

MONDAY

A New Understanding of the Messiah

- **Lk 1:36** Mary /Jesus' mother = kin= Elizabeth/ John Baptist's mother
 - Jesus / John = related
 - **Luke 1:42** = Elizabeth recognizes Mary as "mother of my Lord"
- John Baptist = knew his purpose = prepare way of Messiah
- God told John in advance how to identify Messiah = w/o doubt
 - see Spirit descend on One /who would baptize w/Holy Spirit
 - Recognize His deity = as covenant Son of God / Lamb of God
- John testified

John 1:32–36 ³²And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. ³³I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, '**Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.**' ³⁴And I have seen and testified that this is the **Son of God.**" ³⁵Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. ³⁶And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "**Behold the Lamb of God!**"

- Although religious leaders taught = Messiah = conquering King
- God's prophet John / understood Isaiah 53—suffering Messiah
- LAMB OF GOD = Jesus' innocence / perfection of character
 - Pointed to His substitutionary atoning sacrifice
- **1 Corinthians 5:7** Christ our Passover Lamb was sacrificed for us
- **Revelation 13:8**

- Covenant language applied to Jesus:
- "**Firstborn**" of all Creation = preeminence = superior to all others
 - Christ = Creator of all = Creator is not Himself created
- "**Only Begotten**" = unique one-of-a-kind covenant son chosen by God for covenant purpose

- **“Son of Man”** = term used to describe humans, but in covenant language used only once to identify Messiah

Daniel 7:13–14 ¹³“I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.

- Now called **“Son of God” = covenant language**
- **son on God** = human beings who live in covenant relationship w/ Lord = Serve as / channel of covenant promises
- Chosen to produce / holy seed (lineage) for God’s kingdom.

- **First Adam = called son of God (Luke 3:38)**

1 Corinthians 15:45 And so it is written, “The first man Adam [first representative of humanity] became a living being.” The last Adam [last representative of humanity] became a life-giving spirit.

- **Israel = covenant name given to Jacob**
- **His sons = nation of Israel / covenant language = son of God**

Exodus 4:22–23 ²²Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD: “Israel is My son, My firstborn. ²³So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn.” ’ ’ ”

Line of sonship = Adam/ Abraham/Isaac/Jacob = 12 tribes of Israel
David/Solomon = Jesus

- **Son of God = covenant title of Jesus that proves His deity**
- **Jesus = unique, one of a kind, son of covenant**
 - who **IS** the covenant = in the flesh

Isaiah 42:6–7 ⁶“I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and **give You as a covenant** to the people, As a light to the Gentiles, ⁷To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house.

Luke 1:35 Angel announced to Mary / she would give birth to Messiah
“That Holy One who is to be born **will be called the Son of God**”

In limited sense, as His seed we are called “sons of God”

Romans 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

- Full authority of covenant title = **Son of God** = belongs only to Jesus
- Obviously reflected deity of Son = Jews rebuked Jesus for blasphemy for calling Himself / Son of God = making Himself equal w/God

Hebrews 1:5 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”?

Hebrews 1:8 But to the Son He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

- Second Person of Godhead = became human to become
 - **SON OF MAN** and **SON OF GOD** / IMMANUEL—GOD W/ US
- John wrote Gospel = shed God’s light / understanding of Messiah
- Show people how Jesus fulfilled prophecies of coming King

- Purpose 1st advent = offer Himself = a sacrifice for sins of the world

“Christ [is] the power of God and the wisdom of God” (*1 Cor. 1:24, NKJV*). Knowledge that Jesus is the Christ comes from God Himself through the convicting power of His Spirit. This theme appears frequently in John. Salvation does not come from worldly philosophy, science, or higher learning. It comes only from God to a heart surrendered in faith and obedience to Jesus.

How would we know the truth about Jesus as our atoning sacrifice unless it were revealed to us? Why, then, is knowing the Bible and what it teaches about Jesus so crucial?