Who Is God and Did Jesus Christ Preexist?

by Brian Convery, 8-14-02 [My comments within quotes will be within brackets.]

Dear Brethren I hope that the peace and the grace and the mercy of our Father and Brother, Jesus Christ are touching your lives in these troubling times.

I often think back to the words of God spoken by the mouth of the messenger of God to Daniel thousands of years ago in addressing this day and age. Dan. 12:4:

4: "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

This scripture is a very accurate summation of the circumstance and substance of today.

The world is running to and fro at a hectic pace. Society is running amok and the nations of this world are trying desperately to rebuild the commonality and false sense of unity and security of the tower of Babel.

We are witness to the most unprecedented increase in knowledge that man has experienced since prior to the flood. In the push of a button we have access to the sum total of mankind's knowledge via the Internet.

At the very same time we are exposed to filth and evil throughout our daily lives as no generation has before. It is woven through and into the very fabric of society at all levels.

The government educational system teaches our children that God has no place in education. They are taught that all religions are to be treated equally, that none, not one, is superior in quality or character or truth to another.

Our children are bombarded with eastern teachings which encourage them to explore and experience the diversity of different religions as well as their cultural and societal activities so they can appreciate and accept their place in that we are all children of mother earth. They are taught that they must undertake the challenge to bring peace to the world via the one world government movement. Once again, this is no different from what we read in Genesis 11:1-4.

- 1: "And the whole earth was of one lip and of one speech.
- 2: And it happened, as they traveled from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar. And they lived there.
- 3: And each one said to his neighbor, come, let us make brick, and thoroughly burn them. And they had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar
- 4: And they said, come, let us build a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and make a name for ourselves, that we not be scattered on the face of all the earth."

The balance of the chapter tells us why God said no to this type of activity.

5: "And YHWH came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of Adam had built.
6: And YHWH said, Behold, the people are one, and the lip one to all of them, and this they are beginning to do, and now all which they have imagined to do will not be restrained from them.
7: Come, let <u>US</u> go down and confuse their lip so that they cannot understand one another's speech."

Once again brethren mankind is attempting to build a, "tower of oneness" for all the wrong reasons. God said no before and will again but it is our personal responsibility to be cognizant of not being sucked into the deceptive ways of the devil on this or any other ungodly movement. We are to be different!

Daniel was told that during this day and age, "Many shall be purified made white and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand" (Dan. 12:10). As scripture tells us it isn't enough to just understand. We are to be made white, be purified and be refined.

We do that by completing the instructions in verse 3.

3: "Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and

ever."

Rev. 19:8 tells us of these wise ones,

8: "And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints."

Brethren Daniel 12:3 is the fulfillment of the purpose for human existence. Most who have lived and died have not understood this. In a time to come they will however.

We who are called of God cannot be of benefit to them at this time but we can be of benefit to those who are alive today.

God has a plan of salvation for all of mankind. It is patterned after the creation around us. It is patterned after a family. Two become one and thus produce offspring or seed. This plan of salvation is a mystery to most as Paul tells us in Ephesians 5:30-32.

30: "For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones [Christ, the second Adam].

31: For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife [The Church, the second Eve], and the two shall become one flesh. 32: This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the Church."

Brethren, this is a great mystery to most of mankind at this time. That is part of God's plan. It should not be however to those called of God.

A Father, Son, bride, and children. Yes, a family! The pattern is undeniable throughout the scriptures. Yet I have read lately where men deny that God is a family and is not trying to grow that family. That family is the oneness of God! We will see in this study what God has to say about "being one" with another. We will also see that the example of being "one" physically, is only a type or shadow of what it is to be "one" spiritually. We do not have to go to great theologians to obtain this information for it is written throughout the bible in plain and simple language.

Just as we read in Ephesians that we are of the body of

our Husband and that we are to be joined and become "one," so too will we see that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

What was the purpose ordained by God for a man and a woman becoming one flesh? Genesis 1:27-28:

27: "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28: Then God blessed them, and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Here we can see that man was created in the image of God. This image has several major tenets here. The first is that of being male and female. The second is that they can be fruitful and multiply. The third is that they can fill the earth and even subdue it. The fourth is that they will have dominion over the other 3 types of flesh that live on the earth.

I have written about all this extensively in the past and I will not get into a lot of that in this study. You can get that information off of the web site: steve.bruns.com/brianconvery.html. What we are focusing on here is that the pattern of creation, the oneness of two beings to produce others after their kind is modeled after that of God. It is only a shadow of the real thing.

Becoming one with another physically is divinely inspired. That oneness is not to be defiled. It is sacred in the eyes of God. That is why Paul tells us to glorify God in both body and spirit. I Cor. 6:12-20:

12: "All things to me are lawful but not all things contribute. All things to me are lawful, but I will not be ruled by any.

13: Food is for the stomach and the stomach for food [They both have a purpose designed by God], but God will destroy both it and them. [That will take place when there is a new heaven and new earth created.] Now the body is not for sexual immorality [porneia] but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. [Once again a common purpose

for them both.]

- 14: And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.
- 15: Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!
- 16: Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For the two, He says, shall become one flesh.
- 17: But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. [Do we grasp this simple explanation of oneness here?]
- 18: Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

 19: Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which you have from God, and you are not your own?

 20: For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

Yes God places tremendous importance on being "one" with another human being and with the Lord.

We will see how that pattern is addressed later in the study between God and us, but for the moment we are looking at the physical aspect of it.

Satan has turned this vital aspect to understanding the plan of salvation into a tool of not only lust and filthy behavior, but into a tool for deceiving the very called of God to stray from the truth of the scriptures.

Do you remember what those who would build the city and the tower sought from our earlier reading of Genesis 11?

They sought to reach to the heavens and make a name for themselves, verse 4. Yes the top of this tower (which by the way is the reason for building pyramids around the world) was to be like God. Yes they wanted to make their name above all other names. This is the same old deceptive pattern of Satan the devil. That is his desire. God tells us about it in Isaiah 14:12-15. Look at the similarities to Genesis 11.

- 12: "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! You are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!
- 13: For you have said in your heart: `I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation, on the farthest sides of the north;
- 14: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'
- 15: Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit."

Satan is once again deceiving man to unite and pool their resources in an attempt to become great.

This deception is not isolated to those not called of God. Satan is working on everyone. He is trying to blind the church to the truth of who and what God is and the awesome purpose God has for creating mankind.

Satan's spirit is flooding the earth. Paul told Timothy of this very thing often. It is a vital warning to us today. Listen to just one of these descriptions and admonitions in 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

- 1: "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:
- 2: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
- 3: unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,
- 4: traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
- 5: having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!"

Here the apostle Paul is telling us plainly that these will be the traits of many who will appear godly. How do they do this? Through deceit! These traits will be covered in a shroud of deceit. They in fact may not ever see them in themselves. They may be genuine in their thought because they in fact are deceived themselves.

For instance, they will not come out and tell you they are "lovers of money." They will twist scripture to

convince you that they are God's stewards of your tithes and offerings. They won't come out and tell you they are "unforgiving and proud." Instead they twist scripture to claim it is their duty and their's alone to "mark" and "disfellowship" those who disagree with their teachings. Yet they prove they are lovers of themselves.

We are not to hate them, but rather hate what they do. We are to edify the Body in love. With the outgoing concern for all that Christ displayed.

Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 about their methods.

- 13: "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles [ones sent forth] of Christ.
- 14: And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.
- 15: Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

Brethren, these are the words of God given to us for our admonition. We are to never become great in our own eyes or want to appear so in the eyes of others.

Those of us, the body of Christ who have accepted the responsibilities to teach from the word of God must do so with the fundamental purpose of turning another to seek a one on one relationship with Jesus Christ our Brother and Husband. We are not to get in between them but lead others to the doorstep of what God calls "oneness".

