

Part 2: Our Breathtaking Destiny as a real child of God

Abba – Our Great Father – wants a FAMILY!

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Philip Shields sermons

www.LightontheRock.org

[Note: I often use the original Hebrew name “Yeshua” when discussing “Jesus”. I often will say YHVH, or Yehowah when discussing the name of our Maker, where YHVH is used in Scripture (badly translated as “the LORD” in English). YHVH is His personal name. Elohim is the word used most often for “God” in the Old Testament.]

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Welcome brothers and sisters of the household of the living God, to Light on the Rock. This is Philip Shields, **with part 2 of 3**, on what I hope will be a continuation of a thrilling revelation of one of best kept divine mysteries – or secrets - of *all time*: one of our heavenly Father’s own secrets; a secret or mystery we’re told is now ready to be revealed. Paul, Peter, John – and of course Yeshua – all spoke of it!

Why is it not being preached more in the churches? Because even though the scriptures are “plain to see”, YHVH has to open our eyes to see what’s right in front of us.

If properly understood, we would be ecstatic. But even too many of those who understand this mystery are bored or ho-hum by it. That’s a tragedy. Is it possible we just don’t even begin to grasp it? People go wild over **Super Bowl** or World Cup Soccer or about the prospect of winning a lottery – and yet we who do see this great future don’t express even that level of excitement. I am hoping to help change that.

What an honor to be called “children of God” and “heirs of God”. Nothing can be compared to the glory that will be revealed in us. Some of the players in this year’s Super Bowl said playing in the game would be the highlight of their entire lives. I thought, ‘wow, how shallow.’ Aren’t kids and grandkids and family a higher point? And if we really understood our high calling, if we really did – we’d be singing for joy!

So let’s dive into this today. We’re going to see that when the Bible speaks of “God’s children” – it means it, literally! It’s not just an analogy. God the Father wants to be, and is, the literal father of those who us who have His divine Seed, called the Holy Spirit, which gives us His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). That spirit of God in us develops until the time – at the resurrection – when we can literally be born again, born anew of spirit. I’ll show that clearly today.

By the time we’re done today, you’ll read Yeshua’s own description of being “born again” – and how that differs from what you hear in churches today. *When we die, we aren’t resurrected merely as angels.* You’ll see that today too. Sure, we’ll be like angels in the sense they are spirit beings, but angels are not called “children of God” *in the sense that we are* – according to Hebrews 1 and 2. (I understand angels are referred to as “sons of God” in Job and Genesis, but Hebrews 1-2 makes it clear they are servants, not literal sons.) Read it yourself. There’s something more, much more! We’ll get into that today and next time.

Why am I so hyped up about this topic? Because *this* topic – what is God’s purpose for you – is ultimately *the point of the whole Bible*.

- Ultimately it is the real reason for Christ’s sacrifice and resurrection.
- This series – which *isn’t* being preached much, at least not quite this way – is what the true gospel is all about. And what is the gospel? It’s that our Father has a kingdom and wants you to be part of that. And add to that, that Yeshua and his sacrifice made the way possible into that special kingdom (**1 Cor. 15:1-10**).
- This revealed mystery covers all aspects of the POINT of the gospel and whatever other name tag is associated with “gospel” in scripture, such as: “the gospel of grace, the gospel of God, the gospel of peace, the gospel of your salvation” (see Rom. 1:1; Acts 20:24; Rom. 1:9; Eph 6:15; Ephesians 1:13, etc.).

Let me say again, the POINT of the entire Bible from Genesis 1 onward is to let us know our Creator wants a family. That is His Kingdom. The Kingdom of God is not primarily about lions dwelling with lambs. That’s the millennium, *ruled by* the kingdom of God... but lions and lambs are flesh and blood. Flesh and blood are not part of the spirit Kingdom of God (1 Cor. 15:50). A kingdom is simply a family grown large. So the REAL picture of the kingdom of God is the spirit-born FAMILY of God.

