

Christ is Not Equal with God

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(John 10:30; Philippians 2:5)*

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Almighty God intended that a husband and wife grow together and become "one" in mind and purpose. Even in instances when this does occur, the husband or wife would not be considered equal because they are still separate individuals with different backgrounds, personalities, skills, and experiences. Also, God has placed the man as head of the family, and therefore he has a greater overall responsibility (cf. 1Cor. 11:3, 7).

In the case of Almighty God and His son, Jesus Christ, they are of one mind and purpose, but not equal. Christ stated this fact a number of times so that there would be no doubt. Therefore, John 10:30 is simply describing the singleness of purpose, or "oneness of mind", between Almighty God and his son Jesus Christ, but it does not state they are equal.

You (Christ's disciples) have heard me (Christ) say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice because **I am going to the Father, for my Father is greater than I** (Jn. 14:28; cf. 10:29; 13:16; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

Another reason Christ could not be equal to Almighty God is because Almighty God created the spirit-being that would later become Jesus Christ. This means that Christ did not always exist, even though he has now inherited

everlasting life through his faith and obedience to every word of his heavenly Father (Mt. 4:4). The next scriptures describe Almighty God as the only Spirit-being that has always existed, and He did not have a beginning like every other created being.

Now **to the King eternal, immortal**, invisible God (the only God) **who alone is wise**, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen (1Tim. 1:17; cf. 6:15-16; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

I (Paul) urge you in the sight of **God** (Almighty) **who gives life to all things**, and before Christ Jesus (Almighty God's son) who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, ¹⁴that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, ¹⁵which He (Almighty God) will manifest in His (Almighty God's) own time (because no one, not even Christ, knows when this will occur; cf. Mk. 13:32), **He** (Almighty God) **who is the blessed and only Potentate** (Sovereign), **the King of kings and Lord of lords** (a title that Christ shares by delegation from his heavenly Father; cf. Ex. 23:20-22), ¹⁶**who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see** (so the Potentate, or Sovereign, is not Christ because many men have seen Christ), to whom be honor and everlasting power.

Amen (1Tim. 6:13-16; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

The spirit-being that became known as Jesus Christ was created by Almighty God as an angel and given the title of a "Morning Star", as was the individual who sinned against Almighty God and became known as Satan (cf. Isa. 14:12).

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you (John) these things in the churches. **I** (Christ) **am** the root and offspring of (King) David, **the bright and Morning Star** (Rev. 22:16; cf. Nu. 24:17; 2Pet. 1:19; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

By combining these references with the next scripture, it is clear that Almighty God created more than one spirit-being with the title of Morning Star.

To what were its (the Earth's) foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷When the **morning stars** sang together (presumably prior to Lucifer's rebellion), and all the sons (angels) of God shouted for joy? (Job 38:6-7; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Because the Morning Star, who later became known as Jesus Christ, faithfully obeyed Almighty God, he was granted the right to carry many of his Creator's titles.

Behold, I (Almighty God) send an Angel before you to keep (protect) you (nation of Israel) in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. ²¹Beware of him and obey his voice (cf. Mt. 17:5), do not provoke him, for he will not pardon your transgressions; for **My** (Almighty God's) **name is in him** (cf. Jn. 5:43). ²²But if you indeed obey his voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries (Ex. 23:20-22; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

In one of Isaiah's prophecies, it is confirmed that Jesus Christ carries some of Almighty God's titles because he (Christ) represents Him (Almighty God).

For unto us a child is born (Jesus Christ), unto us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder. And his name will be called

Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father (cf. Isa. 22:21-23; Eph. 3:15), Prince of Peace (Isa. 9:6; Ed. notes in parentheses).

It is only because Jesus Christ proved faithful and obedient to his heavenly Father, that he carries these titles.

All things that the Father has are mine. Therefore I said that it (God's Holy Spirit) will take of mine and declare it to you (Jn. 16:15; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

When Jesus Christ finishes the commission that his heavenly Father gave him, he will hand all power and authority back to Almighty God. Again, showing that all authority in heaven and earth originates from Almighty God, and will return in its fullness to Him.

Then comes the end (after Christ's millennial rule and the final judgment of sin is completed; cf. Rev. 20:11-15), when **he** (Christ) **delivers the kingdom to God the Father**, when he (Christ) puts an end to all rule and all authority and power (1Cor. 15:24; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

The final scripture, used by some to claim that Christ was equal to his Father, is usually Page 3 translated inaccurately and can be misleading. Therefore, the following section will be corrected in order to provide a better understanding of the original intent.

Let this mind be in you which was also in **Christ Jesus**, ⁶**who** being in the form of God (as Adam originally was created; cf. Gen. 1:26-27 – see studies: Symbolism), **did not consider equality with God something to be grasped** (which is exactly what Satan attempted to do; cf. Isa. 14:12-14), ⁷but (instead) made himself of no reputation, taking

the form of a servant, and coming in the likeness of men (Php. 2:5-7; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Therefore, Christ was not equal with his heavenly Father, nor did he attempt to become equal with Almighty God, which was one of Satan's sins resulting in his expulsion from God's presence. Instead, Christ's "oneness" with his heavenly Father was describing the singleness of mind and purpose shared by both God Almighty and Jesus Christ (Jn. 10:30). Christ always clarified that only Almighty God is to be worshipped and only Almighty God represents goodness in its ultimate sense.

Then Jesus said to him (Satan), 'Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve' (Mt. 4:10; Ed. note in parenthesis; cf. Jn.4:21-24).

So he (Christ) said to him (rich young ruler), 'Why do you call me (Christ) good? **No one is good but One, that is, God** (Almighty). But if you want to enter life (everlasting), keep the commandments (Mt. 19:17; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

If Christ was equal to his heavenly Father, Christ would have included himself as being good, in the ultimate sense. However, Christ did not say this because he knew that his Father was greater than he (Jn. 14:28).

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