In John 17:20-21 we get a glimpse at it.

20: "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through **their** words; 21: that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in **Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me."

Yes, Satan has succeeded in defiling the oneness of two physical human beings in the flesh. Now he is working overtime to destroy and defile the whole concept and pattern of spiritual oneness and the results of it.

It takes two to be "at one." This has not changed from the beginning. Yes, brethren these are troubling times. We are told black is white, and white is black.

In warning about the dangers that will persist at the end of the age we read the following in Matthew 24:24.

24: "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

We are told in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12.

- 9: "The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,
- 10: and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
- 11: And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,
- 12: that they all may be condemned [#2919 give an opinion upon, judge] who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

I have recently read with great grief, that brethren are being taught and some are believing that Jesus Christ never existed prior to his coming in the flesh, and that God consists of just one being.

These are horrible deceits taught by deceived men.

If we do not understand the nature of God, then we will not understand God's true purpose for our existence and our part in the plan of salvation. Satan the devil hates both God and God's plan for mankind. He hates you and me as well, and is doing everything he is allowed to do, to keep us from that awesome and most beautiful truth about our destiny.

I as well as others have written in length about that plan and our part in it. That is not my purpose today, even though I have and will weave it into this study of who God is and the pre-existence of Christ. Plainly speaking my purpose for this study today is to clearly and simply take the word of God and let it tell us about who and what God is and how Jesus Christ fits into that.

Lets start in the Old Testament scriptures and as we go through this study we will see that they are in harmony with the New Testament scriptures and teachings. Genesis 1:1.

1: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

I must first state that if you do not believe Genesis 1:1 stop reading for you will not comprehend the rest of this study.

There was a beginning to the physical creation process. It started with the heavens (#8064 *shameh*) and the earth (#776 *erets*).

Who created this? Verse one, "God" did! God here in Hebrew is #430 in the Strongs. It says of it,

"Elohiym plural of #433; gods in the ordinary sense; but specifically used (in the plural thus, especially with the article) of supreme God; occasionally applied by way of deference to magistrates, and sometimes of a superlative."

The Brown Driver Briggs (BDB) has a lot to say about it. In all that it says it continually states that it is plural in number and plural intensive.

In the International Standard Bible Encyclopedia we read the following under the heading of "Names of God".

"Elohim, this word is plural in form, and although it most frequently means "God" it can be used in a plural sense. Thus it can refer to other gods (Ex. 20:3 Joshua 24:16), foreign gods (Jer. 5:7) gods of the nations (Isa. 36:18), etc... Sometimes it appears to mean beings with divine qualities or authority, either angelic or human (Ps. 8:5; 82:1,6; 138:1) . . ."

In the Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament we read,

"The etymology of *elohim* like that of *el* is

contested. With few exceptions the singular *eloah* occurs in the O.T. only in post-exilic literature; hence one may assume that the singular presupposes the plural. The Hebrew alone suggests the conclusion that *elohim* (along with *elim*) is a plural form of *el* from which a singular was formed secondarily . . .

Elohim is usually considered an abstract, intensifying, majestic, or dominical plural. Yet the fact that from the outset the word also apparently indicates the numerical plural gods', may be explained only with difficulty in this manner. If one wishes to trace this double usage to a unified origin, one may theorize that an originally genuine plural was subsequently or simultaneously understood as an abstract plural. Whether the expression should then be interpreted as a summation of the 'divine powers' as a unity must remain at least questionable. In any case the singular sense of the plural form is so uncontested for the O.T. that it used the word throughout without limitations (suspicion of polytheism). With 2600 occurrences *elohim* is the second most frequent substrata in the O.T. following ben 'son'."

It is important to establish at the beginning that the Hebrew word for God is *eloh-im*. That is a simple fact. This is the name that God chose to be called by. It is also a simple fact that it is plural. That is an accepted linguistic fact. Regardless of how it is translated now, it was always understood to be plural in number. That appears to be a mystery to many today. It is no different than the "oneness" of God. The scriptures teach us to be "at one" takes two beings. There is a physical and spiritual type of each. *Eloh-im* is "at one" and that is why the scriptures say God is the one and only God. Remember *Elohim* is plural no matter what the English translation denotes.

There are many false gods just as there are many false Christs and just as there are many false apostles. I have quoted four sources as to the grammatical and linguistic meaning of the word *elohim*. They all agree as do many others I could site. The last source shows that there is a discrepancy of use among some scholars (religious). The linguists however do not deal with this. They take the meaning for what it is, not for

what they devise it to mean. They tell us that regardless of whether one refers to it as an intensive abstract or numerical equivalent it is plural in its basic meaning and use.

This is very important to understand for without this basic knowledge one falls very short of the knowledge of God as to why, how, and what God is doing with us.

In Genesis 1:1 we read that "*Elohim* created the heavens and the earth." *Elohim* did that at the "beginning".

We read about this event and its participants in John 1:1-3.

- 1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2: He was in the beginning with God.
- 3: All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

To show who the Word was, verse 14 of that same chapter tells us:

14: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

Yes this Word who was at the beginning with *Elohim* and who was *Elohim* became the only begotten of the Father. It is very important to note here in John that it does not say only begotten of the *Elohim* but specifically of the Father. That is a particular member of the *Elohim*. Here in John we see in simple and clear language that there were two beings at the beginning at the very least. This totally supports the Hebrew language used in Genesis as we will continue to see.

Remember all things that were created or made were done through the one known as the Word.

There are those today teaching that God/*Elohim* in Genesis 1:1 is singular contrary to the meaning of the Hebrew word, and patterns of God, and contrary to the Greek language as well.

They are teaching that there was only one being making up the *Elohim*.

Many of them teach that one being is that whom we have come to know as the Father in the N.T. scriptures and that Jesus Christ was not even a conscious being prior to his physical birth to Mary. Does the Hebrew language support that? No! Does the pattern of creation support that? No! Does the bible support that? No! Right here in the "book of beginnings" in chapter one we are going to see that there was more than one being comprising the *Elohim* of creation.

We are also going to see from the scriptures both in the O.T. and the N.T. that creation came through the one known as the Word of God who later became Jesus the Christ, the Son of God.

Elohim is used 29 times in the first chapter of Genesis if I have counted right.

We are told in this chapter of the creation of the heavens, including the sun, moon, and stars; about the earth and the four types of flesh, and about all the trees and grasses etc. that grow on it.

We see that God put into each of the living things the ability to reproduce after their own kind. Verses 11, 12, 21, 22, 24, and 25 address this. For instance verse 11 states.

- 11: "Then God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth; and it was so."
- 21: "So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
- 22: And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

Here we see God instituted laws governing the functions of reproduction in the living things that were created whether flora or fauna.

This pattern was placed in all the physical creation as a shadow of what was to come. Each was to reproduce after their own kind. There was <u>NOT</u> to be a mixing of species. Satan has twisted that understanding and law of God to the point in the minds of men that they are even mixing the genetic code of species today to create new things.

This is all contrary to God's purpose.

God set the patterns of creation in the things that are made as an undeniable proof and pattern to what They are doing.

Romans the first chapter tells us of these things. Verse 20,

20: "for the unseen things of Him from *the* creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things made, both His eternal power and Godhead, for them to be without excuse."

What is the outcome of not recognizing and acknowledging these truths of God? Verses 21 through 25:

21: "Because knowing God, they did not glorify Him as God [many today know of Jesus but do not glorify Him as God], nor were thankful. But *they* became vain in their reasonings [rather than accept the plain and simple word of God], and their undiscerning heart was darkened.

22: Professing to be wise, they became foolish 23: and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into a likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds, and four-footed animals, and creeping things.

