Christ Given or the Fulfillment of Divine Names and Titles Belonging To God The Father.¹

- ı. <u>"Jehovah-I Am."</u> Ex. 3:14-15 cf. Jn. 8:58.
- 2. "God". It will not do to have, as Jehovah's Witnesses do, a "little g" god. There is no place biblically for such a "junior" God. cf. Dt. 6:4; I Cor. 8:4-6; etc. "Culturally, Jesus could not have been called by the name God unless he was considered to be the 'one God', since in Jewish thinking there were no 'other gods."²
 - A. Heb. 1:8. Christ is here called God in a direct quote of Ps. 45:6.
 - B. <u>II Peter 1:1</u>-Christ is called both God & Saviour. "Grammarians are emphatic that only one person is meant, not two....A.T. Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament (Vol. 6, p. 147) states: 'One person not two.'"3
 - C. <u>Acts 2:36</u>-Jesus is called "*Lord*" yet verse 39 calls God the Father "*Lord*". Acts 10:36 reiterates this.
 - D. "Acts 16:31 and 34 refer to belief in the Lord Jesus as belief in God."4
 - E. <u>Rev. 7:10-12, 17.</u> In verse ten God is on the throne, while in verse seventeen Jesus (the Lamb) is in the center of the throne.
 - F. "In Acts 18, the 'way of the Lord...the things concerning Jesus'(v. 25) is the same as the 'way of God'(v.26)."5
 - G. "God With Us"-Isa. 7:14. cf. Mt. 1:21-23.
 - H. <u>"The Mighty God"</u>-Isa. 9:6 Jehovah's Witnesses try to refute this by saying,"Yes Christ is the mighty God, but only Jehovah is Almighty." However one chapter later (Isa. 10:21) God the Father (Jehovah) is called the *exact same title*!
- 2. <u>The "Alpha & Omega."</u> God the Father is called "the Alpha & Omega" and "the first and the last" in some places (Isa. 41:4; 48:12; Rev. 1:8; 21:6-7), yet Jesus is called the same in other places (Rev. 1:17-18; 22:12-16 cf. v. 20).
- 4. "Lord."
 - A. Christ called "Lord of All." Acts 10:36; Romans 10:12.
 - B. They crucified <u>"the Lord of glory."</u> I Cor. 2:8. cf. Ps 24:10; 96:7-8 where Jehovah is that "Lord of glory"!
 - C. Every knee shall bow to "the Lord." & "Every Knee Shall Bow." In the O.T. we are told they will bow to Jehovah (Isa. 45:22-24), yet in the N.T. we are told that all will bow to Jesus Christ (Rom. 14:10-12; Phil. 2:9-11).

¹ This is a brief excerpt from a paper titled "The King of the Kingdom—A Survey of the Evidence for the Deity of Christ", which I wrote in 1994 for one of my Master's degree courses, "New Testament Theology." –Mike Edwards

²Gromacki, p. 25.

³Ibid, p. 26.

⁴Ibid.

^{5&}lt;sub>Ibid.</sub>

- D. <u>Jehovah instituted the sabbath</u> (Ex. 31:13, 17) yet Jesus said He is the "*Lord of the Sabbath*" (Mt.12:8).
- E. <u>Prayer is even offered to Jesus as Lord</u> on five occasions (Acts 7:59-60; 8:24; I Cor. 1:2; II Cor. 12:8-9; I Jn. 5:13-15).
- 5. <u>"Savior."</u> In the Bible you find *God the Father* as the one and only Savior (Isa. 43:11; 45:22; I Tim. 4:10; Lk. 1:47), yet in the N.T. we find *Christ* identified as the Savior (Mt. 1:21; Jn. 1:29; 4:42; Heb 5:9; Lk. 2:11). If Christ is not God, there is no explanation! Note too, "Within a span of twelve verses, Paul uses the phrases 'God our Savior' and 'Jesus our Savior' interchangeably four times (Titus 2:10, 3; 3:4, 6)." "Salvation was in Jehovah God and yet, Jesus was the one who would save Israel from her sins (Mt. 1:21)" See also Acts 4:12 cf. Jn. 3:16-17.
- 6. <u>"Creator".</u> The Father is called the creator of everything (Isa. 40:28) yet in the N.T. we are told that Jesus created everything (Jn. 1:3; Col. 1:16).
- 7. "*Light*." Both God the Father and Christ the Son are called "*Light*." (Lk. 2:32 cf. Isa. 42:6; 60:19-20; Rev. 21:23).
- 8. <u>"A Voice of Many Waters."</u> Both God the Father & Jesus Christ have the same "voice of many waters." (Ezek. 43:2 cf. Rev. 1:15).
- 9. <u>"Righteousness."</u> Both the Father and the Son are given this title (Jer. 23:6 cf. I Cor. 1:30; Eph. 1:6).
- 10. <u>The Ascension</u>. Christ's ascension is attributed to God Himself in the Old Testament (Eph. 4:8-10 cf. Ps. 68:17-18).
- 11. <u>Jehovah "Pierced?"</u> In Zechariah 12:10 we read of the Lord who will one day be "pierced." When the body of Jesus was pierced on the cross John claimed that that was the fulfillment of Zechariah's prophecy (Jn.19:31-37; Rev. 1:7). Such would be impossible to explain unless Jesus is God! Additionally, how could God the Father have ever been pierced or crucified?
- 12. <u>Isa. 40:3</u> "Jehovah was to come to earth to reign over a redeemed, restored Israel." That could only be possible and explainable if Christ is God!

⁶Josh McDowell, "Understanding the Cults" (Here's Life Publishers: San Bernardino, California, 1982) p. 38; & other books by the same author.

⁷Gromacki, p. 31.

