

The Son of God **- Ron Stullenbarger**

Today, someone's son is simply his male descendant or one he has adopted to fill that role. However, Jesus was called the *Son of God* for another reason. To be sure, He was God's Son by birth (Luke 1:34-35), but the title "*Son of God*" most often refers to Jesus being of the same nature as God. When Jesus called God His Father, the Jews understood that He was claiming to be God: *"But Jesus answered them, 'My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.' Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. Then Jesus answered and said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life'"* (John 5:17-24).

John, in his account of the life of Christ, told us Jesus was God come down to earth. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made"* (John 1:1-3). John said that the Word was with God at the beginning and was God. That all things were made by Him is proof that He is God, since God was the Creator (Genesis 1:1). *"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist"* (Colossians 1:16-17). This Word, that was God, John plainly showed to be Jesus. *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth"* (John 1:14).