24: Because of this, God gave them up to uncleanness in the lusts of *their* hearts, their bodies to be dishonored among themselves,

25: who changed the truth of God into the lie, and worshiped and served the created thing [Satan the devil] more than the Creator [Jesus the Christ], who is blessed forever. Amen."

Because of their denial of who and what God is and doing, they have lost sight of the very pattern. Instead of following the pattern of male and female becoming

one for a holy purpose of becoming fruitful and multiplying they have believed the lie of Satan the devil and have become confused and outright devious in the eyes of God. Verses 26-27:

26: "Because of this, God gave them up to dishonorable passions, for even their females changed the natural use to that contrary to nature. 27: And likewise, the males also forsaking the natural use of the female burned in their lust toward one another, males with males working out shamefulness, and receiving back within themselves the reward which was fitting for their error."

We are not to reject the simple pattern and purpose for being "one." It is not about sex. It is about being fruitful and multiplying. It takes two to do that. But it must be according to the word of God. It is accomplished through the oneness of a man and a woman. They form a loving bond and wish to share that with the fruit of their bodies. They take on the responsibility of creating another being after their kind and make a commitment to teaching it to go in the way that it should. It all takes a process of time until the fruit of their bodies takes on the same responsibility with another human being of the opposite sex as God ordained. The world has just about lost this understanding. Satan has been very efficient. The world as a whole sees this union as sex between two people. It has been relegated to an act of lust and so often is perverted into unspeakable acts between men and men, women and women and men and women with animals. Society is rampant with these filthy perversions of the purpose of the union of a man and a woman.

It should come as no surprise that the author of confusion is able to perpetrate such deceit on the Church that even the elect have fallen into delusion and believe a lie that only one being was responsible for creation in the sense that there is only one being comprising God.

So how did God do all that we read of in Genesis 1? Is God as intrinsic abstract? Absolutely not! In answering the first question we answer the second. *Elohim* in Genesis 1 is not referring to "divine power"

or "divine might" but to two beings who are at one with each other and who wish to share that with other beings who are created in Their image and likeness.

We read in Genesis 1:2 that,

2: "The earth became [#1961 hayah], without form and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."

Here we see that God was not hovering over the waters but rather the "spirit" of God. This we know from scripture, is the power, the essence of God by which God creates. Spirit here is #7307 in the Strong's. It is *ruwach*. It is described as "breathe or blow." We can certainly see its effects. In its very essence it is the power of God. After seeing the creation of the heavens, the earth, the fish, the birds, the land creatures and the trees and the grasses we come to a very special part of creation week. Gen. 1:26.

26: "Then God said, "Let <u>Us</u> make man in <u>Our</u> image, according to <u>Our</u> likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Brethren, here in the plain and simple language of the bible God/*Elohim* clearly tells us God is composed of more than one being. We are told here that there are at the very least two beings. "After Our image" and "according to Our likeness" and "let Us make man."

There is no guile in these scriptures. There is no hidden meaning or agenda to the Hebrew words used here.

Here *Elohim* is undeniably used in context as plural as it should be. Remember these are God's own words!

Let me take a minute to explain something here which is very important to me.

I have a friend who is not a Christian. He is a Karaite Jew. I have found him to be more noble minded than most "Christians" I have ever known. I say this

because in spite of his personal beliefs and traditions he will not give a false answer to a specific question even if it puts those beliefs and traditions in a questionable light. He will give a straight and truthful answer to me whether he agrees with my use of it or not.

That is one of the reasons I ask him to explain certain Hebrew words and phrases. The other reason is that he is qualified linguistically to do so. He is an editor on the "Dead Sea Scrolls Publication Project" the official publication of the Dead Sea Scrolls, and is a researcher for the "Hebrew University Bible Project." He also holds a degree in Archaeology and Biblical Studies from Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is both fluent in English and Hebrew. His name is Nehemia Gordon. When I visited with him and his wife this past spring I asked him if the Hebrew word *Elohim* was indeed plural. He said it was and is. This all came up during a 4 or 5 hour discussion which resulted from him asking me and 3 other Church of God members about the "plan of salvation" we talk about.

Now does Nehemia agree with me on that? No, I don't think so. But in spite of that he gives a straight forward answer with no guile or deceit attached to it.

I recently asked him how we know for a fact that the "Us and Our" of Genesis 1:26 really means that? How do we know it is plural? Let me show you his reply.

"In short, the word we/us is built into the Hebrew verb form or expressed as a suffix on the Hebrew noun. It can be expressed as a separate pronoun like the English we/us but this is usually only for extra emphasis. For example NA'ASE means 'we will make.' The 'we' is built into the verbal form. Below is a list of the future verb: E'ESE = I will make, TA'ASE = you will make, TA'ASI = you will make (f.sg.), Ya'ase = he will make, TA'ASE = she will make, NA'ASE = we will make, TA'ASU = you will make (m.pl.), TA'ASENA = you will make (f.pl.), YA'ASU = they will make, and TA'ASENA = they will make (f.pl.).

You can see that the future of every verb has 10 different forms depending on the one doing the action. The same is true with the past tense which

has a further 10 forms depending on who is doing the action. The present has 4 forms. I hope this clarifies the situation somewhat."

Well, yes it did and does. The English translation in Genesis 1:26 is absolutely correct.

Nehemia understood what I am writing about. In spite of that he gives me a very straight linguistic answer to my question. He does not filter it through his beliefs first. He is a trusted friend.

Some time back I had a friend question me on my understanding of Gen. 1:27. He said to me that in light of my profession of Gen. 1:26 that it specifically states, "He" over several times in reference to God in Gen. 1:27.

27: "So God created man in His image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

To me the answer was easy. That is the being known as the Word in John 1:1-3. For everything was made through him. The pattern was sure and complete to me. It didn't need a lot of explaining. But being the inquisitive type I thought I would look up the Hebrew word for "He" and "His".

I turned to Strong's and it sent me to the appendix. There I saw the Hebrew for "He" was #1931. Strong's says of it:

"Hiy, he; a prime word, the third person pronoun singular, he (she or it); only expressed when emphatic or without a verb; also (intensively) self, or (especially with the article) the same; sometimes (as demonstrative) this or that; occasionally (instead of copula) as or are: he, as for her, him (self), it, the same, she (herself), such, that (it), these, they, this, those, which (is), who."

With that I turned to the Brown Driver Briggs. That is one of the 2 books used by the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. It has a lot to say about #1931:

"pronoun of the 3rd person singular, he, she, used also (in both genders) for the neuter it . . . an emphatic he, (she, it, they), sometimes equivalent to himself (herself, itself, themselves), or

(especially with the article) that (those):"

The BDB has several pages of text on this word.

After reading all this I asked the question how does this apply to the other types of Genesis 1. I went back to the Strong's and found out this word was used in Genesis 1:5, 10, 16, 27 twice, and 31.

This same word is translated "its" in many verses of Genesis 1 as well.

It appeared to me the English translators were playing a theological game. When used of God it was "He" but when used of grass, herb, fruit tree, birds, cattle, etc, "it" was used when describing the pattern of reproduction, or reproducing.

I asked my friend Nehemia about the use of the word in Genesis 1 specifically in 1:12 and 1:27. One refers to flora and the other to God.

He responded with:

"Gen. 1:12 and 1:27 have suffixes, not prefixes. Gen. 1:12 *Leminehu* (twice) literally 'according to its kind;' suffix 'ehu' = his (3rd masculine singular). Gen. 1:27 *Betsalouo* 'in his image'; suffix 'o' = his (3rd masc. sing.). Both O and EHU have the same meaning, namely 'his.' Hebrew does not have a word for 'its', although 'its,' may sometimes be the equivalent in English of a Hebrew 'his/her.' As you know I don't use the Strong's Concordance and wouldn't know how to find a reference number. To learn more about these suffixes please refer to Geseneus Hebrew Grammar sec. 91 (pp. 254-259)."

