



BEING A SON OF GOD

Dr Stephen Smith, 26 April 2015

But as for the priests, the sons of Zadok, who took care of my holy place when the children of Israel were turned away from me, they are to come near me to do my work, they will take their places before me, offering to me the fat and the blood, says the Lord.

They are to come into my holy place and they are to come near to my table, to do my work and have the care of my house.

Ezekiel 44:15-16

To minister to God begins with clean hands and pure heart. Its rewards are different; instead of man's approval and recognition, the sons of Zadok find accolade from the Lord. His presence insures that piece reigns and **every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs (Ez.44:29)**. Peace will rest upon the houses as they minister to them holiness and the way of the Lord.

So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have become your Father'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'?

Hebrews 1:4, 5

CALLED TO SHARE IN SUCH DIVINE GLORY

The writer of the Book of Hebrews lifts the Lord Jesus to His supreme position as God's Son, and then reminds us we have been called to share in such Divine Glory.

"Son of God or Sons of God"

The true sons of *Zadok* are a spiritual lineage, not a blood lineage. It derives from *Tsadoq*, *Tsaddiq*, *Tsidqah*, *Tsedeq* and *Tsedaqah*.

Zadok means *righteous man, righteous, justified, righteousness* – since Melchi "zedek" or "Zadok" means "king of righteousness," this composite definition begins to take shape as a descriptor for all who are like him.

It is clear that at one time "sons" referred to as angels. But since God refers to Jesus as His Firstborn Son, we know that the prior expressions denoted the fact that there were spiritual creatures called "sons" but who were not born of God in the same manner true of the Lord Jesus – or of us, the Lord's brothers.

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – Children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

John 1:12, 13

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.

Job 1:6 (KJV)

When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Job 38:7 (KJV)

Christ was the Word, the Expression of God, and the Creator of all. But to be a son of God, a person must be born of woman and then born again by the resurrection from the dead.

BORN OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD

To enter the Kingdom of God an individual must be born of water, that is, formed in the human womb in water. He or she also must be born of the Spirit of God that is, formed in the Spirit.

Jesus said in answer, Truly, I say to you, If a man's birth is not from water and from the Spirit, it is not possible for him to go into the kingdom of God.

John 3:5 (Amplified)

One cannot become a true son of God until he is born of the Spirit. After he is born of the Spirit, then his physical body, dead because of sin, must be redeemed by being adopted.

Till we all come to the harmony of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to full growth, to the full measure of Christ:

So that we may be no longer children, sent this way and that, turned about by every wind of teaching, by the twisting and tricks of men, by the deceits of error.

Ephesians 4:13-14

It is one matter to make a profession of Christ and receive the down payment of the Spirit of God. It is quite another matter to persevere in faith until we attain the inward resurrection necessary for the outward resurrection of the body.

This is why it is written that it is the individual who overcomes who will be termed God's son and inherit all things.

He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Revelation 21:7

Inheriting the glory described in the last two chapters of the Book of Revelation, and being a son of God, depends on our overcoming all that comes against us during our discipleship.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN BEING A SON OF GOD?

The writer of Hebrews emphasizes the Name of Jesus as God's Son. This is the inheritance of Jesus.

The writer does this in order to point out the heavenly calling that rests on the members of the royal priesthood, of whom the Lord Jesus is the supreme Head.

But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

Hebrews 1:2

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Hebrews 1:3

Christ is the "exact representation" of the Being of the Father. This means that whoever has seen Jesus (by revelation and faith) has seen the Father, because Jesus is the exact representation of the Father.

So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

Hebrews 1:4

For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have become your Father'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'?

Hebrews 1:5

Nourishing The Divine Seed

God has become our Father because we have been born of Him. Our body is adopted, it is true. But our inner spiritual nature has been born of God. If we choose to nourish the Divine Seed that has been conceived in us, the result one day will be a son in the very image of the Father.

That which is in us is Divine. It is the Divine Nature. Therefore we can bear the fruit of righteousness and holiness to an extent that never can be true of any other religion, philosophy, or plan of salvation.

No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.

1 John 3:9

But about the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever, and righteousness will be the sceptre of your kingdom.'

Hebrews 1:8

Jesus Was The Word

Prior to being born of woman, the Person we call Jesus was the Word. He was the Expression of God's Being through whom God created all things, including the angels.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.

Hebrews 1:9

The Old Testament is addressing two individuals, primarily: the Word, who is the Creator of all; and Satan, the rebel against God, the author of the Antichrist spirit that is in the world.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have become your Father'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'?

Hebrews 1:5

The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.'

Luke 1:35

And who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 1:4

The Word was termed the Son of God by His physical birth and by His resurrection. The Word was termed Lord and Christ by the Holy Spirit speaking through the Apostle Peter.

Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.
Acts 2:36

Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.'
Matthew 28:18