

#7 God is Greater than His Son

1 John 10:24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly. 25 Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. 26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one. 31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. 32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? 33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God. 34 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? 35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; 36 Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God? 37 If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him. 39 Therefore they sought again to take him: but he escaped out of their hand,

2 The seventh attribute we shall review this morning concerning the Doctrine of Christ is that God is greater than His Son Jesus, and thus if God is greater than His Son, and we already read the words of Jesus saying that "God is greater than all", then God would have to be greater than Jesus as well, even though Jesus said I and my Father are one. And how can I say this? Because Jesus Himself said it in:

John 14: 28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I. 29 And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe. 30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me. 31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.

3 Notice he said my Father is greater than I . Now the Trinitarians believe that the Father, Son and Holy Ghost are three individuals making up the Godhead, and they believe that all three are co-equal and co-eternal. But when Jesus said "my Father is greater than I", this word "greater" was translated from a Greek word which not only means greater but also it means elder. Therefore when the Trinitarian tells you that Jesus was co-eternal and co-equal with the Father, how can that be when the Son of God denies it Himself. All sons have beginnings. Then how could the Son be the Eternal Father as they claim Isaiah 9:6 declares?

4 Now, the next few Scriptures, I would like to show you how it is that God is greater than His Son. For if the Father is greater which not only means Greater but also elder, then there must be tell tale signs of this relationship with His Son that shows the role of the Father as being greater than His son.

5 Number one is: Headship, or Ruler-ship: The Father is the head over the son if in fact the Father is greater than the son as Jesus said. And we see this in I Corinthians 11:3 3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. Notice Paul said, "The head of Christ is God", Therefore we can establish that Headship is the number One attribute showing that God is greater than His Son.

Jesus established well that he looked to God as indeed His Lord, master or ruler in his prayer seen in Matthew 11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Now, the Greek word for Lord here was kurios which means: controller, as in the one who is in control, it also means lord or master.

6 Notice in 1 Corinthians 3:21-23 the Apostle Paul speaks of ownership as in ruler-ship, and he tells us that Christ belongs to God. Ownership. 21 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; 22 Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; 23 And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

That means if Christ is God's or belongs to God, then he is not his own man. And if you are Christ's then you are not supposed to be your own man either. For no man is an island unto Himself. That is why the son showed in his very life that he was subject to the Father in all things.

7 Therefore, number two is: subjection: for if the Father is greater than his son, the son must be subject to His Father in all things. So we will look at subjection for a few minutes as one of the attributes of the Father being greater than His son. And to be subject to the Father places the son in a subservient role to the Father. The word subservient means: Subordinate in capacity or function. 2. servile which means 1. Abjectly submissive; a: servile as in servant: b. Of or relating to servitude or forced labor. 3. Useful as a means or an instrument; serving to promote an end. The word subservient comes from two words, Sub meaning: to place lower than, and servant meaning to do service for as we see Jesus came to serve the will of His Father.

We see this relationship between Father and the servant son as prophesied in Zechariah 3:8 where God declares that He will bring forth "My servant the Branch".

8 Again in the New Testament we see in Matthew 12:18 that Jesus was considered God's servant. 9 And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue: 10 And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him. 11 And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? 12 How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days. 13 Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other. 14 Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him. 15 But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all; 16 And charged them that they should not make him known: 17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, 18 Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. 19 He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. 20 A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory. 21 And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

9 And again Jesus is called "servant" in Philippians 2:1-17 "If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of

Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. 14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; 16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain. 17 Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

10 So we see the message Paul was trying to get across to us, that Jesus set aside his own desires, and took on the role of a servant and was obedient to the Father in all things, even when it came to dying on the cross in obedience to the Father's request of Him. And this Paul says is the very mind or attitude that God desires of us, and we can not possibly enter into this kind of role unless the Father is working in us to will and to do that which He has willed.

