

Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #7: God the Son (His Deity and Eternity)

Note: Most information based on pages 52-55 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

Opening Comments. Who really was Jesus?

1. The Scriptures demonstrate that people who lived around Jesus Christ while He was alive did not fully understand who He was:

a. Joseph and Mary were not sure who Jesus really was:

Luke 2:46-50 “After three days they (i.e. Mary and Joseph) found Him (i.e. Jesus) in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard Him was amazed at His understanding and His answers. When His parents saw Him, THEY WERE ASTONISHED. His mother said to Him, ‘Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.’ ‘Why were you searching for Me?’ He asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in MY FATHER’S house?” BUT THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT HE WAS SAYING TO THEM.”

b. Jesus’ own half-brothers did not know who He really was:

John 7:1-5 “...Jesus’ brothers said to Him, ‘You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples may see the miracles You do. No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since You are doing these things, show Yourself to the world.’ FOR EVEN HIS OWN BROTHERS DID NOT BELIEVE IN HIM.”

c. The crowds that followed Jesus did not know who He really was:

Matthew 16:13-14 “When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’”

d. Those who hated Jesus did not know who He really was:

Matthew 26:63-66 “But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, ‘I charge you under oath by the living God: TELL US IF YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD.’ ‘Yes, it is as you say,’ Jesus replied. ‘But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.’ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, ‘HE HAS SPOKEN BLASPHEMY! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, NOW YOU HAVE HEARD THE BLASPHEMY. What do you think?’ ‘HE IS WORTHY OF DEATH,’ they answered.”

e. Those who had Jesus executed did not know who He was:

John 18:37-39 “‘You are a king, then!’ said Pilate. Jesus answered, ‘You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to Me.’ ‘WHAT IS TRUTH?’ PILATE ASKED. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him. But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?”

f. Jesus’ own disciples “doubted” who He really was:

John 20:24-25 “Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I WILL NOT BELIEVE IT.’”

2. Because those who lived during the time Jesus Christ walked on this earth had a difficult time knowing who He really was (not even His own mother, brothers, or disciples), it is not surprising that many people living today do not know who He really is.
3. That’s why the truth revealed in the Bible is so valuable to us. The Scriptures present the Lord Jesus Christ as being at the same time perfectly human and perfectly divine. Because of this, He was both LIKE and UNLIKE other men:
 - a. God’s Word reveals that Jesus was a MAN among men who was BORN, who LIVED, who SUFFERED, and who DIED:

John 1:14a “THE WORD BECAME FLESH and made His dwelling among us...”

1Timothy 3:16 “Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: HE APPEARED IN A BODY, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.”

Hebrews 2:14-18 “Since the children have flesh and blood, HE TOO SHARED IN THEIR HUMANITY so that by His death He might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason HE HAD TO BE MADE LIKE HIS BROTHERS IN EVERY WAY, in order that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that He might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.”

b. God's Word also reveals that Jesus was UNLIKE MAN in that:

1) He was "eternally preexistent" (always existing, even before the visible universe began):

John 1:1-3, 14 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; WITHOUT HIM NOTHING WAS MADE THAT HAS BEEN MADE... The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, THE GLORY OF THE ONE AND ONLY, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 8:56-59a "*Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; HE SAW IT AND WAS GLAD.* 'You are not yet fifty years old,' the Jews said to Him, 'and You have seen Abraham!' 'I tell you the truth,' Jesus answered, 'BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS BORN, I AM!' At this, they picked up stones to stone Him, but Jesus hid Himself..."

1Peter 1:20 "He (i.e. Jesus) was FOREKNOWN BEFORE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD, but was revealed in these last times for your sake."

2) He was entirely SINLESS in His human life:

2Corinthians 5:21 "God made Him (i.e. Jesus) WHO HAD NO SIN to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."

Hebrews 4:14-15 "Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—YET WAS WITHOUT SIN."

3) His DEATH was a SACRIFICE for the sins of the whole world:

Romans 3:23-25 "...For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. GOD PRESENTED HIM AS A SACRIFICE OF ATONEMENT, through faith in His blood..."

