

# HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON

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We've been on a subject lately, really the beginning part of the message was not to preach on the Godhead but actually to look at *our appreciation of the Truth that God has given us*. And to put out there the question: if this is really dear to me and dear to the people, then how would we open the door to go back to the Jesus Only doctrine?

As I've said before: yes I know sometimes there are surprises, but when we know what a man preaches, then we are responsible before God. The question is: *how precious is it to us?*

I have to say: *by revelation* we can see – we can actually see – that what we've been given *is precious*. It is *for the Bride of Christ*. It's not something we find in the religious world nor is it something we find in the Branham movement. As we've said: they have taken the side of the Jesus Only teaching.

On Wednesday, I actually began to really preach things directly related to the Godhead and I mentioned: if there is a question, *ask the question*. Maybe I was a little hard in expressing that but it's very important.

I'm not saying that I have all the answers. I don't. But if I do have the answer and we don't ask the question, then that just remains an area of confusion. Or at least it's something that the Lord *could* clear up for us but because we don't ask, we don't receive.

Praise the Lord.

Actually, there *was* a question asked after the service. I'm thankful for that. It shows me that we are listening. Praise the Lord. And I really believe that this wasn't a question just for this particular individual.

The question was related to *the nature* of Jesus Christ. Again, this is something the enemy has attacked from the beginning because if he has us to understand it wrong, then really everything that is built upon it, in a spiritual sense, is structurally unsound.

We know Paul said that he was *a wise masterbuilder*. [1Corinthians 3:10] Praise the Lord.

And we know that Jesus mentioned *a foundation of the church*. [Matthew 16:18] We've already spoken on that.

To begin this morning, let's go to Deuteronomy 18.

We're going to see back in the Old Testament, really we could go all the way back to Genesis but because of time and because of where we are in this message, we'll start here.

In the Old Testament, Jesus is *spoken about*. God told mankind – particularly the Jews – that Jesus Christ would one day come on the scene. Even though Jesus Christ had not yet existed, he was *spoken of in a prophetic sense* and through *types and shadows*.

Now I know that probably none of us are Trinitarian. I don't know if there may be somebody listening online who is, but as far as those of us who have been raised in this spiritual environment, we are not Trinitarian.

It's not because it's just *our thing* or *our identification* that we choose not to be Trinitarian but *it's not scriptural*.

Nowhere in Scripture will you see: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Nor will you ever see where it says: God the Son, alone. If that were the case, I would think Paul, Peter, James, or somebody would've said that.

But it is very important that we also don't go to the extreme of the Jesus Only doctrine. Of course they see – and so do the Trinitarians – they see Jesus having a pre-existence with the Father. In other words: in their mind, Jesus was there, in heaven, throughout the Old Testament.

Actually, when we read the Old Testament, we never see Jesus in heaven. I hope we can understand that. We never see Jesus spoken of in the present tense. We don't read that he was there then, or even that he was in heaven then.

We see that it speaks of Gabriel the archangel. [Daniel 8:16] We see that Michael is spoken of. [Daniel 12:1] We see that Melchizedek is mentioned. [Genesis 14:18] But nowhere is Jesus mentioned directly like: there he is at the right hand of the Father.

In fact, I believe it's in Isaiah 43 where God through the prophet Isaiah said: *I am God. There is none other. There is none beside me*. [Isaiah 43:10-11] Praise the Lord.

We should be able to understand that.

Now I know there are certain ones – I would say: *probably all of us* at some point in our spiritual walk – we may very well have had misconceptions about the Godhead. In fact, there are even people who have preached according to what they understood *at the time*.

Remember: Paul once said – as he was speaking of the misunderstandings certain ones previously had of the Godhead – he said: *in times past God winked at it, but* – and I'm paraphrasing here – *basically we are responsible for what we now know*. [Acts 17:29-30]

So there is nothing to be ashamed of in saying: well, I didn't understand this correctly before. But as God brings light and brings it to the forefront, He requires us *to see the picture according to the Word*.

This is one part that I had mentioned last time but we didn't read it. Let's go to verse 18 of Deuteronomy 18. Here God was speaking to Moses, telling him what He was going to do for Israel.

He said:

Deuteronomy 18:18

*I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee,*

We know in another place it says: *there was no one like Moses*. [Deuteronomy 34:10] *He was the meekest of all the earth*. [Numbers 12:3] And also: *God spoke to him face to face*. [Exodus 33:9]

It wasn't: well I had a dream. Lord, help me understand what the dream means. But God said: *go tell them this, and this, and that*. God said: *come up to the mountain, I'm going to give you tablets, and I'm going to write on them Ten Commandments*. [Exodus 19 & 20] Praise the Lord.

