

“WORD OF LIFE”

November 14, 2021

CHRIST IN HIS PERSON

A. In the Godhead

11 - The Lord (1)

✚ GOD BREATHED (2 Tim 3:16):

- John 4:1** - When therefore the **Lord** knew that the Pharisees had heard that **Jesus** was making and baptizing more disciples than John
- John 6:23** - But other small boats from Tiberias came near to the place where they ate the bread after the **Lord** had given thanks.
- John 20:28** - Thomas answered and said to Him, My **Lord** and my God!

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

❖ Christ is the **Lord**.

- The Greek word for “**Lord**” used in the New Testament **equals** the divine title “**Jehovah**” of the Old Testament.
 - In the New Testament “**the Lord**” is a divine title of the **Triune God**.
 - The **Lord** is a title **not only** of the Lord Jesus Himself **as** the **Son of God** **but also** a title of the **Triune God**.

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE **WORD,
AND THE **WORD** WAS WITH GOD, AND THE **WORD** WAS GOD.
HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD.**

(John 1:1-2)

❖ The **Word of God** tells us that **the Lord Jesus and the Father are one**. (John 1:1)

- **The Father and the Son are equal, equipotent, coexisting, and existing simultaneously.**
 - **But** there is a **difference in person** **between** the Father and the Son.
 - It is **not** a distinction in intrinsic nature **but** in arrangement in the Godhead.
- **The Lord did not consider being equal with God** a treasure to be grasped (Phil 2:6).
 - The Lord’s equality with God **is not** something that He assumed by force.
 - It **is not** an assertion or a usurpation because the Lord had the image of God in the first place.
- **The Lord lowered Himself twice** (Phil. 2:5-7)
 - First **emptied** Himself of the glory, power, position, and image in **His deity** (Phil.2:5-7)
 - and then in **humbling** Himself in **His humanity**.

❖ In the Godhead

- **The Lord voluntarily chose to be the Son**, submitting Himself to the authority of the Father.
 - He said that the Father was greater than He (John 14:28).
 - The Son’s position was a **voluntary choice** of our Lord.
- There is **full harmony**.

- There is **equality**, yet it is happily arranged that **the Father should be the Head** and that **the Son should submit**.
 - The Father **became** the representation of **authority**
 - The Son **became** the representation of **submission**.

❖ The Lord's **submission** is **more difficult** than His creation of the heavens and the earth.

- **Submission** is something **created** by the **Son of God**.
 - **In order to submit**, He had to **empty Himself** of all the glory, power, position, and image in His deity.
 - **In order to submit**, He also had to **take on the form of a slave**.
- **Formerly**, the **Father and the Son shared the same glory**; when the Lord came down to earth,
 - He **dropped authority** on the one hand and **picked up submission** on the other hand.
 - He set His heart to **become** a slave, to be restricted in time and space as a man.
 - The Lord humbled Himself, **becoming** obedient.
- **Originally**, there was **no need for submission in the Godhead**.
 - The **Lord** **created submission**,
 - The **Father** **became the Head** to Christ **in the Godhead**.

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

- ✚ The obedience in the Godhead is the most wonderful thing in the whole universe. He became **obedient unto death**, even **the death of the cross**, a **painful and shameful death**. In the end, God exalted Him to the highest. He that humbles himself will be exalted. This is God's principle.
- ✚ With Christ there is the **principle of submission**. Those who accept submission are accepting the principle of Christ. Hence, those who are filled with Christ will be filled with submission. **Therefore**, those who know the Lord will be submissive spontaneously. Those who do not know God nor Christ will not know authority or submission.
- ✚ Christ represents submission, a **perfect** submission, just as God's authority is **perfect** authority.

*(The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 23, point 11)
 (Authority and Submission, chap 5, part 1)
 [This "word of life" was inspired by The Elder's Training Book 8, Ch. 4]*