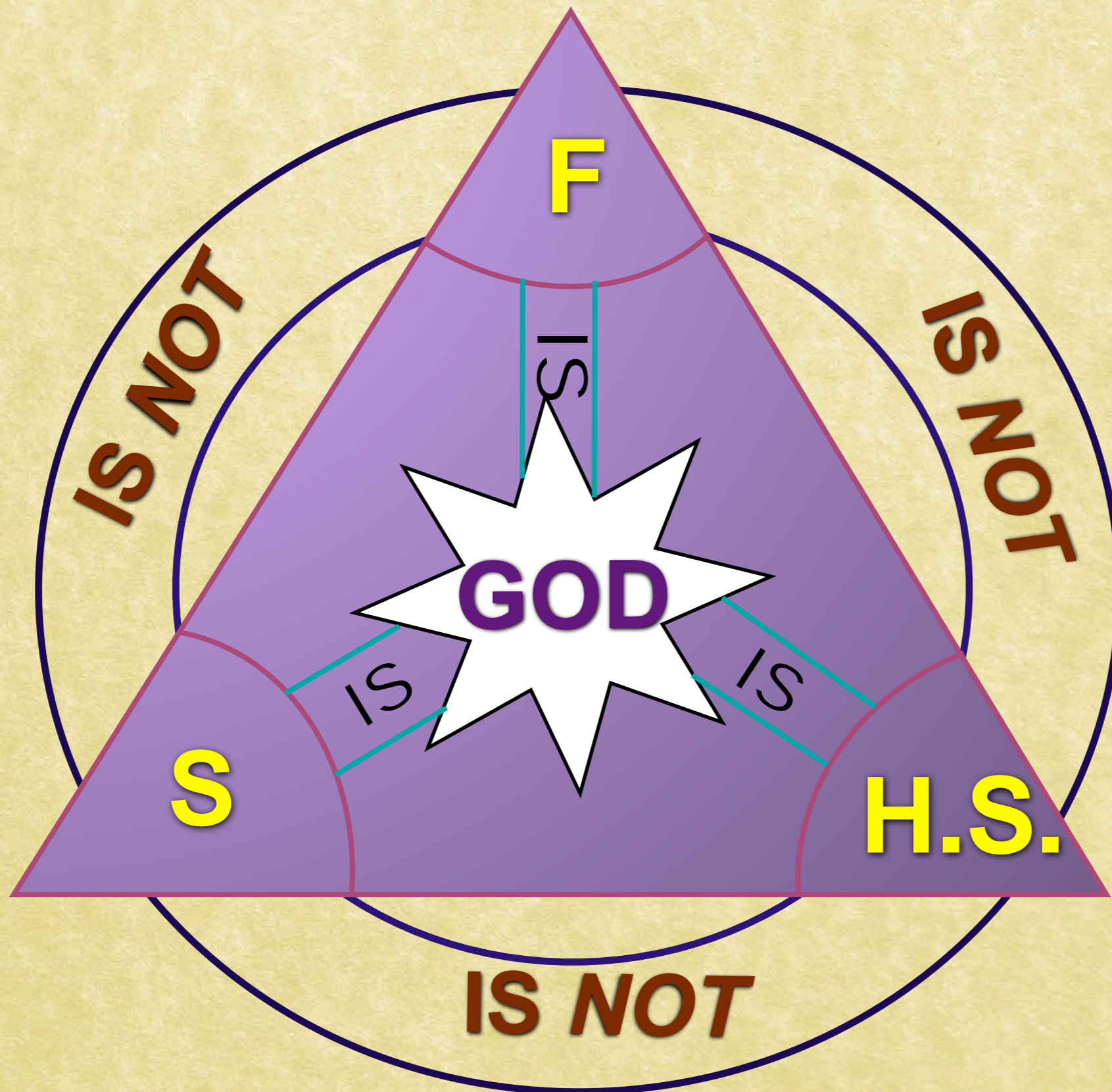
John 1:4, “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:5, “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

The Rabbinical Doctrine of the *Memra* (Logos)

1. *Memra* is both the same as God and distinct from God.
2. *Memra* is the agent of Creation.
3. *Memra* is the agent of salvation.
4. *Memra* is the visible manifestation of God.
5. *Memra* is the agent signing God's covenants.
6. *Memra* is the agent of revelation.

Trinity: One God in Essence (*ousia*), but Three in Person





Three Key Passages on the Undiminished Deity of the Son

John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:3, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

John 1:4, “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:5, “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

Three Key Passages on the Undiminished Deity of the Son

Col. 1:15, “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

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.

Col. 1:17, “And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.”

Heb. 1:3, “who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,”

Heb. 1:8, “But to the Son He says: ‘*Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.*’ ” (Psa. 45:6, 7)

1. It is clear and undisputed that the Bible teaches that the Son, during the Incarnation, was subordinate to the Father.

John 4:34, “Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.’ ”

Heb. 10:7, 9, “Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come—in the volume of the book it is written of Me—to do Your will, O God.’ ”

“Then He said, ‘Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.’ He takes away the first that He may establish the second.” (Psa. 40:6–8)

2. It is also clear that in the future, the Son is subordinate to the Father.

1 Cor. 15:27, “For ‘He has put all things under His feet.’ But when He says ‘all things are put under Him,’ it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.