Nobody else in the history of humankind could say they got *tablets of stone that God physically wrote on*. [Exodus 31:18]

But now he says: *I'm going to raise up someone like you*.

Deuteronomy 18:18

*and I will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him*.

Who will he be speaking to? *To his brethren*. Praise the Lord.

This scripture was pointing *forward in time*, not up in space, as in: there's the prophet up in heaven. But he said: *I will raise him up*. He *didn't* say: I will bring him down. Amen? He said: *I will raise him up*. And that was *the Lord Jesus Christ*.

Now let's go to John chapter 12 and I think I'll start in verse 47.

Jesus says:

John 12:47

*if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.*

John 12:48

*He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him:*

So we don't get off-free because at first he said: *I don't judge that man*. But then he says: *there is one that judges*.

John 12:48

*the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*

Praise the Lord.

The Word that he has spoken. Why? Because it's *God's Word*. Praise the Lord.

Now he says:

John 12:49

*For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.*

Praise the Lord.

This is one place but there are many others where Jesus says: *the words that I speak, they are the words of the Father*. [John 14:10]

God said to Moses: *I will put my words in his mouth*. [Deuteronomy 18:18] Amen.

I made a statement on Wednesday. When Jesus said – this is one example – when Jesus said: *go ye into all the world preaching the gospel and baptizing them in the name of the Father, in the name of the Son, and in the name of the Holy Ghost* [Matthew 28:19] those were *God's words* that were spoken *through the Lord Jesus Christ*.

When Jesus said: *love your enemy* [Luke 6:27] those were *God's words*.

When Jesus said: *then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins* [Matthew 25:1] those were *God's words*. Can we see that?

God *anointed* the Lord Jesus. It doesn't mean that Jesus Christ himself was God. But God said: *I will put my words in his mouth.* [Deuteronomy 18:18]

Jesus did not go into all the details of how it was that he knew everything that he knew.

But we know, first of all, that ever since he could read, he did what he could to have access to the Books of the Law and the Prophets. He read them and he read them. We also see that *when he was twelve years old, already the religious leaders were amazed at what he knew.* [Luke 2:47]

So just to throw a number out there, let's say *from five years old*, as soon as he could read, whenever he had access, he was reading. And I'm sure he asked his mom and his dad – I mean: his earthly mom and dad – about what they knew.

From twelve years old all the way up to thirty, we don't read about his life but what I can tell you is: every chance he got, he was reading or he was praying.

Now, does that mean he didn't do any work? Does it mean he just said: sorry Dad, I have to read? That's *not* the picture at all.

He helped, *I assume* he helped his dad. *He did work.* He worked with his hands as anyone should. But he also had a time that he could dedicate to his spiritual growth. Praise the Lord.

I believe he had many visions but he didn't always come out and say: well I had a vision.

But in visions, dreams – whatever they were – God would show him: there's going to be a blind man and he's going to be crying out. People are going to try to get him to be quiet but he's going to get louder. [Mark 10:46-52] Now, that's an example. Did it have to happen exactly like I'm saying? No. Maybe just as he heard that man, he felt the anointing of God come on him. However it was, *he was led by the Spirit of God.*

Certainly when we get into the deeper things – like I mentioned: Matthew 25 – he had to have had either a vision or a dream. Remember: he said that *the angels of God would be ascending and descending upon the son of man.* [John 1:51] So somehow God showed him and then he could speak it: *then the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins.*

When he said: *the words that I speak are not mine but the Father does the works* [John 14:10] he was speaking about the words that you and I read. But we also have to be able to see *the human side* because Jesus was, and is, and always will be *a man.* That's the truth.

So there were times I'm sure he said: this is a wonderful meal. Or as they were walking by some trees, maybe there was a nice fragrance in the air and he said: this smells wonderful. That was just the *normal everyday conversation* that we all participate in.

When he said: this is a good meal, those were *not* the words of the Father. Those were the words of Jesus. When he said: I love the weather today. Beautiful weather! That was *not* the Father speaking. That was Jesus.

Praise the Lord.

But when he said: *bless your enemy* [Matthew 5:44] – now let's understand this right – it was still Jesus speaking but that was *inspired of God*. Praise the Lord.