Hebrews 9:27-28 "Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, SO CHRIST WAS SACRIFICED ONCE TO TAKE AWAY THE SINS OF MANY PEOPLE; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him."

Hebrews 10:10-14 "...WE HAVE BEEN MADE HOLY THROUGH THE SACRIFICE OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST ONCE FOR ALL. Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time ONE SACRIFICE FOR SINS, He sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time He waits for His enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy."

4) He revealed His DIVINE POWER in His glorious RESURRECTION and ASCENSION:

Romans 1:1-4 *“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— the gospel He promised beforehand through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding His Son, who as to His human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with POWER to be the Son of God BY HIS RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD: Jesus Christ our Lord.”*

Acts 7:55-56 *“But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and JESUS STANDING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see heaven open and THE SON OF MAN STANDING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.’”*

4. On the human side, Jesus had a beginning and was conceived by the Holy Spirit and was born of the Virgin Mary. On the divine side, He had no beginning because He was from all eternity:

Isaiah 9:6 *“For unto us a child is born (i.e. “beginning of His humanity”), unto us a Son is given (i.e. the Son already existed in His divinity before He was born!).”*

Galatians 4:4 *“But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son (i.e. the divine being), born of a woman (i.e. becoming a human being), born under law...”*

5. Although stating that Christ was preexistent merely claims that He existed before He was born, for all practical purposes, it is also affirming that He existed from all eternity past:

- a. The idea that Jesus was only preexistent in the sense of being the “first” of all “created” beings (the “Arian heresy” of the fourth century that has been re-claimed by modern day Jehovah Witnesses) is not an accurate interpretation of what the Scriptures teach about Him.
- b. Thus, proofs of Jesus’ preexistence must also be grouped together with the proofs of His eternity; because, if Christ really is God, He must be “eternal”, and if He is “eternal” He must be God.
- c. The proofs for the “deity” of Christ and the proofs of Jesus “eternal preexistence” support each other and point to the Biblical revelation that Jesus really is God, the Son.

6. The “eternity” and “deity” of Jesus Christ is established by two (2) lines of revelation:

- a. Direct Statements of the Eternity and Deity of the Son of God; and
- b. Implications from Scripture that Jesus Christ is Eternal.

Direct Statements of the Eternity and Deity of the Son of God:

1. The “eternity” and the “deity” of Jesus Christ are proclaimed in an extensive body of Scripture which affirms His infinite person and His eternal existence “coequal” with the other persons of the Godhead (i.e. “the Father” and “the Spirit”).
2. The fact of Jesus Christ’s “eternity” and “deity” are not affected by His incarnation (i.e. His becoming flesh!):

John 1:1-2 *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.”*

Micah 5:2 *“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for Me one who will be ruler over Israel, WHOSE ORIGINS ARE FROM OF OLD, FROM ANCIENT TIMES.”*

3. Both Jesus’ virgin birth and His “deity” are proclaimed in the verse:

Isaiah 7:14 *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him IMMANUEL.”*

(NOTE: The name “Immanuel” means “God with us”!)

4. The fact that Jesus was born to be a “human” son, while at the same time remain “deity” as a member of the God-head, is confirmed in the verse:

Isaiah 9:6 *“For to us A CHILD IS BORN, to us A SON IS GIVEN, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, MIGHTY GOD, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”*

5. Jesus proclaimed His “eternal” existence to the Jews:

John 8:58-59 *“‘I tell you the truth,’ Jesus answered, ‘BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS BORN, I AM!’ At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.”*

(NOTE: The reason the Jews wanted to stone Jesus was because they understood that He had just proclaimed His “eternal existence” which would make Him “co-equal” with God! They considered this “blasphemy”, since He appeared to be only a man in their eyes, but was applying the most holy name of God “I Am” to Himself!)

