

CRYSTALLIZATION-STUDY OUTLINES FIRST AND SECOND SAMUEL, Week 8

The Seed of David Becoming the Son of God

Scripture Reading: Scripture Reading: 2 Sam. 7:12a, 14a;
Matt. 22:41-45; Acts 13:23, 33; Rom. 1:3-4; 8:29; Rev. 22:16

2 Samuel 7:12	When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
2 Samuel 7:14	I will be his Father, and he will be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the stripes of the sons of men;
Matthew 22:41	Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus questioned them,
Matthew 22:42	Saying, What do you think concerning the Christ? Whose son is He? They said to Him, David's.
Matthew 22:43	He said to them, How then does David in spirit call Him Lord, saying,
Matthew 22:44	"The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand until I put Your enemies underneath Your feet"?
Matthew 22:45	If then David calls Him Lord, how is He his son?
Acts 13:23	From this man's seed, God, according to promise, brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus,
Acts 13:33	That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; this day have I begotten You."
Romans 1:3	Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,
Romans 1:4	Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
Romans 8:29	Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
Revelation 22:16	I Jesus have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright morning star.

Day 1

2 Samuel 7:12	When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
2 Samuel 7:14	I will be his Father, and he will be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the stripes of the sons of men;

I. "I will raise up your seed after you...I will be his Father, and he will be My son"—2 Sam. 7:12a, 14a:

- Your seed here refers, literally, to Solomon, David's son—1 Kings 5:5; 8:15-20.
- According to Hebrews 1:5b, which quotes 2 Samuel 7:14a, David's seed is actually **Christ as God's firstborn Son**, who has both divinity and humanity—Heb. 1:5a, 6.
- Your seed in 2 Samuel 7:12a and My son in verse 14a imply that the seed of David would become the Son of God, that is, that **a human seed would become a divine Son**—Rom. 1:3-4.
- This word concerning the seed of David becoming the Son of God is continued and developed strongly in the New Testament—Matt. 22:41-45; Rev. 22:16.

II. In Matthew 22:41-45 the Lord Jesus asked the **greatest question in the universe: "What do you think concerning the Christ? Whose son is He?"—v. 42a:**

- The Pharisees said that the Christ was David's son, and the Lord asked them how David could call the Christ Lord when the Christ was his son—vv. 43-45.
- Christ can be known by us **only in our spirit through God's revelation**—v. 43; Eph. 3:5.
- Christ is God**; in His divinity He is the Lord of David—Matt. 22:43.
- Christ is also a man**; in His humanity He is the son of David—vv. 42, 45.

How wonderful Christ is! He is both God and man, both the Son of God and the Son of David. Furthermore, He is both in the heavens and in us. He is inside and outside; He is on the top and on the bottom; He is the greatest and the smallest. Oh, Christ is everything! We need to know Him to such a degree. Then we shall say, "Lord Jesus, I cannot exhaust the knowledge of You. Lord, You are the only worthy One. If there is a God, this God must be You. If there is a genuine human being, this person must be You. Lord, You are the Savior, the Redeemer, the life, and the light." We today must come to know how inexhaustible the Lord Jesus is as the Son of David and the Son of God. Both the experience of Him and the knowledge of Him are inexhaustible. Because Christ is the all-inclusive One, the enjoyment of Him is inexhaustible.

Do not be led into the devilish snare of debate concerning the Person of Christ. Thinking you know everything concerning Christ's Person is an indication that you have been snared already. Although we can know Christ, we cannot understand Him thoroughly. We know that Jesus Christ is the Son and that He is also called the Father, for the Bible tells us so. But we cannot comprehend this adequately. We also know that Christ is the Son of God and the Son of man and that He has both the divine nature and the human nature in one Person. Thus, He is one Person with two natures and two lives. However, it is beyond our ability to understand this thoroughly. We simply believe whatever the Bible says and praise Him for being so wonderful! We need to worship Him, take Him in, enjoy Him, and experience Him as the wonderful One. (*Life-Study of Matthew, chapter 59*)

Day 2

Revelation 22:16	I Jesus have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright morning star.
Acts 13:23	From [David's] seed, God, according to promise, brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus.
Acts 13:33	That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; this day have I begotten You."

III. In Revelation 22:16 the Lord Jesus said, "I am the Root and the Offspring of David":

- A. In His **divinity**, Christ is the **Root**, the **source**, of David; in His **humanity**, Christ is the **Offspring**, the **issue**, of David.
- B. Christ is the Lord as the **Root of David**, and He is also the son, the shoot, of David as the **Offspring of David**; just as the Offspring of David denotes that the Lord is man and that He came out of David, so also the Root of David denotes that He is God and that David came out of Him.
- C. In Revelation 22:16 Christ Himself acknowledged that **He is man as well as God**, that He has both the human nature and the divine nature.