That explanation was very helpful to me. It is apparent that in the Hebrew "its" can and should be translated "his." That helps explain why we find it used of God as "He" or "His."

Genesis 1:12 could very easily be translated, "And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to his kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to his kind. And God saw that it was good:"

The point I am making is that whichever way you look at Gen. 1:27 it is not in any way, shape or form, implying or stressing that *Elohim* is singular. There is no contradiction at all.

Both the context of Genesis the first chapter and the Hebrew language tell us that *Elohim*/God is plural. We read the account of the creation of John 1 earlier. Lets look at it in a little more detail and see the same thing spoken in Genesis 1. John 1:1-3:

- 1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2: He was in the beginning with God.
- 3: All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

In these 3 verses we have a tremendous amount of information. The setting is when? In the beginning! That is the same setting as Genesis 1:1. We are told there that God/*Elohim* created the heavens and the earth.

Here in John 1:1 we are told that the Word was with God and that the Word was God.

So here as in Genesis 1:26 and for that matter Gen. 11:7 we see God referring to themselves as Us, or more than one being. We are told here that the name of one of the *Elohim* was "the Word."

Verse 2 of John 1 confirms what was just said as to the Word being with God in the beginning.

The Interlinear Bible translates this verse as follows, "This One was in the beginning with God."

I recently read where one man claims the Greek here is mistranslated. He claims the Greek should only be translated as "it" and not "he."

He is obviously doing this to support his deceptive teaching of who and what God is.

The Greek word used for "He" or "This One" here is #3778 in the Strong's. It says of it:

"from the article #3588 and #846; the he (she or it) in this or that (often with article repeated)."

Vines says of it:

"houtos #3778, this, this person here, is always emphatic; it is used with this meaning, sometimes to refer to what precedes, eg Matt. 5:9 'he (shall be called great)'; John 6:46 he (hath seen); often rendered 'this' eg; Rom. 9:9, or 'this man'; eg Matt 27:58 RV; Jas. 1:25; 'the same', eg Luke 9:48."

Vines has more to say under the heading "This" but it only repeats the obvious. *Houtos* can and is used as a noun meaning "this one" being talked about.

That is why the English translation of the Greek as "He" or "This One" is perfectly correct, because it is talking about a being as part of the *Elohim*. It is not talking about the "power of God" or any other such thing. The context of both Genesis 1 and John 1 are very clear and simple to understand.

Look at John 1:3:

3: "All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

Lets get this straight. This being called the Word made everything that was made. Let that sink in for a moment.

There are those teaching today that Christ (who was the Word of God v.14) had no pre-existence prior to his birth to Mary. And let there be no mistake, Jesus Christ is the Word of God. (Rev. 19:13)

Remember verse 14 from earlier.

14: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

If you <u>do not believe</u> that the being who was called the Word <u>did become Jesus Christ</u> then I cannot be of any further assistance to you in clarifying the scriptures as to patterns and words. In 1 John 4:9 we are told:

9: "In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."

The Word had created everything that was made according to God. That clearly means that He whom we know as Jesus Christ pre-existed and was not "made". He was in the beginning with God and was God, the scriptures tell us.

Once again simple clear language. Unfortunately some try and do twist the scriptures to deceive others into their error and thus draw them from the truth.

The Interlinear Bible translated John 1:3 as follows:

"All things came into being through Him and without Him not even one thing came into being that has come into being."

This statement was inspired by God to be written after Christ had lived, died and was resurrected.

There is no mistaking what the apostle John is teaching us here. If Christ the Word was "made" then the bible has just lied to us for it says He made every single thing that has been made. He created the heavens and the earth and everything in them. He was the Being of the *Elohim* by which all things were made. He and his Father are one. One *Elohim* that is. John 10:30:

30: "I and My Father are one."

Just as in Genesis the first chapter we have seen that God is comprised of more than one being. These are the "Us" of Gen. 1:26 and Gen. 11:7.

This is an unmistakable pattern formed in the word of God. Look at John 1:4-5 in this creation context found here.

- 4: "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- 5: And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it."

To this very day the messengers and servants of darkness along with billions of deceived and deluded human beings do not comprehend the light. They do not understand why He came or who He is. Many of them struggle to explain the clear scriptures of God with obscure ones to enhance their errors.

We are not to take part in such things. We are to prove all things by the light of the Word of God.

We have seen two very clear accounts in the scriptures clearly telling us that God/*Elohim* consists of more than one being.

Are there any more accounts of this to be found in the bible?

Yes there are! Psalms 45:1-7:

- 1: "My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King; My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.
- 2: You are fairer than the sons of men; Grace is poured upon Your lips; therefore God [*Elohim*] has blessed You forever.
- 3: Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One, With Your glory and Your majesty.
- 4: And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of truth, humility, and righteousness; and Your right hand shall teach You awesome things.
- 5: Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies; the peoples fall under You.
- 6: Your throne, O God, [*Elohim*] is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.
- 7: You love righteousness and hate wickedness; therefore God, [*Elohim*] Your God [*Elohim*], has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."

It is unmistakable to an honest mind brethren that there are 2 *Elohim* being spoken about here. In fact, we will see that positively confirmed shortly from the use of these very scriptures in the New Testament.

If you were to read on in this chapter you would see there is a "royal daughter" also spoken about here in this Psalm. She is wearing beautiful clothing and she will enter the Kings palace.

At that time it tells us the Son's "earthly fathers" will become known as His sons and they will become princes on the earth. And the Son shall be praised forever and ever.

Here in Psalms 45 we see a capsulization of the plan of salvation. Two *Elohim*, one takes a submissive role to the other, a royal daughter with an entourage of virgins brought to the Son, they enter the palace with Him, those who were His earthly fathers become His sons, they become princes in the earth, and the Son's name shall be remembered in all generations and He will be praised forever and ever.

How do we know one *Elohim* here is the Father and the other, the Son? In a little while we will see that spoken clearly from the mouth of God.

Let's just refresh our memory about how God teaches us from the bible. Isaiah 28:9-11:

- 9: "Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? [Here are two questions, now comes the answers to them.] Those just weaned from milk! Those just drawn from the breasts! [God will feed us if we have matured enough to sit at the table one on one with Christ and eat solid food.]
- 10: For precept upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.
- 11: For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people,"

Yes God will teach us how to spiritually feed ourselves as long as we are not dependant on the milk of another. He will show us the patterns which are woven throughout the bible as to all doctrine we are to embrace and follow. That is how the bride follows Him wherever He goes.

That is what we are doing in this study today. He is teaching us in the language of the bible; here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept. In following this methodology of God, lets turn to the N.T. scriptures and read about these great events of

Psalms 45 so we are without excuse in understanding who the two *Elohim* are.

Hebrews 1:1-14 gives us an expanded account and perspective of Psalms 45 as well as who the particular parties are and what their basic functions have been and will be.

- 1: "God, who at various times and in differing ways spoke in the time past to the fathers by the prophets,
- 2: has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;
- 3: who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
- 4: having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.
- 5: For to which of the angels did He ever say: You are My Son, Today I have begotten You? And again: I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son?
- 6: But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: Let all the angels of God worship Him.
- 7: And of the angels He says: Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.
- 8: But to the Son He says: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.
- 9: You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions.
- 10: And: You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.
- 11: They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment;
- 12: Like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail.
- 13: But to which of the angels has He ever said: sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your

footstool?

14: Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?"

Does that not take your breath away brethren. What an awesome and beautiful account of what is repeated throughout the scriptures of the plan of salvation and how it starts.

Here we see two *Elohim* who put into motion an incredible plan to share their very existence with other beings which they have created.