In Genesis 1, Elohim says, “let US make mankind in our image and after our likeness”. That becomes the stated purpose for having mankind – to someday fully be in the image of God, and not just in His likeness. (We look like Elohim.) After that, Elohim says the man and woman were to rule the earth, another reference to our divine purpose (Genesis 1:26-28). But it gets even better as go further into our Creator’s book. But Elohim’s divine purpose – and gospel – is made clear from the very first pages.

Quick review – and some new material thrown in

Last time I showed how the Bible repeatedly says:

- **Yehowah has secrets, or mysteries.** But those secrets are being revealed today, starting with the coming of the Word of God as flesh. He was known as Yeshua, or Jesus.
- Yeshua is the KEY to understanding the mystery. We’ll delve into that more today. He was “God with us” – Immanuel – born in Bethlehem (House of Bread) and was the Messiah, which means “anointed one”. (In Greek, “anointed” is “christos” – where we get “Christ”)
- YHVH’s intention was that we eventually live forever **as immortal beings who are literal children of God and we’ll have things to do**
- **In the beginning ELOHIM, a plural word** translated as “God”, created the heavens (plural) and earth. The plural word “Elohim” is also translated “gods” when referring to pagan deities. This is key to understand; “Elohim” is PLURAL.
- John 1:1-3 – John makes clear for us that plural Elohim is about TWO beings, both who are God, though one is higher in authority (God Most High).
John 1:1-3 – read it yourself in your own Bible.

“In the beginning was the Word and the word was with God and the Word was God.”

- He goes on to say that the Word – who became flesh (John 1:14) and known as Yeshua – created ALL things! He was there WITH God and was God. These two acted as ONE, in total unity and harmony.

Now something new for many of you:

Did you know that **Ecclesiastes 12:1** – please open your Bible and read it – has something VERY interesting that most miss in English. In English it says “remember your Creator (singular) in the days of your youth....” But in Hebrew, the word for “Creator” is in the plural. If you have access to Young’s Literal Translation, Young’s has it this way:

“Remember also thy Creators in days of thy youth...”

Did you catch that? “Creators” – plural. Every other translation puts it in the singular. But literally it is plural in the original Hebrew language. When we understand that Elohim is plural, and that John explains there were TWO divine beings who were both “God” – and yet were so unified they were seen to be as one (echad), it all starts to come together.

Also, I promise that I know about the “Shema” (Deut. 6:4) and “echad” – how “Yehowah our Elohim is ONE (echad)”. So how could there be a WORD who is *with* God but is also God (John 1:1-2) as well as there being a Personage called “God”? Doesn’t that make for two beings? But isn’t Yehowah Elohim “echad” – one? We’ll cover that before the end of this sermon, and in good detail in sermon #3. But don’t forget that “Elohim” is plural! And that is also why Ecc 12:1 says “Creators” in the original language.

Many who wish to dismiss this discussion of there being more than one God being, or that Elohim wants to have kids resort to the Deuteronomy 6:4 argument and others, which we’ll clearly go over in the next sermon in detail. Now back to Genesis 1.

Elohim SPOKE galaxies, stars, mountains, seas and all creatures great and small into existence. NO, I do not believe in evolution. Only a fool could believe all this perfect creation could just come together over time after a big bang. No, I believe in a Creator, a Designer and a Law Maker who gave us this universe because someday He wants His children to inherit the whole universe. Did you get that? That’s the reason for this universe: it’s going to be given to you someday.

Then very importantly, we also covered how **Elohim created animals after their KIND (Genesis 1).** Then He created something else – but this time, NOT by speaking it into existence. After creating all the fish after the fish kind, the animals after the animal kind and the grasses after the grass kind – Elohim pauses. Remember that “Elohim” is a plural word. They talk – “Let US make mankind in OUR image, after OUR likeness” (Genesis 1:26).

“US, OUR” – of course, there was more than one, according to John 1:1-3. Then Yehowah (YHVH – “the LORD” in our English Bibles) hand-made a man from the dust of the ground (Genesis 2:7).