IV. In Acts 13 Paul said that from David's seed "God, according to promise, brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus" (v. 23), and that "God has fully fulfilled this promise...in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; this day have I begotten You"" (v. 33):

- A. In verses 32 and 33 we see that Christ as the Firstborn of God was promised to the fathers, and **God fulfilled this promise by raising up Jesus**.
- B. **Resurrection** was a birth to the man Jesus:
 1. He was begotten by God in His resurrection to be the **firstborn Son of God among many brothers**—Rom. 8:29.
 2. He was the **only begotten Son of God from eternity**—John 1:18; 3:16.
 3. After His incarnation, through resurrection He was **begotten by God in His humanity to be God's firstborn Son**—Heb. 1:6.
- C. Paul was able to see the Lord's resurrection in Psalm 2:7: "**You are My Son;/Today I have begotten You**":
 1. Paul applied the word today to the day of the Lord's resurrection.
 2. This means that **Christ's resurrection was His birth as the firstborn Son of God**.
 3. Jesus, the Son of Man, was **born to be the Son of God through being raised up from the dead**; therefore, God's raising up Jesus from the dead was His begetting of Him to be His firstborn Son—Acts 13:33.

Day 3

- John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
- Hebrews 1:6** And when He brings again the Firstborn into the inhabited earth, He says, “And let all the angels of God worship Him.”

- D. Through **incarnation** God’s only begotten Son **put on humanity and became the God-man** (John 1:14, 18; Luke 1:35); then in **resurrection** this God-man was **born of God to be His Firstborn** (Acts 13:33; Heb. 1:6; Rom. 8:29):
1. **Before** incarnation God’s only begotten Son **did not have the human nature**; He had only the divine nature.
 2. **In** resurrection God’s firstborn Son **has the human nature as well as the divine nature**.
- E. Through His resurrection Christ was born to be the firstborn Son, and at the same time all **His believers were born to be the many sons of God**—1 Pet. 1:3; Heb. 2:10:
1. Among these many sons, **only the Firstborn is God’s only begotten Son**— John 1:18; 1 John 4:9.
 2. This only begotten Son of God, in His resurrected humanity, is also the **firstborn Son of God**—Rom. 8:29.
 3. The Firstborn has both divinity and humanity, and **we, His believers as God’s many sons, also possess both the human nature and the divine nature**—2 Pet. 1:4.

At this point we need to ask ourselves what the difference is between the only begotten Son and the firstborn Son. Our first response may be to say that the only begotten Son had no brothers, but the firstborn Son has many brothers. Although this is true, we still need to ask what the difference is in the Son of God Himself. The difference between the only begotten Son of God in eternity past and the firstborn Son of God in resurrection is that **in eternity past, before** His incarnation, **He possessed only divinity** without humanity. But through the process of **incarnation, He put on humanity**. He passed through human living, entered into death, and came out in resurrection. **In resurrection He still remained the Son of God according to His divinity**, but there was something more; **He also possessed the humanity that He obtained through incarnation**. The humanity that He put on in incarnation was also brought into resurrection to share in the sonship. This is why Acts 13:33 says that on the day of resurrection Christ was begotten of God to be God’s Son. It means that resurrection “sonized” His humanity, made it also the Son of God. According to Acts 13:33, Christ’s resurrection was a birth, making Him not only God’s only begotten Son with divinity but also God’s firstborn Son with both divinity and humanity.

Today Christ is the Son of God in two respects: **He is God’s only begotten Son, and He is also God’s firstborn Son**. However, if He were only God’s only begotten Son, He could not have any brothers. To have us as His brothers, **He must possess humanity**, but as God’s only begotten Son in eternity past, He possessed only divinity, not humanity. Nevertheless, in His incarnation Christ put on humanity, and through resurrection He brought this humanity into sonship. In this way He became God’s firstborn Son with both divinity and humanity. Then, **as the life-giving Spirit, He entered into us to make us also sons of God. Now we are the many sons of God** being conformed to the image, not of God’s only begotten Son but of His firstborn Son. Therefore, as God’s firstborn Son, Christ has many brothers. We all need to see that being born as the firstborn Son of God was a great work, which Christ accomplished through His resurrection. Although it is clearly taught in the Bible, many Christians have never seen this matter. (*The Secret of Experiencing Christ, chapter 4*)

Day 4

- Romans 1:3-4** Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh, who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- V. **We need to know Christ in His resurrection designated as the Son of God in power with His human nature**—Rom. 1:3-4:
- A. Before His incarnation and resurrection, Christ was the Son of God, the only begotten Son— John 1:18; 3:16.
 - B. Although Christ already was the Son of God before the incarnation, He still needed to be designated the Son of God out of resurrection because by incarnation He had put on the human nature, which had nothing to do with divinity—1:1, 14; Rom. 8:3:

1. After the Son of God became **incarnate**, **His divine nature was concealed by the flesh**.
2. Christ was already the Son of God in His divinity, but the part of Him that was Jesus with the human nature, born of Mary, was not the Son of God—Luke 1:31-32, 35.
3. By His **resurrection** Christ **sanctified and uplifted His human nature**, His humanity, and He was **designated out of resurrection as the Son of God with this human nature**; in this sense He was begotten the Son of God in His resurrection—Rom. 1:3-4; Acts 13:33; Heb. 1:5.
4. This designation of the Son of God was “in power,” the **power of Christ’s resurrection**, the reality of which is the Spirit—Rom. 1:4; Phil. 3:10; Eph. 1:19-20.

Day 5

Matthew 1:20 But while he pondered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers.

- C. Through designation in resurrection the Christ who was already the Son of God before His incarnation became the Son of God in a new way—Rom. 1:4:
 1. Before His incarnation He was the Son of God only with divinity; **through His resurrection He was designated the Son of God with both divinity and humanity**—v. 4.
 2. If Christ had not put on human nature, **there would have been no need for Him to be designated the Son of God**, for in His divinity He was already the Son of God, even from eternity—John 1:18; 17:5.
 3. Having put on humanity through incarnation, **He was designated the Son of God with humanity in resurrection**—1:14; Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; Heb. 2:14:
 - a. As the designated Son of God, Christ has two natures, **divinity and humanity**; the humanity that He now has is not a natural humanity but a **humanity uplifted in resurrection**—Rom. 1:4.
 - b. Even Christ’s human nature has been designated the Son of God, for He has been **designated the Son of God with both divinity and humanity**.
- D. The designation of Christ as the Son of God with humanity was “**according to the Spirit of holiness**”—v. 4:
 1. The **Spirit of holiness** is the **life essence within the Lord Jesus**; when He lived on earth in the flesh, He had this essence within Him—Matt. 1:18, 20; Luke 1:35.
 2. When the Lord Jesus was resurrected from among the dead, He was designated the Son of God in power **by resurrection according to the Spirit of holiness that was in Him**—Rom. 1:4.
 3. Now He is the Son of God in a way that is more wonderful than before, for now **He has both the divine nature and the resurrected, transformed, uplifted, glorified, and designated human nature**—6:4; Luke 24:26; John 17:5; Acts 3:13.

Day 6

Romans 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

- E. We need to connect Romans 1:3-4 and 8:29:
 1. Through His incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection, Christ, the Son of God, became the firstborn Son, and the many sons, who are the brothers of Christ, are being conformed to His image—Heb. 2:10-11; Rom. 8:29.
 2. In **Romans 1:3-4** Christ, the Son of God, is the **prototype**, whereas in **8:29** the many brothers are those who have been “**mass-produced**” from the prototype and, by being saved in life, will be conformed to the image of the firstborn Son.
 3. This brings us to the matter of deification and implies that **God’s intention in His economy is to make Himself man so that, in Christ, we, the believers in Christ and children of God, may become God in life, in nature, and in constitution** (but not in the Godhead); **such an implication is exceedingly great**, and eventually, the Bible consummates with this matter—v. 29; 1:3-4; John 1:1-13; 1 John 3:1; Rev. 21:2, 10-11.

As believers, we have Christ within us as resurrection, and this resurrection is our life-power. Day by day this power functions to conquer death. Death has many aspects: weakness, hatred, darkness, pride, criticism, rumors. Even if you murmur or engage in a little gossiping, you will touch death. All negative things are included in the content of death. The resurrection within us conquers every form of death and swallows it up. It swallows our pride, our criticism, our false humility. Furthermore, this life-power causes growth, transformation, and shaping. It also releases the positive things, and it causes us to rise above every “muddy” situation.

Even if we do not have the realization that this life-power is within us, we do have the reality of this power. If we look back upon our experience with the Lord over the years, we shall see that the resurrection within us has been conquering death and swallowing up negative things. Our experience also testifies that this life-power has caused us to grow, to be transformed, and even to be somewhat shaped into the image of Christ. Furthermore, our experience reveals that the life-power has released so many positive things from within us. As resurrection releases, it also rises up within us.

Satan is always doing his best to hold us down. He does everything he can to suppress us, depress us, and oppress us. But praise the Lord for the rising calamus within us! The Lord sometimes allows the enemy to cast us into a “muddy” situation just so that resurrection has an opportunity to function by raising us far above that situation. This subjective resurrection is the resurrection spoken of in the book of Romans. It is in this resurrection that Christ in His humanity was designated the Son of God. By means of such a resurrection we also are in the process of being designated the sons of God. (*Life-Study of Romans, chapter 54*)