Exodus 3:14 *“GOD said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”*

Isaiah 43:13 *“Yes, and from ancient days I AM HE...”*

6. Jesus Christ affirmed His “eternity” and His “deity” when He prayed:

John 17:5 “*And now, Father, glorify Me in Your presence WITH THE GLORY I HAD WITH YOU BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN.”*

Isaiah 42:8 “*I AM the Lord; that is My name! I WILL NOT GIVE MY GLORY TO ANOTHER or my praise to idols!”*

(NOTE: The only way that Jesus could have had “glory” with God, before the world began, would be that He is God!)

7. Paul wrote about Jesus’ preexistence of being “deity” before He was born into this world as a man:

Philippians 2:5-7 “*Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, BEING IN VERY NATURE GOD, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, BEING MADE IN HUMAN LIKENESS.”*

Colossians 1:15-20 “*HE IS THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created BY HIM and FOR HIM. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have supremacy. FOR GOD WAS PLEASED TO HAVE ALL HIS FULNESS DWELL IN HIM, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace THROUGH HIS BLOOD, shed on the cross.”*

1Timothy 3:16 “*Beyond all question, THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS is great: HE (i.e. God, the Son) APPEARED IN A BODY, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.”*

Hebrews 1:2-3 “*...but in these last days He (i.e. God, the Father) has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. THE SON IS THE RADIANCE OF GOD’S GLORY AND THE EXACT REPRESENTATION OF HIS BEING, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins (i.e. “through His humanity”), He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven (i.e. “resumed His divinity”).”*

Hebrews 13:8 “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” (i.e. “always existed as deity”)*

8. Because the Scriptures state so often that Christ is “eternal” and the “He is God”, contemporary scholarship (which accepts the Bible as being authoritative) overwhelmingly – a few CULTS excepting – affirms the “eternity” and the “deity” of Christ.

Implications That The Son of God is Eternal:

The Word of God constantly and consistently implies the “preexistence” and “eternity” of the Lord Jesus Christ. Among the obvious proofs of this fact include:

1. The “works of creation” are ascribed to Christ. He therefore pre-dates creation:

John 1:3 *“Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.”*

Colossians 1:16 *“For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him.”*

Hebrews 1:10 *“He (i.e. God, the Father) also says, ‘In the beginning, O Lord, You (i.e. God, the Son) laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.’”*

2. The Lord Jesus Christ appears many times in the Old Testament as “The Angel of Jehovah”, who bears the unmistakable marks of deity:

- a. He appeared to Hagar:

Genesis 16:7-8 *“The angel of the LORD found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur. And He said, ‘Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?’”*

- b. He appeared to Abraham:

Genesis 18:1 *“The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.”*

Genesis 22:11-12 *“But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, ‘Abraham! Abraham!’ ‘Here I am,’ he replied. ‘Do not lay a hand on the boy,’ He said. ‘Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from Me your son, your only son.’”*

John 8:56-59a *“Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; HE SAW IT AND WAS GLAD.’ ‘You are not yet fifty years old,’ the Jews said to Him, ‘and You have seen Abraham!’ ‘I tell you the truth,’ Jesus answered, ‘BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS BORN, I AM!’ At this, they picked up stones to stone Him, but Jesus hid Himself...”*

c. He appeared to Jacob:

Genesis 31:11-13 “The angel of God said to me in the dream, ‘Jacob.’ I answered, ‘Here I am.’ And He said, ‘Look up and see that all the male goats mating with the flock are streaked, speckled or spotted, for I have seen all that Laban has been doing to you. I AM THE GOD OF BETHEL, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to Me. Now leave this land at once and go back to your native land.’”

Genesis 32:24-30 “So Jacob was left alone, and A MAN WRESTLED WITH HIM UNTIL DAYBREAK. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob’s hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, ‘Let me go, for it is daybreak.’ But Jacob replied, ‘I will not let you go UNLESS YOU BLESS ME.’ The man asked him, ‘What is your name?’ ‘Jacob,’ he answered. Then the man said, ‘Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled WITH GOD AND WITH MEN and have overcome.’ Jacob said, ‘Please tell me your name.’ But he replied, ‘Why do you ask my name?’ Then he blessed him there. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, ‘It is because I SAW GOD FACE TO FACE, and yet my life was spared.”