So from zero to thirty years old, Jesus was *the only begotten Son of God* [John 3:16] but he was *not yet the Christ*.

And when he *did* become *the Christ* when the Holy Ghost came down upon him after he was baptized [Matthew 3:16] he received the Holy Ghost as John said: *without measure*. [John 3:34] Jesus then became *the Christ*, but he was still *not God Himself*.

But now *by revelation*, we could see him as *God with us*. Not that he was God, but *God was in him, God inspired him, and God worked through him. God was* – we can say – *incarnate*. If God ever would have walked as a man among us, Jesus Christ was *the example* of what that would be, or *the manifestation* of what that would be.

The important thing for us to understand is that we don't go to the extreme and say: well Jesus was the body and God was the Spirit in that body.

We have to understand: Jesus was *the man Jesus Christ*. He had his own mind. And God's mind is a different mind. The beauty is: the mind of the Lord Jesus Christ was *subject to* and *in harmony with* the mind of God.

So I want to look a little bit at *the humanity of Christ*.

If we could go to Luke chapter 2 and we're going to start in verse 40. This was shortly after Jesus was born. It says here:

Luke 2:40  
*And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit,*

What does that mean? Well thankfully it says: *in spirit*, so we know it's not just talking about his physical strength.

Now sometimes we say: *a person has a strong spirit*, and really what we mean is: they're stubborn [laugh] or something like that. That's *not* what it means here.

But as a child – *in the spiritual things* – whatever God expected of him, he became *solid* and *strong* in those things. He could *not* be shaken, if I can say it like that. His faith could *not* be weakened. As he learned about his Heavenly Father, he was *strong* in that. Praise the Lord.

Luke 2:40  
[he] *waxed strong*

That means: *over time, he got stronger and stronger*. Amen.

Luke 2:40  
*filled with wisdom:*

In Spanish it says: *he was filled with wisdom*. Again that means: *over time, he obtained more and more wisdom*.

Luke 2:40  
*and the grace of God was upon him*.

Praise the Lord.

It *doesn't* say: he was the God-child. It says: *the grace of God was upon him*.

Now if he had been up in heaven, what would he have had to learn once he came down here? If he had been living up there with the Father for *four thousand years*, how would he, all of a sudden, learn something in ten or twelve years?

We have to be able to see the reality: Jesus had to – I'll say it like this – when he was two months old, three months old, he did *not* know how to talk. Nobody does at that age. When he got hungry, he would cry. When he got sleepy, he would cry. That's what we all did. It's the way we communicated with our parents.

He had to learn how to talk. He had to learn how to walk. Now I will say: I believe he was one of the fastest learners there ever was because he was *the perfect begotten Son of God*. We wouldn't have found him at four years old still trying to figure out how to talk.

I'm sure people were amazed how quickly he learned and how fast he learned. I'm sure he was able to read *well before* he was five years old *but he still had to learn*. He had to learn how to walk. Everything that you and I had to learn, *he* had to learn.

Some may want to say: oh Brother, I feel like you're bringing Jesus down. You're making him something *less*.

I have to say: if we can truly understand that he was *a man*, it makes him *more* than really what the religious world sees because for them, Jesus was God.

You say: well there can't be anything greater than God. I know that. But here's the point: if God simply dwelled in a body, do you think God would suffer of hunger? He wouldn't. *He's a Spirit*. Can we see that?

It wouldn't matter if God were to enter a body that has gone forty days without eating, God would *not* be suffering of hunger. He fills the universe. God *does not need* physical nutrition.

I've heard people say: God died on the cross. How can they say: God died? God is Eternal Life. It is *impossible* for God to die. That statement doesn't even have meaning!

But as they were beating the Lord Jesus Christ before he went to the cross, the pain that Jesus felt was exactly the same pain as if they had beaten you or me. He suffered as a man because *he was a man*. Praise the Lord.

Now let's go to verse 52.

This is after it mentions that *Jesus was twelve years old*. [Luke 2:42]

Luke 2:52  
*And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature,*

Praise the Lord.

Again, when it says *wisdom*, that's looking at *his mind*. He was *learning*. Amen. That was *at twelve years old*.

Now again, if he had already been up in heaven for *four thousand years, or more* – some think: *eternally* – then *why* would he have needed to *grow in wisdom*?

I know we've looked at these verses before, even recently, but let's go now to Matthew chapter 4. Let's look at *the temptation*.