1 Cor. 15:28, “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

3. The terms “Father” and “Son” indicate the Father’s authority and the Son’s submission.

ADOPTIONISM

The Son is Subordinate to the Father

ETERNITY
PAST

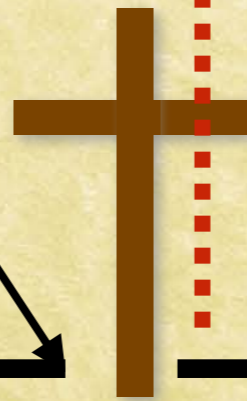
TIME

ETERNITY
FUTURE

ETERNAL GOD

CHRIST

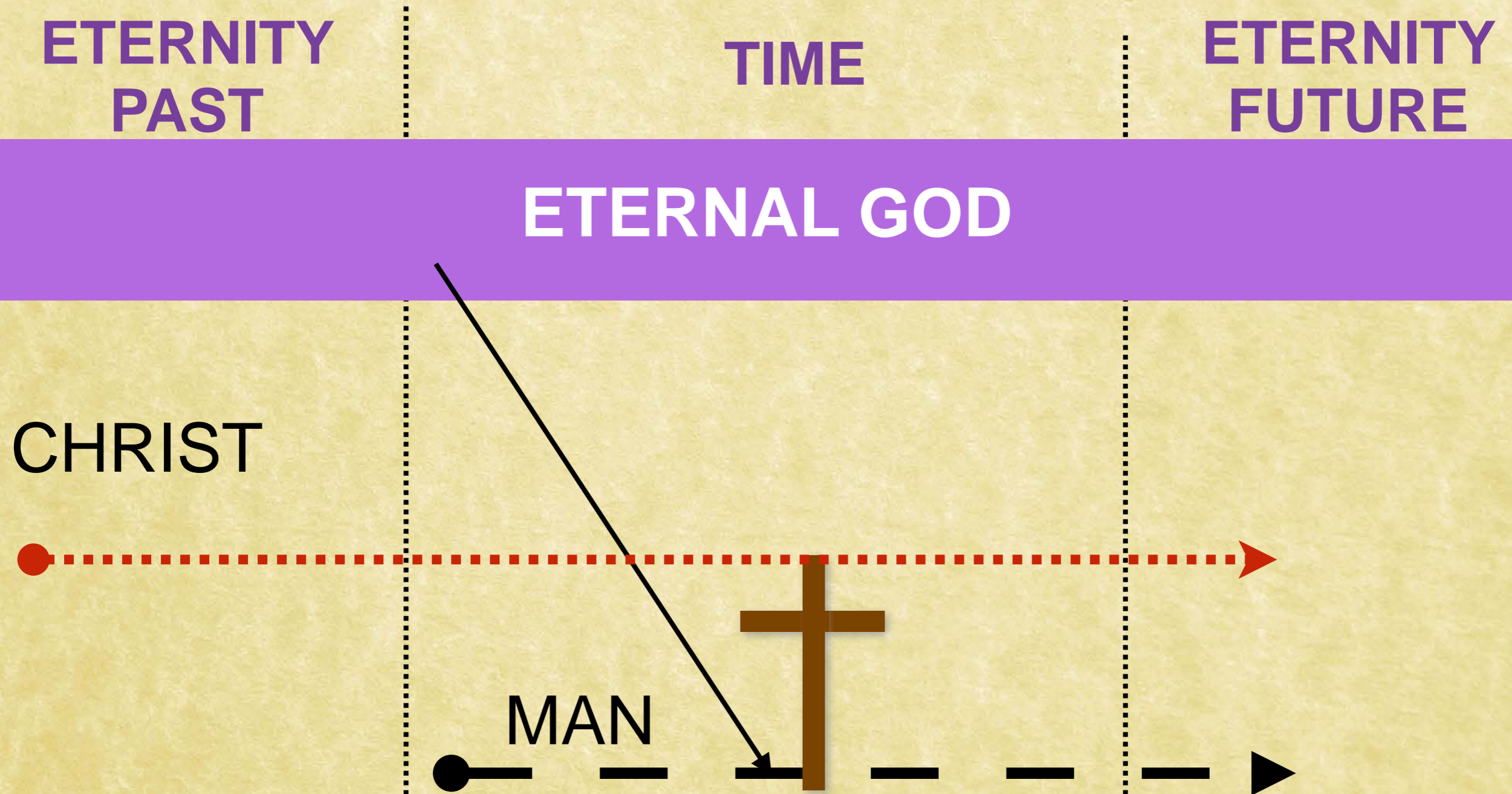
MAN



Jesus is adopted as the Son at some point
in His human life.

ARIANISM

“The Unbegun made the Son”



**Jesus is created in eternity past.
He is not eternal, but a creature.**

What type of relationship is indicated by the terms “Father” and “Son?”

The terms Father and Son precede creation.

Rom. 8:29, “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”

Heb. 1:2, “has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom (the Son) also He made the worlds;”

Jesus did not become “Son” only at the incarnation.

John 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.”

John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Psa. 2:2, “The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,”

Psa. 2:6, “Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.”

Psa. 2:7, “I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.’ ”

John 5:19, “Then Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.’”

John 6:38, “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”

John 7:16, “Jesus answered them and said, ‘My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.’ ”

John 8:28, “So Jesus said, ‘When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.’ ”

Eph. 1:3, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

Eph. 1:4, “just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

Eph. 1:5, “having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,”

Rom. 8:29, “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”

2 Timothy 1:9, [God] “who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began” [προ χρονων αιωνιων (*pro chronic anion*), literally “before times eternal”]

John 14:28, “You have heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away and coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ‘I am going to the Father,’ for My Father is greater than I.”

Mark 14:36, “And He said, ‘Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.’ ”

Luke 4:18, “ ‘The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed;’ ”

John 20:17, “Jesus said to her, ‘Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, “I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.” ’ ”

1 Cor. 11:3, “But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.”