To accomplish this it would take a sacrifice beyond human imagination by these *Elohim*.

To put aside any doubts or opportunity for deceivers to twist these clear scriptures here in Hebrews 1, lets take them by sentence and join them with other scriptures to see the incredible truth of God.

In verse one we read.

1: "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,"

Here we find the author of Hebrews setting the stage for teaching the listener about the O.T. and the N.T. spokesmen. He is also displaying a very clear understanding of what is contained in Psalms 45 which we read earlier.

We find in Psa. 45:16 a very significant statement.

16: "Instead of Your fathers shall be Your sons, whom You shall make princes in all the earth."

These fathers were the leaders of the tribes and households of Israel. They were the ones chosen to guide their families. It is also the common descriptive names given to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. But here in Hebrews and in Psalms 45 it is not referring to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob for they have a different designation in the plan of salvation. They will be part of the bride and as such kings and priests. These fathers mentioned here will be sons of the union of Christ and the bride.

I have covered all this in great detail in the study of the "Two Covenants" so we won't go there today.

The point being made here in Hebrews 1:1 is that the physical leaders of Israel or fathers of Israel who preceded the birth of Christ were spoken to by prophets of God.

We have often read about these accounts so we need not turn to them. It is an established fact to any who have spent time reading and studying the scriptures.

The important message being conveyed to the listener here in Hebrews 1:1 is that at one time this is how God talked with the majority of Israel.

So understanding that lets read verse 2 and see a contrast.

2: "has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds:"

Now that little verse is just jam packed full of information.

First however we are to understand that in the last days (which also include the time of the author of Hebrews) are a time when the Son would do the speaking and not the prophets. Their time has expired for that function. We can read about them in the scriptures but now it is Christ's time to speak to Israel and the gentiles.

Before we leave this point lets read Numbers 12:6-8.

- 6: "Then He said, Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.
- 7: Not so with My servant Moses; he is faithful in all My house.
- 8: I speak with him face to face, even plainly, and not in dark sayings (riddles); and he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moses?"

Here we see God explaining to Miriam and Aaron that

He had a different relationship with them as opposed to that which He had with Moses.

This is very important to establishing a pattern between how He taught people during the first and second covenants. Also He clearly states that He the Lord spoke to Moses "face to face" and that Moses saw "the form of the Lord".

It is no surprise that the teachers of deception have attacked these scriptures and have tried to spin them into something they are not. Understanding the relationship that Moses had with the Lord God of the O.T. scriptures is very important in establishing which of the *Elohim* Moses spoke to and saw.

We will get the answer to that shortly from the word of God. It will not be opinion or conjecture but plain simple scripture. The bible is very precise in giving us the answer. We will get back to this "face to face" relationship later.

In Hebrews 1:2 not only do we see that *Elohim* now uses His Son to speak to all men, we see that the Son has become "heir of all things." There are many scriptures in both the O.T. and N.T. that address this fact. John 13:3 says:

3: "Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,"

Matthew 11:27:

27: "All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him."

Romans 8:16-17:

16: "The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

17: and if children, then heirs----heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."

We have covered this subject in great detail also in the "Two Covenants." The point I am making here is that God is giving us a lesson here on the relationship that He and the Son had, and do have.

Christ being the firstborn of the Father rightfully inherits all that the Father has to give. That is a pattern which can be followed throughout the scriptures.

Their relationship is now patterned after that of a family. One has become the lesser to the other in the humility symbolized by the relationship between a father and a son.

We will see this aspect of their relationship clearly spelled out in a moment but lets finish with verse 2 here to see what else God has to say about His Son.

2: "... through whom also He made the worlds."

Here the Father is telling us that it was through this Son that the worlds were made.

Brethren, that clearly means that this Son whom He is talking about existed before the worlds were made.

Remember in John 1:1-3 we read that the "Word" was with God and was God in the beginning and that all things were made through Him. That was everything that was made!

Brethren, none of this is hard to understand. This "Word" is the same personage or being as this "Son" we are reading about.

The "Word" is also the spokesman of the *Elohim*. The *Elohim* also made everything through Him.

Remember Genesis 1:26, "Then God [*Elohim* plural] said, let <u>Us</u> make man in <u>Our</u> image, according to <u>Our</u> likeness..."

Jesus Christ clearly existed with and as God in the beginning!

Look what God purposed for mankind in the beginning. Genesis 1:26:

26: "... let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

All creation on earth was subjected to the dominion of man. This is just a foretaste a shadow of what is to come. This is a time of testing and learning. Our dominion over the creation is a pattern of what is expected of us in the plan of salvation. It leads to a better inheritance!

Hebrews 1:3 continues the same narrative. "Who being the brightness of glory . . ."

John 1:14:

14: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

Do we exhibit that glory? Are we striving to be full of grace and truth?

John 1:4-5:

- 4: "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men
- 5: And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it."

Yes Jesus Christ is the brightness of glory. Just as in Genesis 1:3-4 the light divided the darkness and shone forth. That depicts the Son of God coming into a dark world destroyed by Satan the devil and wrought with his lies and deceit.

Continuing in Hebrews 1:3:

3: "... and the express image of His person ..."

Image here is #5481 *charakter*. Vines says of it: "*Charakter* denotes, firstly a tool for graving (from *charasso*), to cut into, to engross; English character, characteristic; then, a stamp or impress as on a coin or a seal in which case the seal or dye which makes an impression bears the image

produced by it, and vice versa, all the features of the image correspond respectively with those of the instrument producing it . . ."

Yes, Jesus Christ is the "image", the express impression of God, because He had been the God of creation.

John 14:9:

9: "Jesus said to him, Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Col. 1:15-16:

15: "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

16: For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him."

Why do so many struggle with the very simple patterns God has given us? The bible interprets itself. Here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept.

I ask the question above rhetorically for I do know the answer to it. Remember brethren, the more you know about yourself the more you know about another.

Back to Hebrews 1:3.

3: "... and upholding all things by the word of His power..."

Yes, all things were made through Christ, so thus it was up to Him to uphold them, because He was their creator. His existence was of more value than the sum total of all creation.

So how did He "uphold" all this? Hebrews 1:3:

3: ". . . when He had by Himself purged our sins . . . "

He became the sacrifice for all creation. It was up to Him to lay down His life so that creation could be spared from the eternal penalty of death due to the acceptance of sin.

Jesus Christ was willing to give up all He was, all He had, to save His creation!

Listen to this explained in detail from Phil. 2:5-8

- 5: "Let this mind be in you [Are we willing to lay down are lives?] which was also in Christ Jesus, 6: who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,
- 7: but emptied Himself of privileges, taking the form of a servant, and coming in the likeness of men
- 8: And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."

Jesus Christ, the Word of God, the Son of God and the image of God was God long before creation. He was equal to God! Just think, He Himself emptied Himself of that glory, of that eternal existence, to become a man, to live a sin free life, to defeat the devil and qualify to be a perfect, complete, and total sacrifice on behalf of His sinning creation. I hope we can grasp the magnitude of that sacrifice, of the love He has for us.

Having done all that we read in Heb. 1:3:

"... sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,"

That is exactly what Phil. 2 continues to say in 9-10.

9: "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,"

The scriptures continue to reaffirm the plan of salvation.

Hebrews 1:4:

4: "having become so much better than the angels . . ."

Now how could he have become, "so much better than the angels?"

Because he had become a real flesh and blood man. There was no pretending. This was a real life and death struggle for one who had been of the *Elohim*. He was confronted with the test and trial of overcoming the deceit and guile and lies of the devil and the pulls of the flesh. Here Christ faced what was once the seal of perfection of His creation. Lets just review what happened to Satan.

