

Bible Training Institute

To proactively accelerate the spiritual growth of Grace Bible Church for the purpose of knowing God more intimately and becoming more effective servants of God in the world

Christology Part 2: Sonship, Death, Resurrection, Ascension

Sonship of Christ

The debate:

Was the second person of the Trinity the Son from Eternity? Or was this a title given to him at the incarnation? (Not a question of deity)

Sonship of Christ

Incarnational Sonship Position

- Main support: Heb 1:5
- Sonship a role assumed at incarnation
- “Son” only applied to Christ in connection with His incarnation
- **SUMMARY:** The second person of the Trinity became known as the “Son” when he took on human flesh in order to accomplish redemption.

Sonship of Christ

Eternal Sonship Position

- “Sent” statements—John 3:16; 1 John 4:10; Gal 4:4
- John 1:18— “at the Father’s side”
- Ps 2:7—”You are my Son”
- Co-equal and con-substantial nature of Christ
- SUMMARY: The Son of God is who He is, not who He became

Death, Resurrection, Ascension:: Biblical Testimony

Foretold in Old Testament

- All three—Isaiah 52:13-53:13
- Death—Dan 9:24-26a
- Resurrection—Ps 16:10; Ps 2:7 + Acts 13:33
- Ascension—Ps 68:18 + Eph 4:8; Ps 110:1

Foretold by Christ

- Death and Resurrection—Matt 17:9; Matt 20:17-19; 3x in Mark
- Ascension—John 8:21; 7:33; 14:28-29; 16:5-7

Death, Resurrection, Ascension:: Biblical Testimony

Typified (pictured)

- Death—in the sacrificial system (Heb 9-10)
- Resurrection—by Jonah (Matt 12:38-40)
- Resurrection—Abraham/Isaac (Gen 22 cf. Heb 11:17-19)

Death, Resurrection, Ascension:: Biblical Testimony

Witnessed—(samples)

- Pilate/executioner – Mark 15:43-45
- Angel at the tomb – Matt 28:5 6 and Luke 24:5
- Disciples on the Emmaus road – Luke 24:33 35
- 500 witnesses at once – 1 Cor 15:4-8
- Peter – Acts 2:32; 3:15
- Stephen – Acts 7:54-56

Death, Resurrection, Ascension:: Biblical Testimony

Proclaimed

- Essential to the Apostolic Gospel—Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 15:1-4
- All three proclaimed in Acts 2:23-24; 3:14-15; 4:10; 5:30; 7:52; 10:39-40; 13:28-30; 17:3
- Pauline Epistles—Gal 6:14; 1 Cor 2:2

Death of Christ: Nature and Effect

- Separation from God???—Matt 27:46
 - Jesus is quoting Scripture
 - God separated from God???
 - Separation from God's presence to bless—facing the WRATH of GOD
 - The feeling of being forsaken
 - Rev 14:9-10—Wrath is in the presence of God, not a separation from God
- Separation of Soul and Body (Matt 27:50)
 - Not a separation of humanity and divinity
- Once for all event—1 Peter 3:18; Heb 7:27

Death of Christ: Nature and Effect

Atonement

- Substitutionary sacrifice—fulfilling OT sacrificial system (i.e., Lev 4:22-26)
 - Sin-bearing (Isaiah 53:4-12)
 - Substitute for sin (2 Cor 5:21)
 - Bore our sins (1 Peter 2:24)
 - Became curse for us (Gal 3:13)
 - Blood shed for forgiveness (Matt 26:28; 1 Cor 5:7)

Death of Christ: Nature and Effect

Atonement (con'd)

- Ransom/Redemption
 - Redemption in Christ (Rom 3:24)
 - Bought with a price (1 Cor 6:20)
 - Payment in our stead (Matt 20:28)
 - Ransom from futile ways (1 Pet 1:18)
- Victory over death (1 Cor 15:54), Satan (Heb 2:10, 14, 15); Satan's hosts (Col 2:15)

Resurrection of Christ: Nature and Effect

- Bodily Resurrection—Acts 1:3
 - No corruption (Acts 2:31)
 - Body absent from the tomb (Matt 28:16)
 - Post-resurrection body—ate food (Luke 24:41-43); scars on body (John 20:20, 27)
- Post-Resurrection Immortality
 - He is forever the glorified God-Man
 - “Firstborn” and “Firstfruits” of the dead (Col 1:18; Acts 26:23; 1 Cor 15:20)

Resurrection of Christ: Nature and Effect

A Glorified Body

- Ability to come and go at will (Luke 24:15-16)
- Enter locked rooms (Luke 24:36; John 20:19)
- A glorious body (Phil 3:20-21 cf. 1 Cor 15:44)
- Yet still identifiable as same person (John 20:16)

Ascension of Christ: Nature and Effect

- He was “taken up”—Acts 1:9-11
- He was received up in glory-1 Tim
- He is now with the Father (Heb 8:1; 9:24; 10:12)

Results of Death, Resurrection, Ascension of Christ

Impact of His Death

- Salvation for sinners
- Revealed the love of God (Rom 5:8)
- Revealed the righteousness and wisdom of God (Rom 3:25-26)
- Laid foundation of Christ's High Priestly ministry (Heb 9:11-12)
- Secured his exaltation above all things (Phil 2:8 9; Heb 2:9)

Results of Death, Resurrection, Ascension of Christ

Effects of His Resurrection

- Confirmed His identity as Son (Rom 1:4)
- Validated Christ's atoning work (Rom 4:25; 1 Cor 15:14-19)
- Guarantees our future resurrection and possession of a glorified body (1 Cor 15:20 21; Phil 3:20 21; 1 Pet 1:3-5)
- Guarantees the final judgment of the world (Acts 17:31; 24:25; and John 5:28-29).

Results of Death, Resurrection, Ascension of Christ

Significance of His Ascension

- Marks the end of Christ's self-limitation (Phil 2:6)
- It the occasion for Christ's Exaltation and Glorification (John 17:5)
- Marks the Entrance of Resurrected Humanity into Heaven
- Marks the beginning of Christ's new ministry of Intercession and Advocacy (Heb 7:25)
- It allowed Christ to send the Holy Spirit to Indwell and Empower us (John 16:7)
- Christ to Give us the Gifts of Men to Lead the Church (Eph 4:8)
- Preparation (making ready, not construction) of our future heavenly home (John 14:1-3)
- Anticipates His Return (Acts 1:11)

What about the Apostles' Creed?

- “He descended into hell”
 - Based on Eph 4:7-9 and 1 Peter 3:18-20
- Reasons Jesus did not descend into hell
 - There is no one there yet –Rev 20:13-15—
 - Death and Hades thrown into Lake of Fire
 - Jesus said on the cross, “It is finished”
 - Jesus told the thief on the cross, “This day you will be with me in paradise.”