

INTRODUCTION

1. Jesus is God the Son incarnate. The 1 true God is triune. Jesus is one divine person in 2 natures: the Son who is the God-Man. We look at Jesus & exclaim

w/ Thomas: *My Lord & my God!* [Jn 20:28].

2. Xmas - Jn 1:1-3 [SS]; 1:14 [AM] & now - v18.

1st: The Only-Begotten Son in Relation to the Father

1. *No one has seen God at any time* but what about Moses? Ex 33:11; Num 12:8. Moses asked to see God's *glory* - Dt 33:20 - can't see face, would die; v23. Samon's parents [Jdg 13:21-22]; Isaiah - Isa 6:5
2. No one has seen God as God can "see God". Men see types [Moses]; angel [Manoah] & vision [Isa] but only God can see God. Jn 5:18-20; 6:46; 14:6-10
3. How does Jesus see the Father? *As the only begotten God.*
4. *who is in the bosom of the Father*. 'monogenes', Logos w/ God, is God the Son
 - i. *who is*: verb re: God's being - *was* [v1-2]. Pre-eternal, present: *is*.
 - ii. *in the bosom* = idiom: personal communion: table fellowship; marriage; parental love. Parallels v1-2 - w/ *God*.
 - a. *Remember, we are like God but God is not like us.* Ware creatures & God is Creator. Our parent-child rlnshp is like God's but God's parent-child rlnshp w/i Godhead is not like ours. Ours is analogous: corresponding in some respects, but essentially different.
 - b. We must not start w/ ourselves & project us onto Gof: = idolatry, make God in our image. We are made in God's image: like, similarity.
 - c. Our experience of Father's love - Jn 17:24-26: is a creaturely analogy of the Son's *in the bosom of the Father* love. *No one has seen God*.

2nd: The Only-Begotten Son in Relation to Us

1. *He has explained Him* [exegesis] = Jesus is the explanation of God as Savior. Lk 24:35; A 10:8; 15:12,14; 21;19 = to narrate events. Jesus, Himself, is the story & meaning of God's redemptive words & acts. What is God saving grace revealed in OCov & NCov? Jesus.
2. Yes, w/ Jesus, we learn that God is triune, but He explains the Father's words & acts for the purpose of our redemption. He is YHWH come to save us.
 - i. It is a theological misstep to begin w/ incarn Son of God & then go to Theology proper [Doct of God], to too to start w/ man. Nevertheless, Jesus, the Son, true image of God, does reveal God - [Hb 1:3] - 2C4:4.
 - ii. The Son is God come to save & shine the light of the glory of gospel on us [Jn1:14] - Jn 1:4-5 light, life, glory - all in order to save us!
 - iii. We begin w/ God [OT - YHWH] & receive God [NT - Jesus]. Jn 1:1
3. We could consider Jesus' 7 "I am" statements [bread of life; light of the world; door of the sheep; good shepherd; the res & the life; the way the truth & the life; the true vine. Jn 8:58 *I am* = YHWH [burning bush].
 - i. A statement of ontology. Jesus is the God of Israel: YHWH come to save.

Applic #1: As You Sit at the Table, Worship the Incarnate Son of God

1. On Xmas eve; the Son incarnate - LT: blood & body - crucified, resurrected, coming again. We do this in remembrance of Him.