Ezekiel 28:11-19:

- 11: "Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
- 12: Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, thus says the Lord GOD: You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
- 13: You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.
- 14: You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.
- 15: You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. 16: By the abundance of your politicking you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, o covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.
- 17: Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you.
- 18: You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your politicking; therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes

upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you.

19: All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; you have become a horror, and shall be no more forever."

Here we are told about the account of Satan from his beginning and to his end.

Jesus Christ while in the flesh had to overcome Satan's powers of deception and deceit. This was a monumental task for a man. To do so He would qualify to liberate all mankind from the curse of death.

Look what we read in Hebrews 2:9:

9: "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone."

This very truth is reiterated in Psalms 8:4-5:

- 4: "What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?
- 5: For You have made him a little lower than the angels, and You have crowned him with glory and honor."

Yes, Jesus Christ had become lower than the *Elohim*. He emptied Himself of all that to become flesh and blood. That was lower than the angels as well.

So when God the Father restored Him to the glory He once had with Him, He became "so much better than the angels."

John 17:5:

5: "And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."

No tricky language there. Nothing difficult to understand.

Look at the balance of Heb. 1:4:

4: "... as He has by inheritance obtained a more

excellent name than they."

And what name is that? *Elohim*! God! The angels are not *Elohim*, they are not God.

Christ inherited this. Also remember He has a co-heir in this as Rom. 8:17 told us earlier.

Are the angels His co-heir?

No!

Revelation 14:1:

1: "Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb [Christ] standing on Mount Zion [the throne of God], and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads."

This is the bride of Christ as the subsequent verses tell us. She too has been given a more excellent name. She has become co-heir with Christ in that. She too will become so much better than the angels. She too will be called *Elohim* after the Father and the Son. I don't want to stray from seeing who was *Elohim* at the beginning and the pre-existence of Christ. But these points must be made to understand why *Elohim* do what they do.

Hebrews 1:5:

5: "For to which of the angels did He ever say: You are My Son, today I have begotten You?"

It is clearly stated here that Christ was not an angel as some of the Christian denominations teach.

Hebrews 1:5 is right out of the O.T. Listen to the context. God is foretelling what is to take place. He is ridiculing the kings of the earth.

Psalms 2:6-7:

6: "Yet I have installed My King upon Zion the hill of My holiness.

7: I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, You are My Son, Today I have begotten

You."

The bible interprets the bible. We do not leave it to the vain babbling of "enlightened men".

We are to be rightly dividing the word of truth.

If a person is deceived they don't know it until they are shown the error of their deceit. Unfortunately others are hurt in the meantime. Some are so deceived that they let vanity come between themselves and the truth of God and will never admit to error.

Continuing in Hebrews 1:5:

5: "... And again: I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son?"

Here is where we have a redefining of the relationship the *Elohin* had had since before the beginning of creation. Remember in Philippians we were told they were "equal". That is #2470 in the Strong's *isos*. Vines says of it,

"the same in size, number, quality, etc. is translated equal in John 5:18; Phil. 2:6; in the latter the word is in the neuter plural, literally equalities; in the RV the words are translated, 'on an equality with God', instead of equal with God, as in the NKJ . . "

The being known as the Word empties himself of his glory and took the form of a man.

How did this all happen?

Hebrews 1:5:

5: "... today I have begotten You ..."

The Father through his power impregnated Mary a human being with the spirit that was once the Word. No longer *Elohim*, He became a man lower than even the angels. He would start the growth process of being human flesh just as every other human being has since Adam and Eve became one and had children.

The new relationship was necessary to fulfill God's plan of salvation for mankind. This plan is spoken of

throughout the pages of the bible and is imprinted on creation as well as the very holy days of God. Satan the devil and his angels of light, will do everything in their power to confuse those called of the Father at this time. To think in light of the clear scriptures and patterns of God that men are teaching that Christ never pre-existed is pure blasphemy. It makes my heart hurt with sorrow.

Continuing in Hebrews 1:6:

6: "But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: Let all the angels of God worship Him."

There is a difference. Jesus Christ was to be worshiped by angels because it was He who had created them. God the Father said this was to be the case even though Christ was made lower than them. This seems to confuse the deceived even more. They can't figure that out because they think in terms of rulership as to Satan's methods. They follow his patterns of hierarchy and not God's patterns of patriarchy. Jesus Christ was the Son of the Father. He was the only begotten of the Father. He was in truth and essence the only true Son of God. For that and the fact that Christ was their creator they were indeed commanded to worship Him.

Look what is ordained for the angels. Hebrews 1:7-9:

- 7: "And of the angels He says: Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.
- 8: But to the Son He says: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.
- 9: You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness [as a man]; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions."

Here we have God the Father calling His Son God. These verses are right out of Psalms 45. Here in Hebrews 1 God is leaving no doubt as to what is being said. The words and the context are very clear. Jesus Christ had been [*Elohim*] God and was returned to that very same place. The only difference now was that He had a different relationship with the other

Elohim. One was a Father and one was a Son. This was necessary so that there could be a second Adam and a second Eve so that after the pattern of creation they could become fruitful and multiply. In essence, reproduce after the God kind.

That is a great mystery to most men today and will continue to be until Christ sets up His kingdom on earth.

That is why we read what we do in Isaiah 9:6-7.

6: "For unto us a Child [Son of God] is born, unto us a Son is given; and the princeship will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7: Of the increase of His princeship and peace There will be no end . . ."

The pattern is very clear. These names that Christ was prophesied to have are in fact all in place except for one. That one is "Everlasting Father." He will take on this name after He has wed His bride and that oneness produces children. He will be the father of His household in the family of the Patriarch, God the Father.

Plain and simple patterns to see. But God the Father is not finished telling us about His Son over in Hebrews 1 so lets pick up where we left off.

10: "And: You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands."

Here God the Father calls His Son, "Lord" and once again confirms that the Son created everything.

Continuing in verse 11:

11: "They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; [But not Christ because the Father raised Him from the dead and restored Him to the glory they shared together at the beginning.]

12: Like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed . . ."

When does that happen?

Revelation 21:1:

1: "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea."

Continuing in Hebrews 1:12:

12: "... But You are the same, and Your years will not fail. [Why? Because He was now God again, *Elohim*, with eternal life in Him.]"

These verses here are right from Psalms 102:25-27. They were prophesied of old. These patterns run throughout the old and new testament scriptures.

Hebrews 1:13:

13: "But to which of the angels has He ever said: Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool?"

Christ was not, nor has ever been an angel. He was *Elohim* and He was man. Here in verses 13 and 14 God shows the differences between Christ and the called of God and the angels.

14: "Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?"

The word of God, the holy scriptures are not a mystery to us brethren. They are a road map to our future. They teach us what God wants us to know now at this time, as to how we are to follow Christ, to grow in His grace and knowledge. We are cautioned in Hebrews 2:1.

1: "Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away."

There are many who would have us drift away from the faith once delivered. We must resist at all cost.

Hebrews 13:8 tells us,

8: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and

forever."

He tells us in verse 9,

9: "Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines . . ."

He tells us in verse 5,

5: "... I will never leave you nor forsake you."

If we turn to the word of God and ask Him to teach us through it we will draw close to Him in spirit and in truth.

There are many, many scriptures we could turn to but we have not. The plain and simple scriptures we have covered are so clear as to the fact that God is more than one being and that Jesus Christ was one of the God beings in the beginning and is so again today.

Some simple scriptures to review. John 16:28:

28: "I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father."

Luke 10:18:

18: "And He said to them, I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."

The Interlinear Bible translates this, "And He said to them, I saw Satan falling out of Heaven as lightning."

Christ makes it clear once again that He was the creator and as such saw the past and the future. We see this event finished out in the book of Revelation. We also read about it earlier in Isaiah 14:12

12: "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning . . ."