This is where we begin to see the difference from Jesus Christ – because he was *the Christ* at this point – where we begin to see the difference between him and Adam.

So let's go ahead and read verse 1.



Matthew 4:1

*Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.*

Matthew 4:2

*And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered.*

Well that's a very – like we say in English – *that's an understatement!*

I don't believe we can imagine the hunger he felt. I doubt any of us have fasted forty days. In fact, probably none of us have fasted ten days. And if I'm wrong, you can tell me – if you want, you don't have to. I just don't think any of us have done that.

Matthew 4:3

*And when the tempter came to him, he said, if thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.*

We have a little picture here:



It didn't really have to be that the devil was just standing there and said: if you're the Son of God, convert this stone to bread. But I like this picture. We see Jesus Christ with a stone and the thought could've come to him: I'm the Son of God – *he knew that* – I could ask that this be converted to bread.

But then he thought: is that *what God wants?* Is this really what I'm thinking or *is this a temptation?*

When I was looking for an image, almost every one showed the devil with horns, he was red, and he had a pitchfork. I don't know where they get that from. It's not anywhere in the Bible. But to whatever extent a visible man was there, I can assure you: he took on the form of – we might say – *the most holy-looking character*.

So one way or another, he told Jesus: *if you're the Son of God, you can ask God and He will convert this*. [Matthew 4:3]

And we know *later on*, we can read where that exactly happened [Matthew 14:19] [Matthew 15:36] because *then it was the time*. But here, *it wasn't the time*.

Now, it says:

Matthew 4:3  
*the tempter came to him,*

So he was *tempted*. As a *man*, he wanted to do this. But even more importantly, he wanted to do the will of his Heavenly Father.

It says here:

Matthew 4:4  
*But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

Praise the Lord.

Now, do we understand what Jesus was telling the devil here?

He says:

Matthew 4:4  
*Man shall not live by bread alone,*

He was putting himself – a *man* – in that place. He was saying: *that scripture is for me*. Can we see that?

Jesus was saying: *according to the Word of God, I am not going to live just by bread. But I* – that's the Lord Jesus – he said: *I will live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*.

I know it doesn't literally say "I" but he was applying that *to himself* because the devil said: *you convert these stones to bread*.

So Jesus said: *it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.* [Matthew 4:4] In other words: *I have to live by the Word of God.* Praise the Lord.

Because of time, let's jump down to verse 9.

We know *the devil showed the Lord Jesus the glory of all the kingdoms of the world.* [Matthew 4:8]

In verse 9 he says:

Matthew 4:9

*All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.*

Matthew 4:10

*Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God,*

Again, Jesus was applying this scripture *to himself*. If I can paraphrase it, he was saying: *Satan, you're telling me to worship you, but the Word of God tells me that I should worship God.* Amen.

I'm not going to read it all but we know at the end, *angels came and ministered to him.* [Matthew 4:11]

As a man, I believe he was tired, he was physically weak, and he was emotionally distraught, but *angels came and they ministered to him.*

Now I'm going to have to hurry up a little bit to get at least to the point of the title. The title is: The Only Begotten Son of God.

Let's go to John 3:16.

We know that Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus. It says here:

John 3:16

*For God so loved the world,*

That's *mankind*. God loved you and I. He loves *all of mankind*. But He's *not* going to love man who will not accept the way He has made for redemption. And that way is: *through the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Whosoever will, let him come.* [Revelation 22:17] But again, we have to come *through the Lord Jesus Christ.*

We can't approach God as a Buddhist, or Taoist, or through Hinduism, Confucianism, or through any other pagan belief or religion.

We hear people today, they say: well, whatever you believe, then that's the truth for you. I have to say: that is the most ridiculous thing to base your eternal destiny on.

Let's say I had two wires coming out of the wall: 5000 volts and 5000 amps. And well, whatever I think, that's the truth for me. Well, I think that it won't kill me if I grab both of those wires. Is somebody going to try that? *You know* they wouldn't. Not unless they wanted to commit suicide. But that would just be *the natural life*.

So why would we risk *our spiritual destiny*?

There is *only one way*, and that's through the Lord, *the Lord Jesus Christ*. [John 14:6]

John 3:16  
*that he gave his only begotten Son,*

We're going to see that word: *begotten*.

John 3:16  
*that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

In Spanish it says: *but shall have eternal life*. Praise the Lord. That's an even stronger word than *everlasting*.

