

Episode #505 How to Know God 6: This I Believe, That Jesus is the Son of God

I. The “Knowing God in the Word Radio Program” is for the purpose of helping listeners to fulfill the greatest need we have as believers – to know God.

II. We have seen that getting to know God is our greatest need, and the way to enter into relationship with and to please God is through faith. What we need regarding faith is to believe the record God gave of His Son. We have studied the glorious reality that Jesus is the Christ.

A. John 11:27. Martha’s statement epitomizes all that the Bible says concerning Him. But what does it mean to say that He is the Son of the Living God?

III. The Father and the Son.

A. John 5:15-16. The Lord Jesus healed a man who had been infirm for 38 years. Yet when he reported this to the rulers of the Jews, they sought to kill Him because He had done this on the Sabbath day.

B. John 5:17-18. They thought He made Himself equal to God. If they were wrong in this, He could have straightened them out, but He did not. This shows us the truth: the Father and the Son are equal.

C. Professing Christians are to grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, II Peter 3:18. Few ever do this. We need to advance beyond the rudimentary teachings we learned in childhood, and correct our childish ideas regarding the titles “the Father” and “the Son.”

D. I John 4:14. Most equate this with a man sending his boy to do a stupendous task. But “saving the world” is not a boy’s job, not even a man’s job. None but God can do it.

E. Isaiah 43:11. If the Son of God is not God, then He is not qualified as the Savior.

F. Isaiah 45:21-22. I believe this.

G. Isaiah 40:18. In light of this, we cannot understand the Father and the Son in relationship by comparing them to a man’s relationship with his boy.

H. Isaiah 46:9. Let us believe this and cease trying to understand the Father and the Son by comparing it to a parent’s relationship to a male child.

I. I John 4:14. “Sent” is *apostello*. When used of a person, it means to commission with full authority to do the task assigned.

J. *Father* when used of God signifies the totality of the Deity or Godhead. It emphasizes the Source and sets forth the Originator, the Arranger, the Disposer.

K. When the Son of God appeared on earth, He was a projection of the Deity. John 13:3. When one laid hold of Him, He laid hold of God. He was the image of the invisible God. He was God in projection. God by virtue of His nature is able to project Himself in any form, to any place, for any purpose and still remain omnipresent and centered in all the universe.

L. God likens Himself to a river and to the sea, so we do not hesitate to liken Him to the ocean. Oceans have bays. There is no doubt which is greater. The ocean is greater than the bay, but the bay is a projection of the ocean. Draw from it and you draw from the ocean from which it is inseparable. Fill up the bay and the waters will return to the ocean. This helps us understand John 14:28. He charged His disciples with lack of love for failing to rejoice at His return to His Father. This would end the time of His humiliation and the narrow range of the execution of His attributes.

M. Of course the source is greater than the outflow when the outflow is limited, and He had limited Himself to be born a Man. It has often been said that for any creature to

say “God is greater than I” would be as much blasphemous folly as to say, “I am equal to God.”

- N. Joining this hostile world was not a happy experience. John 6:62. This refers not just to the place, but also to the position. His Father was greater only regarding His state at that time. The language of His humiliation does not negate His Deity.
- O. Compare Genesis 1:1 and John 1:1-3. God the Creator of Genesis is the Logos (Word) of John. John 1:14. This is the Lord Jesus Christ. He was rich before He was in poverty on the earth, II Corinthians 8:9. We do not begin learning of Him in the “days of His flesh.” The “meek and lowly” Jesus is not the entire story.
- P. John 10:30. Many attempt futilely to reduce this statement, making it to mean one in purpose. This is true, but is not what it declared here. The reference is to power, John 10:29. The sharp ears of His critics caught what He was saying, John 10:33. This is the second time they so charged Him, John 5:18. Their accusation is our faith.

IV. There is no distinction between the Father and the Son!

- A. John 5:23. No distinction is made between Father and Son regarding honor. Those who try to make sharp distinctions between them lose both.
- B. John 5:19. No distinction in Their works.
- C. John 8:19. No distinction in our quest for knowledge.
- D. John 10:15. No distinction in equality of wisdom.
- E. John 12:44. No distinction in objects of belief.
- F. John 12:45. No distinction in objects of comprehension.
- G. John 12:49,50. No distinction in the word of the Father and of the Son.
- H. John 14:1. No distinction as objects for our faith.
- I. John 15:23. No distinction as objects of hatred.
- J. John 16:15. No distinction as to possessions.
- K. John 17:2, Romans 6:23. No distinction as to the source of eternal life.
- L. Considering all this, no one should be surprised if we echo the word of Thomas in John 20:28: my Lord and my God!
- M. If any problems remain, remember Luke 10:22. If any insist they will believe nothing until they understand it all, they will finish up as they are now-believing nothing.
- N. Mark 9:24. Amen!

V. Conclusion: We have seen that we cannot really understand God the Father and God the Son by comparing them to a relationship of a man with his boy. The Father was greater than the Son only during the days of His flesh, the days of His humiliation. Yet over and over in the book of John, the complete equality of the Father and the Son is declared. If we truly wish to grow in faith and believe the record God gives of His Son, we must learn to say with Thomas of the Lord Jesus Christ, “My Lord and My God!” Let us do so.