Who threw him out? The Word! Ezekiel 28:16:

16: "... Therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God ..."

In John 8:58 Christ tells the Jews and us for that matter,

58: "Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

Here Christ proclaimed to the Jews that He was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He told them that not only did He exist prior to Abraham but in fact that His name was "I Am."

Exodus 3:13-15:

13: "Then Moses said to God, Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, the God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they say to me, what is His name? what shall I say to them?

14: And God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM. And He said, Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.

15: Moreover God said to Moses, thus you shall say to the children of Israel, the Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations."

Was Christ lying when He told the Jews His name was "I Am?" Of course not! He was just reiterating what we have studied today, that in fact, as the Word of God it was He who had contact with Israel.

This is very important to understand. Remember earlier we read in Numbers 12:7-8,

7: "Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.

8: I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?"

Look how the Interlinear translates it, "I speak to him mouth to mouth, and by an appearance, and not in riddles: and he carefully looks upon the form of Jehovah."

Now that seems pretty clear. The God of Israel appeared to Moses and spoke to Moses.

Exodus 33:11:

11: "So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle."

Deuteronomy 34:10:

10: "But since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,"

Face here is #6440 paneh. It means "face as well as faces" the BDB tells us as well as Strong's. So does the phrase mouth to mouth mean, as some translators have it, that Moses could only hear the words of God. If that was so the same would be in reverse, that God could only hear the words of Moses. No, the meaning here is quite clear.

In Numbers 12:8 God says He even appears to Moses. The NKJV is not the best translation of the verse. Plainly here is the Hebrew word *mar'eh* #4758. The Brown Driver Briggs says of it, "sight, appearance, vision." The Strong's tells us the same thing.

So how do we know this means in person, in clear sight and not a supernatural vision?

Verses 6 & 7 tell us,

6: "Then He said, Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.

7: Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house."

Here God contrasts the way He knew Moses. He didn't come to him in a vision or a dream, but mouth to mouth or face to face He appeared to him. To emphasize that, He says He even appears to him. He then adds "And he sees the form of the Lord."

Form here is #8544 *temunah*. It means "likeness and form". There is no misunderstanding the use of the word here.

Does it seem impossible that Moses saw the *Elohim* called "I Am?"

Not if you believe the bible. Go back to Exodus 24:9-

9: "Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10: and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. 11: But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank."

Once again very clear scriptures. They don't need any explanation as to what is said.

So here once again we see that the God, the *Elohim* called by the name "I Am" was seen by Moses and many others. It should be stated however that scriptures show that what is stated in Exodus 24 is the exception to the pattern. It was Moses who consistently saw God not a lot of other people. So why is this important?

Because those who are deceived turn to scriptures they do not understand to claim that no one has seen God. The problem with their understanding is that they teach that God is only one being. With that teaching they stumble over the scriptures.

Lets take a look at some of them. Lets turn to Mark 12:29:

29: "Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one."

This is a quote from Deuteronomy 6:4-5. The context in both is teaching the children of Israel.

So to understand it as it was originally stated lets go to Deuteronomy 6:4-5:

- 4: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!
- 5: You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might."

These are the words which appear in Mark 12:29-30:

So what are we being told here? Is there some trick message in what is said? Lets see the Hebrew as it is originally written.

"Hear O Israel YHWH, our elohim YHWH one."

The Interlinear translates it and the succeeding verse as follows, "Hear, O Israel, Jehovah our God is one Jehovah. And you shall love Jehovah your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might."

Do you see the difference a translation can make. One says, "Jehovah our God is one Jehovah" the other says, "The Lord our God, the Lord is one."

The Interlinear completes the thought in the statement while the NKJ does not. Here the Word is telling us that there is more than one Lord just as there is more than one God.

He is telling us exactly what David understood to be true.

Two "Lords" are being spoken about here in Deuteronomy 6:4-5

#3068 is the Hebrew word translated here as Jehovah or Lord. The BDB says of it,

"yahweh, the proper name of the God of Israel. It also says of it that many recent scholars explain it as, "the one bringing into being, life giver, giver of existence, creator, he who brings to pass, performer of his promises," as opposed to most who take it to mean, "the one who is, the absolute and unchangeable one, the existing, ever living as self consistent and unchangeable".

Is it one or the other or both? We will let the bible tell us shortly.

But first listen to what David tells us in Psalms 110:1:

1: "The LORD said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

Remember we read about this earlier in Hebrews 1:10-13. God the Father refers to Christ as both God and Lord in that chapter. All this is not coincidental. It is all part of a pattern which is telling us that God, *Elohim* is plural or composed of more than one being, and that Christ was the Word, the spokesman of the *Elohim* of the O.T.

In Matt. 22 Christ comments on David's statement in Psalms 110:1. The setting here is Christ being asked questions by a scribe to test Him verses 35-40.

Watch in the following verses how Christ Himself addresses this use of the word Lord. He clearly shows it is talking about something greater than David and not lesser.

Matthew 22:41-46:

41: "While the Pharisees were gathered together [trying to come up with another trick question], Jesus asked them,

42: saying, What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He? [Remember Hebrews 1, He is the Son of God] They said to Him, The Son of David.

43: He said to them, How then does David in the Spirit call Him `Lord,' saying:

44: The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool? 45: If David then calls Him `Lord,' how is He his Son?

46: And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore."

You can read about this same scene over in Mark 12:35-37.

35: "Then Jesus answered and said, while He taught in the temple, How is it that the scribes say that the Christ is the Son of David?

36: For David himself said by the Holy Spirit: The

LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.

37: Therefore David himself calls Him Lord; how is He then his Son? And the common people heard Him gladly."

Christ is telling us loud and clear here that there are two Lords and neither of them originated from David. He is reconfirming what we read in Hebrews and elsewhere, that Christ is the Son of God and is God.

Now, we could go to a lot of other scriptures in the Old and New Testament which are used to banter about the doctrine of God being one being or more than one.

Lets just see what God has to say about it Himself.

In John 10:30 we read,

30: "I and My Father are one."

"One" here is the same Greek word used in Mark 12:29 "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one."

So which is it, I asked earlier.

John 17:11:

11: "Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name [not His] those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are."

Please notice they are kept in the Holy Fathers name, which is the household name, God or *Elohim*. Remember that is the name they will receive, (Rev. 14:1).

John 17:20-26:

20: "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21: that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us [Gen. 1:26, 11:7], that the world may believe that

You sent Me.

22: And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

23: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one [Eph. 5:26-29] [Eph. 5:13], and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. 24: Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. 25: O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.

26: And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

Look what we learn in these verses:

- 1) People will believe in Christ through the speaking of others.
- 2) That they can be one with God after the pattern of the Father and the Son.
- 3) That they would be one in Us not just the Father or the Son. That is the same Us as in Gen. 1:26, "Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image according to Our likeness..." That image and likeness is not just a physical appearance but encompasses the total oneness of God with the name of the Father given to all who share in that. Yes they will all be one, they will all be *Elohim*.
- 4) We will share in the same glory that Christ has in our being one just as He and the Father are.
- 5) God loves us just as He does the Son.
- 6) The Father loved Christ before the foundation of the world as we have seen over and over again in the scriptures.
- 7) The world had never known the Father prior to Christ telling it about Him.

All of these points here are opportunities to expand on this subject and others but lets stick to the study at hand

Point seven could not be any clearer. The world has never known God the Father prior to Christ telling it about Him.

That's because the being who became the Son, who was the Word, was the God of the Old Testament. It was He who was seen by Moses not the Father. It was He who was seen by the 74 at Sinai not the Father. It was He who did the talking in the Old Testament scriptures on the whole.

John 15:21:

21: "But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me."

Lets look at the eighth chapter of John to hear this point loud and clear.

