

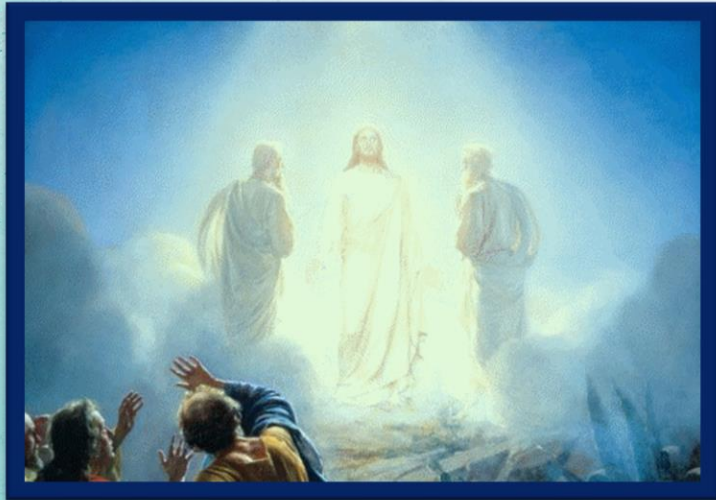
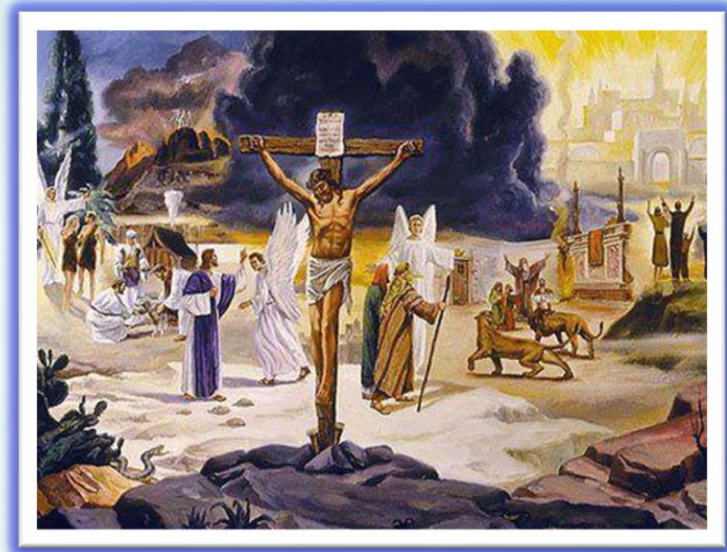


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THE PROMISED SON

Paul introduces Jesus in Hebrews 1:1-5, just after reflecting on God's revelation through the prophets in the past.

Jesus literally split human history in half.

He was the promised "Son," begotten by God. He is the brightness of His glory. However, He is God Himself, the Creator of the universe.



➤ "In these last days"

➤ "He has spoken to us by His Son"

➤ "The Brightness of His glory"

➤ "He made the universe [...] and upholds all things"

➤ "Today I have begotten You"

"IN THESE LAST DAYS"

"In the latter days you will understand it perfectly." (Jeremiah 23:20)

The expression "latter days" (or "last days") usually refers to an indeterminate moment in the future (years or even centuries from the present) [Dt. 4:30; Dn. 2:28].

However, this expression is used in Acts 2:17, Hebrews 1:2, and 1 Peter 1:20 to refer to Paul and Peter's time. Therefore, the "last days" began during the first coming of Jesus.

The death of Jesus determined the future of this world, although the end is still to come. What the Father started at the first coming of Jesus will be completed at His second coming.



**In the
last days**

Jesus resurrected

**We are
new creatures**

**The kingdom of God
is among us**

**In the
end time**

We'll be resurrected

**God will make
a new creation**

**The eternal kingdom
will be established**



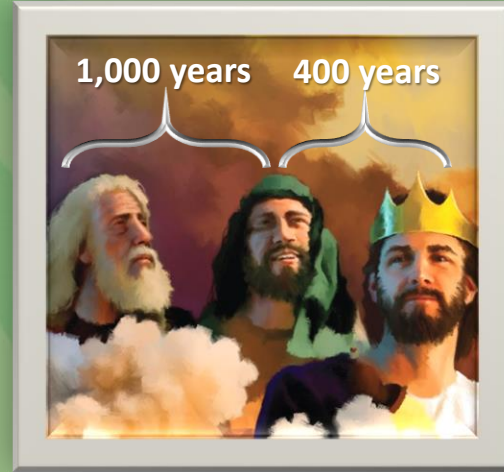
“HE HAS SPOKEN TO US BY HIS SON”

“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son [...]” (Hebrews 1:1-2)

God had spoken through the prophets for 1,000 years, from Moses to Malachi. Then, just silence.

After about 400 years of silence, God spoke through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The Word of God that the prophets shared in the Old Testament was finally completely clear. Jesus Christ fulfilled God’s promises, and new promises were given.



God can do for us what He did for the Son. For example, Jesus was seated at God’s right hand (Heb. 1:13), and we will also sit with Him on His throne (Rev. 3:21).