Genesis 48:15-16 “Then he (i.e. Jacob) blessed Joseph and said, ‘May THE GOD before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, THE GOD who has been my shepherd all my life to this day, THE ANGEL who has delivered me from all harm—may he bless these boys. May they be called by my name and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac, and may they increase greatly upon the earth.”

d. He appeared to Moses:

Exodus 3:2 “There THE ANGEL OF THE LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up.”

Exodus 3:13-14 “Moses said TO GOD, ‘Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?’ GOD SAID TO MOSES, ‘I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

c. He appeared to Joshua:

Joshua 5:13-15 “Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw A MAN standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, ‘Are you for us or for our enemies?’ ‘Neither,’ he replied, ‘but AS A COMMANDER OF THE ARMY OF THE LORD I have now come.’ Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, ‘What message does MY LORD HAVE FOR HIS SERVANT?’ The commander of the LORD’s army replied, ‘Take off your sandals, for THE PLACE WHERE YOU ARE STANDING IS HOLY.’ And Joshua did so.”

d. He appeared to Sampson's parents:

Judges 13:9-11 *"God heard Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman while she was out in the field; but her husband Manoah was not with her. The woman hurried to tell her husband, 'He's here! THE MAN who appeared to me the other day!' Manoah got up and followed his wife. When he came to the man, he said, 'Are you the one who talked to my wife?' 'I AM,' he said."*

Judges 13:19-22 *"Then Manoah took a young goat, together with the grain offering, and sacrificed it on a rock to the LORD. And the LORD did an amazing thing while Manoah and his wife watched: As the flame blazed up from the altar toward heaven, THE ANGEL OF THE LORD ascended in the flame. Seeing this, Manoah and his wife fell with their faces to the ground. When THE ANGEL OF THE LORD did not show himself again to Manoah and his wife, Manoah realized that it was THE ANGEL OF THE LORD. 'We are doomed to die!' he said to his wife. 'WE HAVE SEEN GOD!'"*

e. He fights for, and defends, His own:

1Chronicles 21:15-17 *"...THE ANGEL OF THE LORD was then standing at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. David looked up and saw THE ANGEL OF THE LORD standing between heaven and earth, WITH A DRAWN SWORD IN HIS HAND extended over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell facedown. DAVID SAID TO GOD, "Was it not I who ordered the fighting men to be counted? I am the one who has sinned and done wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? O LORD my God, LET YOUR HAND FALL UPON ME and my family, but do not let this plague remain on your people."*

f. He fights for, and defends, His own:

Psalms 34:7 *"THE ANGEL OF THE LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them."*

Zechariah 14:1-5 *"A day of the LORD is coming when your plunder will be divided among you. I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. THEN THE LORD WILL GO OUT AND FIGHT AGAINST THOSE NATIONS, as he fights in the day of battle. On that day HIS FEET WILL STAND ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south. You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD MY GOD will come, and all the holy ones with Him.*

3. The titles of the Lord Jesus Christ indicate His “eternal” being.

a. Titles in the New Testament relate Him to the Old Testament revelation of “Jehovah-God”:

Isaiah 7:14 *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him IMMANUEL.”*

Matthew 1:23 *“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him IMMANUEL — which means, ‘GOD WITH US.’”*

Psalms 66:16 *“Come and listen, all you who fear GOD; let me tell you what He has done for me.”*

Mark 5:19 *“As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon–possessed begged to go with Him. Jesus did not let him, but said, ‘Go home to your family and TELL THEM HOW MUCH THE LORD HAS DONE FOR YOU, and how He has had mercy on you.’ So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis HOW MUCH JESUS HAD DONE FOR HIM. And all the people were amazed.”*

Psalms 110:1 *“The LORD says to MY LORD: ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.’”*