John 8:52-59:

- 52: "Then the Jews said to Him, Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.
- 53: Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Whom do You make Yourself out to be?
- 54: Jesus answered, If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God.
- 55: Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, I do not know Him, I shall be a liar like you [because they said they knew Him]; but I do know Him and keep His word.
- 56: Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad. [Genesis 14:18-20 Jesus was Melchizedek]
- 57: Then the Jews said to Him, You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham? 58: Jesus said to them, Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.

Right here Christ told the Jews they have never known the being known as God the Father and that in fact it was He, Christ, who was the God of the Old Testament who spoke to Abraham. In fact He told them He was "I Am".

Look what they immediately tried to do. They tried to kill him!

59: "Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by."

We are told this same pattern over and over again. In spite of that many deny it even exists in the clear language in the bible.

The Hebrew word used for "one" in Deuteronomy 6:4 is #259. Strong's says of it, "*echad*, a numeral from #258; properly united, ie one; or (as an ord.) first."

Its root word is #258 *achad*. Strong's says of it, "perhaps a prime root; to unify, ie (fig.) collect (one's thoughts): - go one way or other."

God chooses His words with thought as to meaning and purpose. It is unfortunate that translators often do not translate them accurately. I do not fault them for that because one must know God to understand what is being said. They work under the preconceived theology of a false Christian world. It however is a different thing for one who has tasted the fruit of the word of God and turns from it to another Gospel about Christ.

There are those who are promoting the doctrine that Jesus was created prior to "the beginning" of Gen. 1:1. It is quite apparent that they are pushing this doctrine from the point of view that Jesus is the Son of God and thus could not have existed eternally. They do not accept or for that matter understand when that relationship of father/son began.

I addressed that earlier. It is clearly stated that it was a prophesied event. A prophesied event is something that has not yet happened. In this case it would not happen until the Word divested Himself of all He was

as God to become a man. That happened just prior to Mary's conception.

I am not going to go to all the prophecies concerning this great event, just two. Isa. 7:14:

14: "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

Isa. 9:6:

6: "For unto us a Child is born, 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, Prince of Peace."

These were prophesied future events. They tell us about the plan of salvation and the relationship that the *Elohiym* will enter into to carry out and continue that plan.

It was at that moment, at the conception of Jesus, that the *Elohiym* now were to be known as Father and Son.

That is why the scriptures tell us that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God.

Remember the account of John 1:1-14. The context is of God creating the heavens and earth and ALL things that were made. Now that means everything including the angels. We read earlier about Lucifer and how he was "created." Of the Word of God who became Jesus we read, "All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

Are we about to call God a liar? I'm not! If we go along with these people and accept their opinion that Christ was "made" when scripture clearly tells us that He made everything that was made, then we are doing just that! Wake up folks!

Now look what we read in this context in verse 14:

14: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and

truth."

There we have the prophecy fulfilled. It was that moment that the Word who was God, part of the "Us," became the only begotten of the Father.

God the Father become Christ's physical progenitor. That has never happened to any other human being. That is why Jesus is the only begotten of the Father. That is no mystery in the bible. The language and pattern is very clear.

One more O.T. prophecy on the subject really jumps out, so let us turn to it. Psalms 2: Here we find a very clear context being stated. The time frame is clear; verses 1-3:

- 1: "Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing?
- 2: The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying*,
- 3: Let us break Their [that is two by the way] bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us."

This time frame set here certainly is not "at the beginning" or before it, is it. To say it is would be ridiculous So with this all stated look at what God says; verses 4-7:

- 4: "He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision.
- 5: Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure:
- 6: Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.
 7: I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You *are* My Son, <u>today</u> I have begotten You."

What day and when? Today! When was that? During this time of the kings and rulers of the earth.

The apostle Paul in his efforts to enlighten the Corinthian church tells them in very clear words; (1Cor.10:4) "and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ."

Once again simple and plain language as to the fact that Jesus Christ was the member of the *Elohim* who was the God of Israel who walked and talked with them.

Christ did not just come into existence at His physical birth to Mary. Not only has He existed prior to that and prior to the "Beginning" but in fact He is without beginning as we are about to see from the scriptures.

Brethren, these are simple and plain truths of God. No trickery, no deceit. Just simple instruction from God not from men. Today or "this day" is #3117, *yowm*, at most a 24 hour period of time.

Jesus Christ has many titles and functions. Isaiah 9 listed just a few as we read earlier. He also has many names.

Let's look at one of these names, titles and functions briefly for it is covered in depth in other studies available off the web site. Gen. 14:18-20:

18: "Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine [do not forget these are the symbols of the New Covenant representing Jesus Christ]; He *was* the priest of God Most High [The *Elohiym* Who became the Father].

19: And he blessed him and said: Blessed be Abram of God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth:

20: and blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand. . ."

So here we have the priest of God Most High called Melchizedek and the king of Salem (which means peace) addressing Abram.

This is the "Priesthood" which existed before the Levitical Priesthood." It is also the "Priesthood" of the New Covenant. It is only fitting that the N.T. scriptures address the priest and his priesthood in depth. We find it spoken of in length and detail from Hebrews 6:19 - Heb. 9:28. Let's just cover a few of these scriptures. Heb. 7:1-3:

1: "For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,
2: to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all,
first being translated "king of righteousness" [a
title of Christ's], and then also king of Salem,
meaning "king of peace" [another title of Christ's],
3: without father, without mother, without
genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor
end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains
a priest continually."

So who are we talking about here? Are there two high priests? Are there two kings of righteousness? Are there two kings of Salem?

It says in verse 3 that this Melchizedek was without father and mother, without genealogy, having no beginning of days and no end of life. This Melchizedek was what? "Made like the Son of God." Are there two of these also? "And remains a priest continually." To remain as something you must have been already it.

The scriptures clearly tell us that Jesus was and still is the High Priest of the Most High God. There was a time when His role was the only Priest of God. Now under the New Covenant there will be a Royal Priesthood comprised of many Kings and Priest and one High Priest.

There are those who teach that the Most High God and Melchizedek are in fact the same being. Let me speak as a fool for a moment. If that were the case, the Most High God here just made Himself into His own Son. That would make the translators jump for joy at the support received for their erroneous doctrine of trinity, being oneness.

How do we know for sure that the author or authors of Hebrews understood that Christ was Melchizedek and that He had existed at the "foundation of the earth?"

We just saw that Melchizedek had no beginning of days. Hebrews 9:23-26:

23: "Therefore *it was* necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with

better sacrifices than these.

24: For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

25: not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another——

26: He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself."

I hope that we understand what was just clearly said. Here we have the Melchizedek priesthood being contrasted with the Levitical.

We are told the Levitical required the High Priest to enter into the Holy of Holies once a year with blood. The Melchizedek priesthood and in particular the High Priest only had to do this once for all time.

Here we are told that we are talking about Christ and in that context we are told He, Christ if He functioned under the rules of the Levitical Priesthood, "would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world."

Jesus Christ was Melchizedek. He did not give

Himself as a yearly sacrifice but "once at the end of the ages."

Brethren the bible clearly tells us that Jesus Christ had no beginning. It tells us that everything that was created was created through Him. So many today are trying to complicate this very simple doctrine. We all have choices to make and we are to seek out our own salvation.

The scriptures we have covered today are not by any means all we could have, but enough is enough. They are simple and true and tell us that God is more than one being and in fact will be more than two. They have told us that Jesus was a member of the *Elohiym* and will be so forever.

He did not just come into existence at His physical birth to Mary but had been with God before the heavens and the earth were created.

With all this read and said there are those who will continue to try and deceive and continue to deceive the called of God.

It is a wonderful thing that our God is a God of justice, mercy and faith.

Our peace we give to you.