

## INTRODUCTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ---we profess a good profession of faith in Him as our King, whose kingdom is not of this world. We follow His example, who did not shrink from witnessing that good profession even before Pontius Pilate. Thinking of how our Lord Jesus Christ knows everything we do, we strive to keep His commandment without spot, unrepachable. We look forward in hope to His appearing.

But who, exactly is our Lord Jesus Christ?

It is very common for us to learn something of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to love what we know of Him, and to believe in Him according to what we've learned, and yet for there to be things the Bible tells us about Him that we *haven't* yet learned; or to have thoughts about him that aren't true, without our even realizing it.

Not knowing everything about our Lord Jesus Christ, or having some misunderstanding about Him, does not mean a sinner cannot be forgiven His sins, and have eternal life, when he repents of His sins and believes in Jesus. On the contrary, the Bible records how many, many sinners heard of Jesus Christ and were saved through faith in Him when they had not yet even heard some of the wondrous things that can be known about Him. That is the case with me! When I first really grasped that our Lord Jesus Christ had suffered cruel scourging for my sins, I repented of those sins and trusted in Him, that I would be forgiven by God because of His blood. But that was a long time ago, when I was still a child, and there were many things about Him that I did not yet know, or understand. But I was still saved, still forgiven.

Yet, our Lord Jesus Christ is the object of our faith, isn't it best for us to be sure we know who He is? If everything there is for us to know about Him, all that we can know to be true about Him, is all for our good, and for His glory, doesn't it behoove us to learn all of that, and to learn it rightly?

Several things have reminded me recently of the importance of teaching the congregation who our Lord Jesus Christ is, not just once and for all, but repeatedly---more or less constantly. So, having arrived at a place in our study through 1 Timothy where the Bible uses the phrase, "our Lord Jesus Christ," I am taking this opportunity to re-visit the subject of who He really is.

In theological terms, the study of our Lord Jesus Christ is naturally called "Christology." Let us engage in some simple Christology today, and probably for two more weeks, considering our Lord Jesus Christ, in three glorious truths:

Part 1 - Our Lord Jesus Christ Is Very God

Part 2 - Our Lord Jesus Christ Is Very Man

Part 3 - Our Lord Jesus Christ Is Very God and Very Man

## TEXT

1 Timothy 6:14 that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, [KJV, Greek word order:] the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ

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

## BODY

- I. Our Lord Jesus Christ Is the Word of God
  - A. In the beginning was the Word
  - B. The Word was God
  - C. Glancing down a little farther in the passage, you see that the Word being spoken of is none other than the only-begotten Son of God the Father
  - D. We knew from Genesis 1 that the universe was created by the *word* of God
    1. God *said*, "Let the earth bring forth grass . . ."
    2. God *said*, "Let the waters abound with living creatures . . ."
  - E. Now we have that explained to us more fully than it was in Genesis. Here we learn that when the Genesis account records that the universe was created by the word of God, it was not merely the speech of God, but a person, who is the Word of God.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Word of God; and

- II. Our Lord Jesus Christ Is the Son of God, the Second Person in the Holy Trinity (1689.8.2)
- A. God is one God, whose being is in three persons
    - 1. as to person, God is three persons - the Word was with God
    - 2. as to essence or being or nature, God is one God - the Word was God
  - B. 1689.2.3 [In the one true God] there are three persons or subsistences
    - 1. God tells us right up front that there is just one God: “In the beginning God . . .”; He then repeatedly and emphatically teaches us that truth, as when He said through Moses: “Hear, O Israel, the Lord your God, the Lord is one!” Here in John 1 the bible speaks not of “the gods” or “one of the gods,” but simply of “God.”
    - 2. Yet the one true God’s being is in three persons; thus the word “Trinity” from “Tri” and “Unity,” three persons in the one God; here in John you see these truths stated very briefly
      - a) the Word was God - there is just one God, not two or three or more
      - b) the Word was with God - God’s being is in more than one person
    - 3. the three persons of God are
      - a) the Father
      - b) the Word or Son
      - c) the Holy Spirit
    - 4. the relationship among the three persons is
      - a) the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son
      - b) the Word or Son is eternally begotten of the Father
        - (1) John 1:18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.
      - c) the Father is neither begotten of any or proceeding from any
    - 5. this is wonderful to us, since no other being is more than one person
      - a) no angel or demon
      - b) not Satan, the devil
      - c) no human being
    - 6. this is wonderful to us, since we cannot know it by natural revelation, but only by special revelation
      - a) you can tell there is one and only one God without knowing what the bible says
      - b) but you cannot tell that God is a Trinity of three person in one God without knowing it from the bible
  - C. 1689.2.3 The three persons in God are of one substance, power, and eternity
  - D. 1689.2.3 Each has the whole divine essence, yet the essence undivided
  - E. 1689.2.3 All three persons in God are infinite, all without beginning; therefore not three gods but one God in three persons
  - F. 1689.2.3 The three persons of God cannot be divided or separated in nature and being; but in describing God the three persons can be distinguished
  - G. APPLICATION: So think of our Lord Jesus Christ not as something lower than God; think of Him as He truly is---as the second person in the Trinity.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Word of God;