I suspect Adam was fashioned to be a perfect fleshly replica of His Maker, maybe younger looking than YHVH. Then YHVH blew into the man His own breath – something He never did for any other creature. ONLY mankind has the divine spark, the divine breath, something of God

is in all of us. Later that day YHVH handmade a woman helper/companion for Adam – from his side. That's all in Genesis 2. And the two of them who started out as one body, were once again to become “echad” – one (Genesis 2:21-24). More on “echad” late in this sermon and much more in the concluding part 3 sermon.

We need to understand that Elohim did not hand-make anything else. Nothing else. Just Mankind. Everything else was spoken – decreed – into existence (Hebrews 11:3; 2 Peter 3:5). Yehowah got very hands-on when He made man and woman. *He was fashioning the start of His dream. YHVH wanted children someday and this day must have been very exciting for Him, much the same way we dads felt when we held our first child in our trembling hands.*

We humans are NOT of the “animal” kind or species. We have YHVH's divine breath in us (Genesis 2:7), which no other living creature has. We are not of the animal kind. We are not of the angel kind. We are not of the grass kind. We are fashioned by our Father after HIS kind – at least that's His intention and future plan.

ELOHIM WANTS REAL CHILDREN

We call “God” our “Father” but I don't believe most Christians believe He is a literal father who is starting a literal divine family with children. *We call Him “Father” – but nobody is a real father until he has real children.* Father has been telling us all along that He wants to be a father, wants to have children. In all of this, remember that “kind” reproduces after its own kind.

The very concept of “father” comes from God being the first real father!

Ephesians 3:14

For this reason I bow my knees **to the Father of our Lord** Jesus Christ, **15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named....**

Yehowah Elohim – the LORD God in your Bibles - - does talk about His children. On your own, you can see an example of this in Isaiah 1:2-3.

Isaiah 1:2-3

2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For YHVH has spoken:

“I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against Me;

3 The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib;
But Israel does not know, My people do not consider.”

This process centers on Yeshua. He came so we could be born of God, born of SPIRIT, and be CHILDREN of God.

John 1:12-13

12 But as many as received Him [Yeshua], to them He gave **the right to become children of God**, to those who believe in His name: **13 who were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but **of God**.

Did you get that? It said “born of GOD”, not of flesh! Let that sink in: “born of GOD”.

In Greek the way, the word used for “born” is the same as “begotten”. Context would dictate which English word should be used. We'll see later in this sermon that someone who is “born again” is born of spirit. We'll soon read how Yeshua says that (John 3). So I think when we

receive the Holy Spirit of God, we are begotten. It is His divine Seed (1 Peter 1:23) imbuing us with His divine Nature. This new creation then has to grow – much like a fetus does – until it is fully formed and ready to be born. Paul referred to it as “until Christ is formed in you” (Gal. 4:19). While it is a fetus, Biblically is a human life and so in the same way, Elohim considers us His children even now, because we have the Spirit and are on track to be fully born of Him at the resurrection. This will be made clear when we read what Yeshua says in John 3, and Paul in 1 Cor. 15.

When we repent, believe in Yeshua and receive Yehowah's grace, we are being given the right to become children of God, and—what else does it say? “To be born of GOD”. I'm just building the framework for this topic. We're going to fill in the details.

That should make us fall to our knees in adoration and praise. YOU – lowly you and lowly me, with all our broken lives and failures we've had spiritually – can someday have the realization of our calling come true, and really experience God Most High as our very own Father!

My brothers and sisters, we need to rid ourselves of all the mass distractions. Turn off Facebook and social media. Turn off the games and even so much TV.

“If my people – those called by My name, would humble themselves and PRAY....” That's what Abba wants! “TALK to me”, He says. I know, I'm a father myself. What do we want from our children and grandchildren? Time together. Talk to your Dad. Spend time with your Dad. Honor your dad. Now, go PRAY, go listen, go talk to, walk with your heavenly Father. You're his daughter, you're His son!

Ah, the Father's cry: “spend more time with me, pray more, talk to me more, be with me more”— **because THE SECRET is that FATHER WANTS CHILDREN!** Father wants a FAMILY. Father wants to spend eternity with you, not just as a ghost-like person or angel-like person in heaven, NO – but as His very own son or daughter.