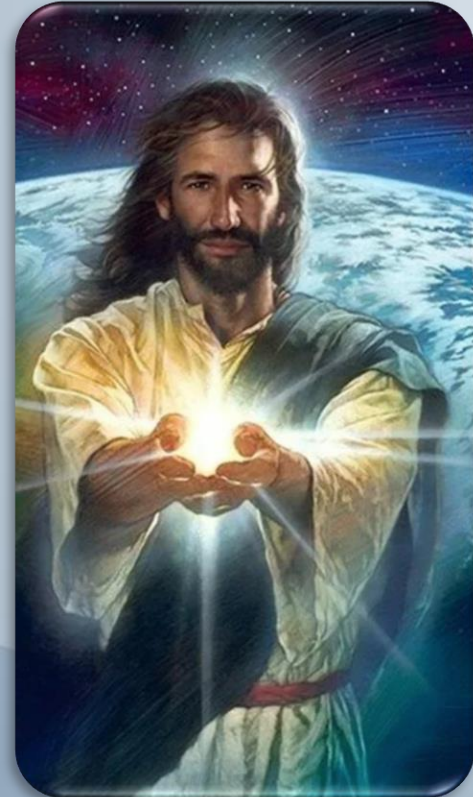
“THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY”

“who [Jesus] being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person [...] sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,” (Hebrews 1:3)

Jesus is the brightness, the light that comes from the glory of the Majesty (God the Father). He is also the image of His person: “He who has seen Me has seen the Father.” (John 14:9)

What is glory? Generally, the glory of God is shown when God appears veiled. His glory and His presence go together (Ex. 16:10; 1S. 15:29; 2Chr. 5:14; Ps. 26:8; Ez. 1:28).

Isaiah said this about Jesus’ work: “The glory of the Lord shall be revealed” (Isaiah 40:5). God has revealed Jesus as the Light of the world (Jn. 1:18; Jn. 17:26).

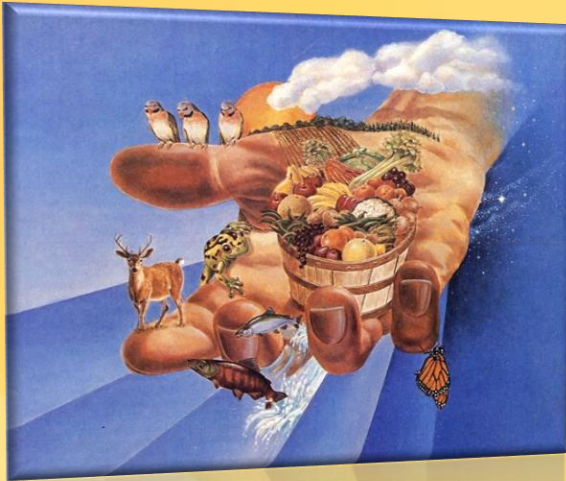


“HE MADE THE UNIVERSE [...] AND UPHOLDS ALL THINGS”

“I am the Lord, who makes all things, Who stretches out the heavens ALL ALONE, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself.” (Isaiah 44:24)

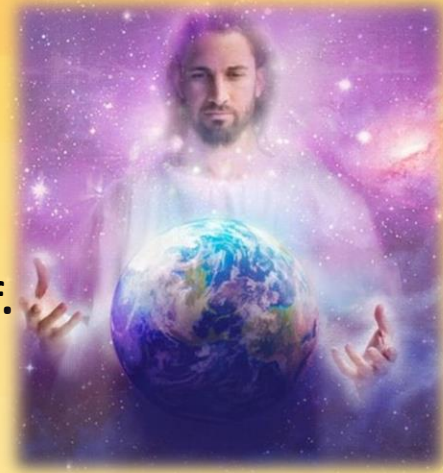
Jesus is introduced as Creator and Sustainer in Hebrews 1:2-3. In the Old Testament, God was introduced as the only Creator and Sustainer of the universe (Nehemiah 9:6).

Therefore, Jesus is more than the “brightness” of God. He is God Himself. God is able to create, and nothing was created (Col. 1:16) or exists (Col. 1:17) without Him.



Jesus not only created us but also sustains us. Every breath, every heartbeat, and every moment of our existence is found in Him, Jesus, the foundation of all created existence.

“For in Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28)



“TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU”

“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?’” (Hebrews 1:5)

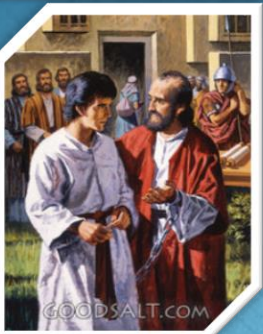


How can Jesus be Creator and creature (begotten) at the same time?

Hebrews 7:3 affirms that Jesus has “neither beginning of days nor end of life.” He is eternal, so He was not created.

He was named “son” after being incarnated as a person (Lk. 1:32; Jn. 1:14). However, the term “begotten” does not refer to the incarnation of Jesus.

Onesimus and the Corinthians were begotten by Paul (Phm. 1:10; 1Co. 4:15). In the same manner, Jesus was begotten or “adopted” by the Father as Son when He was resurrected and seated at His right hand (Rom. 1:3-4). In this way Jesus fulfilled His messianic work as a King from David’s seed (2S. 7:12-14).



“As a personal being, God has revealed Himself in His Son. Jesus, the outshining of the Father’s glory, ‘and the express image of His person’ (Hebrews 1:3), was on earth found in fashion as a man. As a personal Saviour He came to the world. As a personal Saviour He ascended on high. As a personal Saviour He intercedes in the heavenly courts [...]

Christ, the Light of the world, veiled the dazzling splendor of His divinity and came to live as a man among men, that they might, without being consumed, become acquainted with their Creator.”