Matthew 22:41-45 *“While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ‘What do you think about THE CHRIST? Whose son is he?’ ‘The son of David,’ they replied. He said to them, ‘How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘LORD’? For he says, The Lord said to MY LORD: ‘Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.’ If then David calls Him ‘LORD,’ how can he be his son?’”*

b. The New Testament names of the Son of God are associated with titles of “the Father” and “the Spirit” as being “equal” with them:

Matthew 28:19 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”*

John 14:1 *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me.”*

John 17:3 *“Now this is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom You have sent.”*

Acts 2:38 *“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of THE HOLY SPIRIT.’”*

1Corinthians 1:3 *“Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”*

2Corinthians 13:14 *“May the grace of THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, and the love of GOD, and the fellowship*

of THE HOLY SPIRIT be with you all.”

Ephesians 6:23 “Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Revelation 20:6 “Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests OF GOD AND OF CHRIST and will REIGN WITH HIM for a thousand years.”

Revelation 22:3 “No longer will there be any curse. The throne OF GOD AND OF THE LAMB will be in the city, and His servants will serve HIM.”

c. Jesus is called “God” in the New Testament:

John 1:1 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and THE WORD WAS GOD.”

Romans 9:5 “Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, WHO IS GOD OVERALL, forever praised!”

Titus 2:13-14 “...while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing OF OUR GREAT GOD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and TO PURIFY FOR HIMSELF a people that are HIS VERY OWN, eager to do what is good.”

Hebrews 1:8 “But ABOUT THE SON He says, ‘Your throne, O GOD, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.’”

1John 5:20 “We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in Him who is true—even in His Son Jesus Christ. HE IS THE TRUE GOD and eternal life.”

4. The “preexistence” and “eternity” of the Son of God are implied by the fact that He has the “attributes” of God in Scripture:

a. The Son of God is “life”:

Job 33:4 “THE SPIRIT OF GOD has made me; the breath of the Almighty GIVES ME LIFE.”

Psalms 36:6-9 “Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. O LORD, YOU PRESERVE BOTH MAN AND BEAST...For WITH YOU IS THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE; in your light we see light.”

John 1:4 “In Him (i.e. The Word of God) was life, and that life was THE LIGHT OF MEN.”

b. The Son of God is “immutable” (i.e. “never changing”):

Malachi 3:6 “*I the LORD do not change...*”

Hebrews 13:8 “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*”

c. The Son of God is “truth”:

Isaiah 65:16 “*Whoever invokes a blessing in the land will do so BY THE GOD OF TRUTH; he who takes an oath in the land will swear BY THE GOD OF TRUTH.*”

John 14:6 “*Jesus answered, ‘I am the way AND THE TRUTH and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’*”

d. The Son of God is “love”:

1John 3:16 “*This is how we KNOW WHAT LOVE IS: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.*”

1John 4:16 “*...GOD IS LOVE. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and GOD IN HIM.*”

John 14:20 “*On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I AM IN YOU.*”

e. The Son of God is “holy”:

Leviticus 11:44-45 “*I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, BECAUSE I AM HOLY. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves about on the ground. I am the LORD who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, BECAUSE I AM HOLY.*”

Hebrews 7:24-26 “*...but because JESUS lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them. Such a high priest meets our need—ONE WHO IS HOLY, BLAMELESS, PURE, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.*”

f. The Son of God “has been” and “always will be” eternal:

Isaiah 40:28 “*Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.*”

Psalms 93:2 “*The LORD reigns, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. Your throne was established long ago; YOU ARE FROM ETERNITY.*”

Colossians 1:17 "HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS, and in Him (i.e. Christ) all things hold together."

Hebrews 1:10-11 "He also says, 'In the beginning, O Lord (i.e. Christ), You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, BUT YOU REMAIN; they will all wear out like a garment.'"

g. The Son of God is "omnipresent" (i.e. "always present everywhere, all of the time!):

Psalms 139:7-10 "WHERE CAN I GO FROM YOUR SPIRIT? Where can I flee from Your presence? If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, YOUR RIGHT HAND WILL HOLD ME FAST."

