

# “WORD OF LIFE”

September 26, 2021

## CHRIST IN HIS PERSON

### A. In the Godhead

#### 4 - The **Expression** of the Father

#### **✚ GOD BREATHED (2 Tim 3:16):**

**John 1:18** - No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the **bosom of the Father**, He has declared Him.

**John 10:30** - **I and the Father are one.**

#### **✚ THE EXCELLENCY OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST (Phil. 3:8):**

#### **CHRIST IS THE EXPRESSION OF THE FATHER**

##### ❖ **As the Son**

- He is the **only begotten** Son -
  - Who was in the bosom of the Father from eternity past
  - Who is still in the bosom of the Father after incarnation
  - Who is continually in the bosom of the Father to declare the Father
    - Our enjoyment of Christ always brings us into the bosom of the Father
- He is the **Firstborn** Son –
  - Who died and resurrected
  - Who is now the life-giving Spirit

##### ❖ **As the Word**

- He is mainly to **express** God the Father **by declaring, defining, and revealing** Him (**John 1:18**).
- In the Old Testament **God spoke in the prophets** (indirectly),
  - In men moved by His Spirit (**Heb. 1:1; 2 Pet. 1:21**)
  - He did not have himself expressed
- In the New Testament **He speaks in the Son** (directly),
  - Who is God Himself expressed (**Heb. 1:2-3**)
  - God the Father is hidden; God the Son is expressed.

##### ❖ The Father's **only begotten Son** expresses Him **by** the Word, life, light, grace, and reality.

- The **Word** is God **expressed**,
- **life** is God **imparted**,
- **light** is God's **shining**,
- **grace** is God **enjoyed**, and
- **reality** is God **realized**.

##### ❖ **Christ** is the expression of **God**

- When we enjoy Christ as grace and reality, this enjoyment brings us into the bosom of the Father where we enjoy God as love and light.
- **Grace** is the expression of **love**
  - **Love** is the hidden source of grace
    - when grace brings us into love, we reach the source out from which grace flows
    - when we trace grace back to its source, grace becomes love

- **Reality** is the expression of **light**
  - **Light** is the hidden source of reality
    - light is the source out from which reality flows
    - when we trace reality back to its source, we arrive at light

## ONE WITH THE FATHER

- ❖ The Son and the Father are **one** (John 10:30, 17:22)
- ❖ The Son and the Father are **distinct**, but they cannot be separated.
- ❖ The Son is even called the Father (Isaiah 9:6)
- ❖ To deny the Son is to be without the Father, and to confess the Son is to have the Father (1 John 2:23)
- ❖ The Son expresses not Himself but the Father
  - Christ the Son **came** in the Father's name (John 5:43),
  - **worked** in the Father's name (10:25),
  - **did** the Father's will (6:38),
  - **spoke** the Father's word (3:34a; 14:24; 7:16-17; 12:47-50),
  - and **sought** the Father's glory (7:18).
  - Christ also expressed the Father (John 14:7-9).
    - He expressed only the Father.
    - The Son's expression is the Father's expression.
    - When we see the Son, we see the Father (**John 14:7-9**)
    - The Father is embodied in the Son to be expressed through Him.

## COINHERENT WITH THE FATHER

- ❖ **John 14:10a** - *“Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?”*
  - The Father and the Son **coinhere**, they **dwelt in one another**
- ❖ **John 14:11** - *“Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me.”*
  - The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son.
    - When the Son speaks, the Father, who abides in the Son, does His work.
    - The Father does His work in the Son's speaking because they are in one another.
- ❖ **John 17:21** - *“That they all may be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us.”*
  - The Son and the Father coexist in the way of **coinherence**.
    - While they coexist **the Father exists in the Son and the Son exists in the Father**.

## THE SON HAS ALL THAT THE FATHER HAS

- ❖ **Matthew 11:27a** - *“All was delivered to Me by My Father.”*
- ❖ **John 16:15a** - *“All that the Father has is Mine.”*
  - The **Father has given all that He has to the Son**.
    - He came in the Father's name (**John 5:43**).
    - The Son did not seek His own will but the Father's will (John 5:30).
    - The Son did not speak His own word; He spoke the Father's word (John 14:24).
    - The Son did not do His own work but the Father's work (John 4:34).

## **✚ SPEAK TO THE PEOPLE ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LIFE (Act 5:20):**

- ✚ No one has ever seen God, the Son of God declares Him, expresses Him, in the way of being the Word, life, light, grace, and reality. The more we receive the Word and have life, light, grace, and reality, the more God will be declared to us. To declare God **means** to express Him. **Christ has expressed God by being incarnated as** the Word with life, light, grace, and reality.
- ✚ The Son's coinhering with the Father is **for our experience of God's dispensing**. Christ the Son coexists and coinheres with the Father so that He with the Father may be dispensed into our being.
- ✚ The Father's being and doing are altogether in the Son. Hence, the Son becomes the Father's embodiment. **The Father was with the Son and gave everything to Him**. Therefore, **the Son is the expression of the Father**.

*(The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 22, point 4)  
[This "word of life" was inspired by The Elder's Training Book 8, Ch. 4]*