The highest points of my life, the greatest moments of joy and enjoyment I have – are times when my expanded family all come together. We used to go to a beach house every year and it was sublime to have all my children together, and now even grandchildren. It's getting harder and harder to do this, but I caught a glimpse of Father's joy in the kingdom, just a glimpse.

We are flesh and blood now but we are NOT destined to remain forever flesh and blood. Paul says clearly that “Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God” (1 Cor. 15:50) and yet we know “the children of God” ARE slated to be co-heirs with Christ to inherit the kingdom.

Last time I clearly **showed who the children of God are:** they have to have and be led by God's spirit (Romans 8:9, 14), they have to have the divine seed in them giving them the divine nature, and they have to be in Christ. HE is our covering. He is our master, our head, HE is what we need to be like.

So we will be changed to spirit at the last trump (1 Cor. 15:50-54), when the final parts of the mystery of God will be revealed (Rev. 10:4). At that time, we will be able to fly, to walk through walls, to be invisible or visible – whatever we choose. I have a couple sermons that go in depth into what it will be like to be spirit.

As a young boy I often fantasized – and still do – about what it would be like to fly. I'd watch swallows zoom up and down and around and wish I could do that. I used to love the Superman fantasies as a child – seeing through walls with x-ray vision or being all powerful to lift whole houses.

Was I the only one? Well, we read last time how our wildest fantasies don't even come close to what Father – our dear Abba in heaven – is preparing for us (1 Cor. 2:6-11; Eph 3:20-21). Superman won't seem so super compared to you when Yehowah is done transforming your mortal body into a spirit body at the resurrection. I'll go into that in far more depth in part 3 of this 3 part series. In the Prophecy section on this website, I also have 2 teachings on "Life as a Spirit Being"—using what scripture tells us.

We're Flesh. God is Spirit. So we have to be born again to fully be His real children

Turn now please to John 3:3. We've all read this a thousand times probably. Let's read it again. Yeshua says *unless we're born again* we won't see or be in the Kingdom of God. Let's read his description of "born again"

John 3:3-8

3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**"

4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**

6 **That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit IS SPIRIT. [NOW he proceeds to make it crystal clear.]**

7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. **So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.**"

Yeshua said, clearly, someone who is born again, is born of the Spirit **and IS spirit. Once we're spirit and no longer flesh, we can choose** to be invisible like WIND, or be visible. Angels could appear and disappear. Yeshua walked through doors and then appeared to be flesh and blood, and then disappeared again, on several occasions. More in part 3.

Right now, understand that **when we become children of God fully, we will be SPIRIT beings** with INCREDIBLE powers. We will not be angels. Hebrews 1-2 make it clear we'll be much higher than angels, who really are spirit household servants in Yehowah's house. We were not made after the angel kind. We were not made in the image and likeness of angels. NO, we were made in the image of GOD, in HIS likeness – and I believe, after His kind.

YESHUA IS THE KEY TO THE MYSTERY

Now let me prove it. We'll do that by understanding who and what Yeshua is and was. For this MYSTERY of which I speak is centered on Him! He is the DOOR, the portal we use to be part of this indescribable kingdom. He is the KEY, Yeshua is WAY into all of this.

WHY do we have to understand Yeshua? Because He is called THE Son of God – and is also worshiped as God. That is important to understand. And Yeshua has BROTHERS and

SISTERS. We'll see who those will be, and who they are. And you can't have brothers and sisters who are of a different "KIND" than you are. *I might love my dog for example, and it's part of our household -- but it's not my sister. That would be odd. I might consider it part of my household, but it's not my daughter.* NO – my children have to be HUMAN, like me. So what do the children of God have to be? The first son of God is what? He's not an angel. He's not flesh and blood. What is He? He is GOD! He is part of the ONE God family. And yet Yeshua is called "the FIRSTBORN of MANY brethren" (Romans 8:29). Saying "firstborn" implies there are others. Let the ramifications of this start to sink in.

Romans 8:29

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be **the firstborn among MANY brethren [siblings]**.