Matthew 28:20 "...And surely I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, to the very end of the age."

h. The Son of God is "omniscient" (i.e. "knows everything"):

Isaiah 44:7-8 "Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and lay out before Me WHAT HAS HAPPENED since I established my ancient people, AND WHAT IS YET TO COME— yes, let him foretell what will come. Do not tremble, do not be afraid. DID I NOT PROCLAIM AND FORETELL THIS LONG AGO? You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one."

John 16:29-30 "Then Jesus' disciples said, 'Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. NOW WE CAN SEE THAT YOU KNOW ALL THINGS and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that YOU CAME FROM GOD.'"

1 Corinthians 4:5 "Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till THE LORD COMES. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will EXPOSE THE MOTIVES OF MEN'S HEARTS..."

Colossians 2:2c-3 "...in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in Whom are hidden ALL THE TREASURES OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE."

i. The Son of God is "omnipotent" (i.e. "all powerful"):

Matthew 28:18 "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'ALL AUTHORITY in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.'"

Mark 4:39-41 "He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?' They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? EVEN THE WIND AND THE WAVES OBEY HIM!'"

Revelation 5:12 "Worthy is the Lamb, Who was slain, TO RECEIVE POWER and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

5. The “preexistence” and the “eternity” of Christ are implied by the fact that He is “worshipped” as God:

John 20:27-28 *“Then He (i.e. Jesus) said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe.’ Thomas said to Him, ‘MY LORD AND MY GOD!’”*

Acts 7:59-60 *“While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, ‘LORD JESUS, receive my spirit.’ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “LORD, do not hold this sin against them.””*

Hebrews 1:5-6 *“For to which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are My Son; today I have become Your Father’? Or again, ‘I will be His Father, and He will be My Son’? And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says, ‘LET ALL GOD’S ANGELS WORSHIP HIM.’”*

Conclusions:

It follows, therefore, that since the Lord Jesus Christ possesses and demonstrates the attributes of God, is called God, and is worshiped as God, He is from “everlasting to everlasting”. This means He is “eternal” and “preexistent” (i.e. Has always existed as member of the one Godhead; never was “created”!).

The theme of the “deity” and “eternity” of the Son of God should be closely connected with the “humanity” of Christ through the “Incarnation”, which will be discussed further as the subject of Doctrine #8.

Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #7: God the Son (His Deity and Eternity)

1. Read Pages 1-14 from the Doctrine#7 Study Guide by next Wednesday.
2. Answer the following Questions about “God the Son” as you read:

a. Who Really Was Jesus?

- 1) True or False. Jesus’ own family member, including His mother, had difficulty understanding who He was while He was living on the earth amongst them.
(page 1, top; see also Luke 2:46-50 and John 7:1-5)

- 2) True or False. Because the disciples were able to spend over three years living with Jesus and observing Him closely, they finally understood who He was before He died on the cross. (page 2, top; see also John 20:24-25)

- 3) What are some obvious ways that God’s Word reveals that Jesus Christ was “human”?
(page 2, middle-bottom)

- 4) According to Hebrews 2:14-18, how was Jesus made like His brothers (i.e. human)?

- 5) What does it mean to say that Jesus was “eternally preexistent”? (page 3, top)

- 6) According to 1Peter 1:20, Jesus was “foreknown” (i.e. “exited”) before when?

- 7) True or False. Because Jesus was “sinless”, He does not know what it is like to be “tempted”.
(page 3, middle; see also Hebrews 4:14-15)

- 8) According to Hebrews 10:10, how have “believers” been made “holy”?

- 9) What was revealed about Jesus through His glorious “resurrection” and “ascension”?
(page 4, top; see also Romans 1:1-4)

- 10) Just before he died, who did Stephen say he saw standing at the “right hand of God”?
(Acts 7:55-56)

- 11) True or False. Because Jesus was both “human” and “God”, He had both a “beginning” (as a human) while having no beginning (as the divine Son of God). (page 4, middle)

- 12) Read Galatians 4:4. What is said in this verse that indicates that Jesus was “human”?