Now, I have a few different translations here:

**Begotten:** One and only  
Unique  
Only born

AMP

"For God so [greatly] loved *and* dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] only begotten Son, so that whoever believes *and* trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish, but have eternal life.

CSB

For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

CJB

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in him may have eternal life, instead of being utterly destroyed.

DLNT

"For God so loved the world that He gave *His* only-born Son, in order that everyone believing in Him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

John 3:16

I know it might not be easy to read everything but I'm just going to look at the three on the bottom.

It says: for God loved the world in this way: He gave His one and only Son.

The next translation says: for God so loved the world that He gave His only and unique Son.

The last one says: for God so loved the world that He gave His only-born Son.

So what is written as *begotten* in the King James translation is also written: *one and only*, *unique*, and *only-born*.

Now, first of all, the fact that it says: *only*. We know that God has had other sons. Adam was a son of God. Seth was a son of God. Amen. Yet here it says: *His only Son*.

We can look at Abraham. How many know: *Ishmael* was Abraham's son? [Genesis 16:15]

But when God told Abraham to take Isaac and offer him, He said: *take thine son, thine only son*. [Genesis 22:2] Amen. Because Isaac was *the son according to promise*, and he was the son of the *true union of Abraham and Sarah*. [Genesis 17:19] Praise the Lord.

So we have to ask: what is it about the Lord Jesus Christ that made him *different* from Adam or Seth? Adam did *not* have a sin-nature. Amen? He did *not*. He was *not* created with the serpent seed. But when the test came, *Adam failed the test*.

Eve failed the test and Adam failed the test. They both sinned. They never would have sinned if they had never been tested because that nature to sin wasn't there. But when the test came, they were not strong to pass the test. They failed the test: *they sinned*.

Now we look at Seth. What does it say? He was *in the likeness of Adam*. [Genesis 5:3] Well yes, because he was *the son of Adam and Eve*.

In God's original plan, in His *perfect original plan*, every child born would have been born of parents who had *never sinned*. Even though there was no sin in the bloodline, Seth was still born to *two sinners*. Can we see that? Amen.

It even says: *he was in Adam's image*. Again, Seth didn't have the sin-nature but as a product of Adam and Eve, *he couldn't be greater* than Adam and Eve. So Seth still didn't have – we can say – *that strength*, and if the test had come, he also would have failed the test.

We know even there, Satan was not happy with that.

But the plan of God would have been, if Adam and Eve had been strong to pass the test, they would have received the Holy Ghost and their children would also have been strong. I'm speaking *spiritually*. Remember, it said: *Jesus grew in strength*. [Luke 2:40] Amen.

Now you say: but Brother, Jesus Christ was born to Joseph and Mary. *They* were sinners.

Yes they were. But we know that the bloodline of Jesus did *not* come from Joseph or Mary. *It came from God*.

From that cell of life of a perfect man, not only did Jesus not have the nature to sin but he had the strength to pass the test, to obey God. Nobody had ever been born like that. And in that sense, that put him *above all others*. He was born as God desired that all mankind would have originally been born: *perfect*.

But even in that, I hope we can see that those born would have been *sons and daughters of God*. It would *not* have made them *God*.

So Jesus was still *a man*, but he had *no nature to sin* and he was *strong in Spirit* so that when the enemy came to test him, *he passed the test*. Praise the Lord. And now you and I are strong *in him*. You and I are complete *in him*.

When we receive the gift of the Holy Ghost which we would never have received except for him – it's because of Jesus that we *can* receive the gift of the Holy Ghost – now we receive power that we can have strength over the enemy. Praise the Lord.

And we can come to a point, not the first day, but we can get to a point as Paul said: *it is no longer I that lives but Christ that lives in me*. [Galatians 2:20] Praise the Lord.

We can overcome the enemy because of what *he* has done, *the only begotten son of God*. Praise the Lord.

So I hope this helps us and that we can see *the humanity* and also *the deity* of Christ.

For thirty years, it was *the humanity*, in the sense that Jesus was *not yet* God-with-us. And even during the last three-and-a-half years, he was still *the man* Jesus Christ but then he had *the Spirit of God dwelling in him without measure*. Praise the Lord.

That's why the woman could *touch the hem of his garment* and he said: *virtue has gone out from me*. [Mark 5:30] He felt – if I can say this – he felt a *weakness*. What happened? *Strength left him and it healed that woman*.

But God has an endless supply. Jesus didn't continue with that weakness but God allowed him to feel that to know what had happened. Praise the Lord.

I think I'm going to go ahead and close this morning.