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A Defense of the Apostolic Christian Faith

How is the Son Subject to the Father in 1 Corinthians 15:24-28?



Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:24-28, "then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. 25For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. 26The last enemy that will be abolished is death. 27For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. 28When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all."

Was there ever a time when the son of God was not subject to the Father? Jesus said in John 8:29, "I always do the things that are pleasing to Him." Wherefore, the context of 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 is very peculiar and must be analysed in its full context in order to receive proper exeges is. Verse 24 addresses Jesus handing over the kingdom of God on the earth to the Father, after he abolishes all secular "rule and all authority and power (Verse 24)." For the Father has "put all things in subjection under his feet (Verse 27)." So when all human authorities are subjected to Jesus Christ as "the King of kings and Lord of lords," then will Christ subject all things to the Father, "SO THAT GOD MAY BE ALL IN ALL."

The Pulpit Commentary says, "That God may be all in all. The words involve a complete and absolute supremacy."

In other words, after the Son of God comes with his mighty angels to abolish all secular rule, authority, and power on earth, he will hand over his global kingdom to God the Father. Then God the Father will reign supreme over all the earth through the Son. The Son of God is "Immanuel, God with us" as a true man. Hence, after the last enemy (death) is abolished and placed under his feet (Christ's), Christ's fully complete human nature will be fully subject to the divinity of the Father, so that the only true God the Father will reign over all the earth through the man Christ Jesus. Hence, just as the Son was always subject to the Father prior to his second coming, so will the Son of God be completely subject to the Father by bringing all secular rule on planet earth under subjection to the only true God the Father. This is the meaning of Revelation 22:3, "the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city and His servants shall serve Him." Here we see only One Throne of God which will be occupied by the only image of the invisible God that we will ever see, the Lamb of God who is the man Christ Jesus (1 Tim. 2:5).

The scriptures prove that the Messiah will reign on the throne of David which inspired scripture identified as "the throne of Yahweh" and the "throne of God" (1 Chronicles 29:23; Hebrews 1:8; Revelation 22:3; Isaiah 9:7). For Jesus as a child born and son given is the only tangible image of the invisible God as the full incarnation of the only true God the Father with us as a man.

"And Yahweh will be King over all the earth; in that day there shall be One Yahweh and His Name only One." Zechariah 14:9

Bible scholars unanimously affirm that Zechariah 14:9 is addressing the millennial reign of the Messiah in which all of humanity will know that there is only One Yahweh and that Yahweh God has only One Divine Name. Since Jesus will reign over all the earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lord's, there will only be one visible image of Yahweh that we will ever see and only one name above all names in the person of Jesus Christ. Here we have the evidence to prove that there is only One Individual called Yahweh and that Jesus (as a man) has by an inheritance obtained that name as His own ("Yahweh" - Heb. 1:4; Philippians 2:9: John 17:11; Jeremiah 23:5-6).

Zechariah 14:5 identifies the Messiah as "Yahweh, my God" who "will come, and all the holy ones with Him." Isaiah 45-14-15 says that the inhabitants of the millennial reign will bow before Jesus as God and King over all the earth, saying, "Surely God is in you and there is none else. There is no other God. Truly you are a God who hides Himself, O God of Israel, the Savior."

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