⁸Gromacki, p. 30.

- 13. "King." Both the Father and the Son are called this (Ps. 95:3; Isa. 43:15). "While it is true that the term king is often a human title, the New Testament not only speaks of Christ as King in the same sense that the Old Testament describes God, but Jesus is called 'King of kings' (Rev. 17:14; 19:16) ... [while] in the Old Testament, Yahweh is referred to as the 'God of gods and LORD of lords' (Dt. 10:17)... First Timothy 6:14-16 has special importance...'He', modified by 'King of kings and Lord of lords' can refer to either Christ or God... either way it argues for Christ's divinity."9 cf. Rev. 1:12-18. Note also Jer. 10:10 cf. Dan. 7:13-14, as well as the fact that Jehovah is called the "King of Israel" (Isa. 43:15; Zech. 14:9 cf. v.16 9:9), yet Jesus fulfilled the Zechariah prophecy (Mt. 21:4).
- 14. <u>"The Judge."</u> While God the Father is indicated as the one who will judge mankind (Ps. 50:4, 6; 96:13; Heb. 12:23, 24; I Peter 1:17) yet we find that the Son will do all the judging (Jn. 5:17-30, esp. v. 22; II Tim. 4:1; II Cor. 5:10 cf. Rom. 14:10; Rev. 2:23 cf. Jer. 17:10; etc.). Clearly they are equal!
- 15. <u>"The Rock."</u> Both the Father and the Son are called the "rock." (e.g. Ps. 18:2; I Sam. 2:2 cf. I Pet. 2:6-8; I Cor. 10:4. Particularly note this latter passage in comparison to Ex. 17:6.
- 16. "The Redeemer." Both Jehovah and Jesus are given this attribution. "God identified Himself as the Redeemer (Isa. 43:14; Hosea 13:14) (yet)...Jesus was considered (such) by the priest Zacharias (Lk 1:68)... by Anna (Lk 2:38), ...by Paul (Gal. 3:13; Eph.1:17), by Peter (I Peter 1:18-19), and... by the twenty-four elders (Rev. 5:9) ...No mere man can redeem his fellow man; only God can redeem the soul (Ps. 49:7-8 cf. 49:15). Thus, Jesus as the redeemer, must be God." Note: Jer. 14:7-8; 50:34 cf. Job 19:25. Also: Ps. 19:14; 78:35; Isa. 41:14; 47:4; etc., cf. Gal. 4:5; Titus 2:14; Lk. 1:68; I Pet. 1:18; etc.
- 17. "Giver of Life." "In Deuteronomy 32:39, after saying,'…there is no God besides me,' God said He is the one to 'give life' (cf. Ps. 36:9). Jesus said,'For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life…' (Jn. 5:21). Just prior to raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life' (Jn. 11:25). He went so far as to say that He was the giver of eternal life…(Jn. 10:28-29)." Obviously Christ is claiming to be fully God and equal with the Father.

⁹McDowell, p. 39.

¹⁰Gromacki, p. 31.

¹¹McDowell, p. 46.

- 18. <u>Psalm 110:1-</u> "David testified: 'The Lord (Jehovah) said unto my Lord (Adonai), sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.'...Jesus argued that the phrase 'my Lord' meant that the Messiah would not only be the physical son of David, but that He would also be the Son of God or deity (Mt. 22:41-46). Why would David acknowledge his direct or distant son to be his Lord? No father worships his son. By the Spirit of God, David sensed that the Messiah would be God."12
- 19. The "Lord's" Return. Dt. 30:3 says that the Lord (Jehovah) will return at the end when His people regather from all the nations. But the fulfillment will be realized in Christ (Mt. 24:27-31). Again, such verses are only explainable if Christ is God and co-equal with the Father (& the Holy Spirit).
- 20. The "Son of Man." This title is not one that deemphasizes Christ's deity at all. "Through this title Jesus most clearly expressed His messianic consciousness... the generally accepted source of this title is one of the dream visions of Daniel (Dan. 7:13-14) ...some students would trace it to the Book of Ezekiel ...(but) Jesus' use of the title proves conclusively that He is giving it the meaning that it had in the vision of Daniel."13 This title is strictly Messianic, showing Christ to be the God who will judge this world in the end. It has nothing to do with His birth into this world, as He was already the Son of Man before He arrived. "It was not His human birth that constituted Him the Son of Man. That birth, indeed, was the fulfilment of the promise which the name implied; but the Son of Man, He declared explicitly, 'descended out of heaven.' And He said again, 'What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?'... Nor was it as the Virgin's Son, but as the Son of Man, that He claimed to be 'Lord even of the Sabbath,' and to have 'power upon earth to forgive sins.' And... it is as the Son of Man that the prerogative of judgment has been committed to Him (Jn. 5:27)."14
- 21. The "Son of God." Jesus is called "God's Son", "the Son of God", "Only Begotten of the Father", etc, scores of times in the New Testament. In I John alone, Jesus is called God's Son" etc, 23 times! (e.g. 1:3, 7; 2:22, 23 [twice], 24; 3:8, 23; 4:9, 10, 14, 15; 5:1, 5, 9, 10 [twice], 11, 12 [twice], 13, 20 [twice]) There is no denying that the Bible clearly teaches that God the Father has a Son (i.e. a person of the same nature, equivalency & being as Himself). Muslims deny it. JW's deprecate it. But one does so to their own eternal peril. The title "Son of God" is another clear claim to His deity. (e.g. I John 2:22-23; 5:10, 12).

¹²Gromacki, p. 28.

¹³Lehman, Chester K. "Biblical Theology, Volume Two: New Testament." Scottdale, PA: Herald Press, pp. 137-38.

¹⁴Anderson, pp. 30-31.