So Yeshua is going to have MANY siblings. And at that time they won't be angels or humans.

Siblings, but not co-equal

Yeshua is the son of God. YOU are also called a son or child of God. You are not of the angel or animal kind. Neither will you or I ever be anywhere near the authority of Yeshua, who in turn is not equal to God the Father. We're going to be co-heirs with Christ, so it's paramount to understand who Jesus is. It's VITAL to understand that when Yeshua – a man on earth at that time – called God His FATHER, He was accused of blasphemy! Someone will say I'm blaspheming for my message today – but I will back up everything I say. Let's focus on Yeshua for a few minutes.

Colossians 1:26-27

"...the **mystery** which has been hidden from ages and from generations, **but now has been revealed to His saints.** 27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of **the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: WHICH IS Christ in you**, the hope of glory."

So what does THAT mean? Christ IN YOU, the HOPE of Glory? This MYSTERY has everything to do with what Yeshua did, and continues to do.

We all accept that Yeshua is now the Son of God, sitting on the right hand of God most High, whom we call "Father". *But notice what HE said to Mary Magdalene near the Garden tomb, after his resurrection* – and then we'll backtrack and understand why He said it. Hallelujah!

John 20:17

Jesus said to her [Mary Magdalene], "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, '**I am ascending to My Father AND YOUR FATHER, and to My God and your God.**'"

There's a ton of information in that verse. He is clearly saying that – "Hey, Mary - - my Father is also your father. And I worship God Most High – our Father -- as my God, just as you do." And remember HE taught us all to pray, "OUR Father in heaven..."

Now you tell me: if you and I have the same father, are we not REAL – not just allegorical -- brothers or sisters or siblings? Isn't that what Yeshua is saying? Are you getting it? Are you excited yet? Do you see it? Do you HEAR His words – spoken to YOU this time? You – whatever your name is – "I'm going to my father and YOUR father. Yes, God Most High has also given you a right to born of GOD – just like John 1:11-12 says!"

Don't miss this. Don't fear this is blasphemy – or you have to cut out John 1:11-12 and the many other verses we have yet to read.

Now the writer of the book of Hebrews is trying to say the same thing. Read and re-read Hebrews 1 and 2 several times, until it is crystal clear to you. Read it on your knees and ask Father to help you see it!

After saying that angels were made to be servants to those being called to be children of God, he says this in Hebrews 2:10-13. This passage will also explain how there is to be such unity, such oneness in this family, that they are seen as ONE – with ONE mind, ONE body, they have ONE VOICE – though they be many – and they are being called to be part of the ONE God FAMILY.

Hebrews 2:10-13

For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, **in bringing MANY sons to glory**, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **11 For both He who sanctifies [Yeshua] and those who are being sanctified [that's US!] are ALL OF ONE**, for which reason **HE IS NOT ASHAMED TO CALL THEM BRETHREN [SIBLINGS]** 12 saying:

"I will declare Your name to My brethren;
In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."

13 And again:

"I will put My trust in Him."

And again:

"Here am I **AND THE CHILDREN whom God has given Me.**"

Are you HEARING the mystery being revealed? You and I are not being called just to be angels! And we're not "kinda like" children, or children by analogy only. NO, no, no! It's much more than that. We are being called to be "born of God" (John 1:12), BORN AGAIN of the SPIRIT (John 3:5-8) of God, as real children of God.

The "children" of horses are horses. The offspring of oaks are oaks. The kids of goats are baby goats. They all reproduce after their own kind. That is Yehowah's own law. SO when ELOHIM decides to have children – what must they be? Go ahead, say it – they must be of the same kind.

And if you and I have the same FATHER, that makes us siblings!

Romans 8:15-19 Holman Publishers

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, **by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father!"**

16 The Spirit Himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, 17 and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ—seeing that we suffer with Him so that we may also be **glorified** with Him.

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. 19 **For the creation eagerly waits with anticipation for God's sons [children] to be revealed.**

Romans 8:29-30

For those He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that **He would be the FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY brothers [siblings]**. 30 And

those He predestined, He also called; and those He called, He also justified; and those He justified, He also glorified.