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Second Person in the Holy Trinity; and

### III. The Son of God Is Very God or True God

- A. "Him who made the world" is the primary definition God has given us, by which we are to understand who He is; Q: Who is God? A: He is the one who made all things.
  1. Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth
  2. Psalms 96:5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, But the LORD made the heavens.
  3. Acts 17:24-25 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. (25) Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.
  4. Revelation 4:9-11 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, (10) the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: (11) "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."
    - a) Why is the Lord worthy to receive the worship of the creatures? It is because He created all things!
- B. Therefore, the surest way to communicate to us that the Son of God, the Word of God, is true God, or very God, is to reveal to us that He is equal to the one who made the world
  1. that is the thing testified to here, John 1:3
  2. the Son of God, the Word of God, is of once substance and equal with Him who made the world
- C. Even as the bible tells us that the Word of God is true God, or very God, it tells us in the same breath that He is eternal God
  1. that could go without saying, because to say "eternal God" is to use part of the definition as a description; but all of the heresies, the false teachings that have caused controversy in the churches over the centuries, have shown that although it could go without saying, we need to go ahead and say it: The Word of God or Son of God has no beginning, but is eternal God
  2. hear the first words in the bible, Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God
  3. now compare that with the first words in the Gospel of John, which is intentionally modeled after Genesis 1 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God
  4. notice the place of the Word of God in the description: He is there before creation
    - a) not: In the beginning God created the Word, then the heavens and the earth
    - b) instead: In the beginning was the Word
  5. in the beginning, the Word of God already was with God, and already was God

## CONCLUSION

We trust in our Lord Jesus Christ to save us from the wrath of God to come.

We follow the example our Lord Jesus Christ, walking in His steps, loving as He loved us.

We keep God's commandments, looking in hope to when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again to raise us from the dead, to take us to eternal life with Him.

But who is our Lord Jesus Christ, who is everything to us?

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Word of God

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Second Person in the Holy Trinity

Our Lord Jesus Christ Is Very God

Dillon - Call to Worship and Opening Prayer - Psalm 96

Stephen - Scripture Reading - Jeremiah 10:1-16

Roel - Congregational Prayer

Lord's Supper

Benediction - Revelation 19:5-6

Rita - Prelude

Rita - Trinity 719 "A Shelter in the Time of Storm" - Andrew lead

Allison - Trinity 122 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" - Alex lead

Allison - Trinity 439 "Jesus, Thy Blood And Righteousness"

“Very God”

1 John 5:19-21 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. 20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

Greek: *alethinós theos*

Vulgate: *verus Deus*

WYC: This is veri God

TYN, GEN, BB: very God

KJV, NKJV, ESV, CSB: true God

Council of Nicea 325 - Nicene Creed

-Greek: *theon alithinon* [G228 from G227; G225 *aletheia* truth]

-Latin: *Deum verum*

-Modern English: very God

Irish Articles - 1615 - Of Christ, the mediator of the second Covenant

-the true and eternal God

-very God

Westminster 1646 - London 1677/89

-very and eternal God

-very God

“true God” also is used in our confession

-1689.2.1 one living and true God

-1689.22.1 worshipping the true God

It is not ancient history for “very” to be used in American English to mean “true”

1828 Webster

Very

VER'Y, a. [L. verus.] True; real.

Whether thou be my very son Esau or not. Gen 27.

Gen 27:21

TYN, GEN ...whether thou be my sonne Esau or not.

BB, KJV, ASV ...whether thou be my very sonne Esau, or not.

RSV/ASV 1885/1901 Whether thou be my very son Esau or not.

1828 Webster

Very

VER'Y, a. [L. verus.] True; real.

Whether thou be my very son Esau or not. Gen 27.

He that repeateth a matter, separateth very friends.

Prov 17.

VER'Y, adv. As an adverb, or modifier of adjectives and adverbs, very denotes in a great degree, an eminent or high degree, but not generally the highest; as a very great mountain; a very bright sun; a very cold day; a very pernicious war; a very benevolent disposition; the river flows very rapidly.

verily - 1828 In truth; in fact; certainly

verify - 1828 To prove to be true; to confirm.

veritable - 1828 True [Little used.] "A fair is a veritable smorgasborg."

dictionary: Being such practically or in effect.

verity - 1828 Truth

Vera - woman's name meaning "true"

Latin *verus* = true

Latin *veritas* = truth

TYN, GEN ...whether thou be my sonne Esau or not.

BB, KJV, ASV ...whether thou be my very sonne Esau, or not.

RSV/ASV 1885/1901 Whether thou be my very son Esau or not.

1952 RSV Gen 27:21 ...to know whether you are really my son Esau or not.