- 13) True or False. The statement that Jesus “preexisted” creation simply means that He was the “first” of all beings and things that have been created. (page 4, middle)

- 14) The arguments about the “preexistence” of Jesus are critical, because if Christ is really God, an attribute He must have is that He must “be” what? (page 4, bottom-middle)

- 15) What are the two lines of revelation that help establish the “eternity” and “deity” of Jesus?
(page 4, bottom)

b. Direct Statements of the Eternity and Deity of the Son of God:

- 1) The “eternity” and “deity” of Jesus Christ, as revealed in the Scriptures, make Him “what” in comparison to the other persons of the Godhead (i.e. “the Father” and “the Spirit”)?
(page 5, top)
- 2) True or False. The “incarnation” of Christ (i.e. Jesus becoming flesh) did not diminish the “divine” attributes that The Son of God had before He became human.
(page 5, top)
- 3) What does the name “Immanuel” (or “Emmanuel”) mean? (page 5, middle)
- 4) Read Isaiah 9:6. What were some of the names that the child (i.e. human), the given “son” (i.e. Jesus), was to be called according to the prophet?
- 5) Read John 8:58-59. What did Jesus do that made the Jews want to stone Him to death?
- 6) Read John 17:5 and Isaiah 42:8. What is the only way that Jesus could have truly had “glory” with God before the world began? (page 6, top)

- 7) What are some things said by Paul in Colossians 1:15-20 which reveal the “deity” of Jesus?

- 8) According to 1 Timothy 3:16, who appeared in a body?

- 9) Read Hebrews 13:8. When the Bible says that “*Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever*”, what does this mean? (page 6, bottom)

c. Implications That The Son of God is Eternal:

- 1) Read John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:16, and Hebrews 1:10. These verses prove that Christ “pre-dates” (i.e. “existed before”) what? (page 7, top)

- 2) In the Old Testament, who really was “The Angel of Jehovah” or “The Angel of the Lord”? (page 7, middle)

- 3) According to John 8:56-59a, whose day did Abraham “rejoice” at seeing?

- 4) Read Judges 13:9-22. When Manoah realized that they had seen “The Angel of the Lord”, he told his wife they were probably going to die because they had seen “whom”?

- 5) According to Psalm 34:7, around “whom” does the “Angel of the Lord” encamp around?

- 6) The “titles” (i.e. “names”) of the Lord Jesus Christ indicate what? (page 10, top)
(See also Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, Psalm 66:16; Mark 5:19, Psalm 110:1, Matthew 22:41-45)

- 7) The New Testament names of the Son of God are associated with titles of “the Father” and “the Spirit” as being “what” with them? (page 10, bottom)
(See also Matthew 28:19; John 14:1, 17:3; Acts 2:38; 1Cor 1:3; 2 Cor 13:14; Eph 6:23)

- 8) According to Scriptures like Romans 9:5 and 1John 5:20, Christ is “whom”?

- 9) According to John 1:4, what was “in” Jesus that implies the “deity” of God?

- 10) When the Bible reveals that the Son of God is “immutable”, what does this mean?
(page 12, top; see also Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8)

- 11) What does God say about Himself in Leviticus 11:44-45?

- 12) What does the Bible say about Jesus in Hebrews 7:24-26?

- 13) What does it mean when we say that The Son of God is “omnipresent”?
(page 13, top)

- 14) According to Matthew 28:20, what promise does Jesus make to ALL HIS DISCIPLES?

- 15) What does it mean when we say that The Son of God is “omniscient”? (page 13, middle)

- 16) According to Colossians 2:2-3, what has been hidden in Jesus Christ?

- 17) What did the previously unbelieving disciple Thomas say after putting his finger in the hand and side of the resurrected body of Jesus? (read John 20:27-28)

- 18) According to Hebrews 1:5-6, what does God say all angels must do to Jesus?

- 19) In conclusion, what does it really mean when the Scriptures reveal that Jesus is “eternal” and “preexistent”? (page 14, middle)