11 And therefore in this role as a willingly obedient servant Jesus willingly became subject to the Father in all things as we see in 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

12 We also see this willingness to please His Father in being subject in doing and saying all that the Father had instructed him to do and say as we see in his Prayer to the Father in John 17:1 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: 2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. 4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. 6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. 7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. 8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

13 Number Three is obedience: for if the son is subject to His Father then it means He must be obedient to the Father in all things as well.

Matthew 20:23 And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

14 What visions are 56-0421 P:44 But now, when God wanted to use His gift, Christ. And He picked up Christ and said, "Now, wait, You leave this home, and you go away and be gone four days. And they're going to send for You, but don't You go, because Lazarus going to die. And on the fourth day You return back; You're going to find a stone laying over the grave. I'm going to get glory to Myself, and I want You have them to take away the stone, and then You speak. And when You speak Lazarus' name, he's coming forth." Jesus obedient to the Father, does

nothing, He said, till the Father showed Him first in a vision. Does the Bible say that? How many read it this week since we've been talking about it? Saint John 5:19. Yes, sir. Jesus said, "I do nothing at all, until the Father shows Me first, then I go do what He tells Me. I do nothing except He shows Me." That's right. Jesus said that. Did He tell the truth? He had to.

15 Not only was Jesus Obedient to the Father in things which He knew was not in His role as a son to do, but He was obedient in everything the Father expected Him to do.

Matthew 26: 36-42 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. 37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. 40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. 42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. 43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

16 So Jesus was not even allowed to show favoritism in his passing out position because he would not go beyond the limits his Father had constrained him to.

The Apostle Paul spoke of this attribute of obedience in Romans 5:19 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Hebrews 5:7-8 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; Notice in Jesus prayer to the Father in Gethsemane, it was not silent prayer at all. It was in Tears and in fear of the cross he went to His Father. But in all this, he had learned obedience during his short life by the things that he suffered. And in all of this he did not put his own desire first, but submitted his own life into the hands of His Father.

17 Philippians 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Now, the key to this obedience in such a drastic hour was that he had a prayer life that would put any to shame. We are told in Scripture that he often prayed all night to His Father, so when it came time for the ultimate test, he was ready and yet even still through all this preparation he was still tested mightily.

18 Notice what Luke's testimony was concerning the prayer life of Christ Jesus. Luke 6:12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

So you see, Hebrews 5:8 tells us that he learned this kind of obedience through the testings he had gone through.

19 Communion 57-0418 P:14 Now, if God did not spare His Own Son from the cruel testing, then He will not spare you or I from the cruel testing. And Jesus was here confronting the greatest test that He had ever had. Gethsemane laid just before Him, where that once and final all-sufficient test must come, when the burdens of the entire world laid upon His blessed shoulder. There was no one in all heavens or earth could ever stand it but Him. And to know that all of the sins, of past sins, and present sins, and future sins, rested upon this decision. And it was one of the most greatest victories that Christ ever won or proved His great Messiahship, as when He said to God, "Not My will; Thine be done." That was the greatest victory He had ever won. All the demons of torment

was around to tempt Him and try Him. And when we get right with God, when our hearts become pure and the Holy Spirit has taken Its place in our heart, it's the most glorious thing to have testing. The Bible tells us that our testing and trials are more precious to us than silver and gold of this world. So we are--should be thankful.

The Apostle Paul tells us the chief role of a servant is to be obedient to those who have the rule over us.

Hebrews 13: 17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Ephesians 6:5 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;

20 And our obedience must follow the same pattern that was established in Christ Jesus as Paul says in 2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Finally we have a fourth attribute showing that God is greater than His Son Jesus in that God anointed Jesus for the role he was to play on earth and then God instructed him in his role..

Hebrews 1:9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

21 We see this prophesied also in Psalms 45:7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

22 John 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. 20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel. 21 For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. 22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

23 So we see the manifestation of this subjection and obedience of the son to His Father who he upholds as His Lord and Master, His controller as we see the fulfillment in the next few Scriptures.

John 5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

John 5:37 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.

John 7:16 Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. 17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

John 14:10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

John 12:49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

John 8:38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.

John 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

John 14:31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.

John 10:18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.