Don't forget what we read earlier:

John 1:10-13

10 He [Yeshua] was in the world, and the *world was made through Him*, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 **who were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, **but of God**.

Now, once again, one of my favorite verses in the entire Bible:

1 John 3:1-2

Behold what manner of love **the Father** has bestowed on us, that we should be called **children of God!** Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 **Beloved, now we are children of God**; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but **we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like HIM, for we shall see Him as He is.**

My siblings in Christ: no one who is flesh and blood can see God in His glory and live! But it says WE shall be like Him, and WE shall indeed see Him as He is!

HALLELUJAH! HALLELUJAH! By the grace of God this will happen. Even former harlots like RAHAB can be forgiven – and not just forgiven but blessed with being in the FAMILY TREE of Yeshua. For God can take even you, and even me – broken and defiled as I have been by sin in my past, but now covered by His grace and by the blood of the Lamb and by faith in HIS righteousness – *and bring even someone like me into His kingdom. And someone like you.* But not just into His kingdom – but into His very FAMILY as His very own real children, of the same “kind” as HE is. Just like our older brother Yeshua! Re-read Hebrews 2:10-13 if you have to.

Family. After all, isn't that what a “kingdom” really is? It's a family grown large.

The Kingdom of Israel (Jacob) is simply all the millions of baby Israels there came to be... a family grown large. The Kingdom of God is not flesh and blood.

The kingdom of God is all the children of God, the FAMILY OF GOD, new beings who are BORN OF SPIRIT when they are resurrected incorruptible, as part of the perfect, flawless God family.

Why isn't this being preached more!? That's WHY we've read in John 3 and 1 Cor. 15 that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom. When we're in the kingdom of God, we are NOT going to be just like Adam and Eve were in the garden. NO, we're going to be born again **spirit** children of God, siblings to Yeshua, all of the same KIND, this time immortal. I will go in depth into that change, that resurrection, in the next sermon. Be sure to spread the word about this message, tell your friends about it.

God Most High will be exalted even higher with all those children around! He will still be the ONE TRUE GOD, as Yeshua called him in John 17:3.

If you're resisting this, let me ask you: then why would God call those who have His nature and His seed/the Spirit – His CHILDREN?

Now let's understand how Yeshua was the KEY to this destiny. Let's be sure we know WHO He was, and who He IS today – and what that all has to do with this topic. I'll tell you this much now: it has EVERYTHING to do with this topic.

WHO AND WHAT IS CHRIST; key to our Destiny

Who was Yeshua when He was born? Was he just a “good man” with “good thoughts”? When Mary was told she would give birth, what was she told she was giving birth TO?

Luke 1:35

35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the **power of the Highest** will overshadow you; therefore, also, **that Holy One who is to be born will be called the SON OF GOD.**"

Mark begins his gospel with... “...the gospel of Jesus Christ, **the Son of GOD**” (Mark 1:1).

In John 9, He tells the man born blind and now healed by Yeshua that in fact it was the very son of God who healed him.

Remember it is a sin to WORSHIP anything or anyone that isn't God. The first commandment says clearly: “You are to have no other gods before me.” Yeshua himself said, “You shall worship the Lord your God and HIM ONLY shall you serve” (Matthew 4:10). But Yeshua (Jesus Christ) was worshipped even as a human – at His birth by shepherds, magi and angels, as you know. He was worshiped by the healed blind man. He absolutely was deity, the Son of God.

John 9:35-38

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you **believe in the SON OF GOD?**"

36 He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

37 And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."

38 Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" **And he worshiped Him.**

Yeshua could NOT have been our sinless, perfect Savior if He had allowed Himself to be worshiped UNLESS He was truly God. Yes, He was.

- **Angels do not allow themselves to be worshiped (Revelation 19:10; 22:8-9).**
- **Yeshua was NOT just an angel, a messenger.** He WAS sent, he was a “malak” – messenger in that sense, but of a different order/class than angels. Neither was He JUST a representation of God. No, He was the UNIQUE **son of God**, the ONLY son of God to that point.

Yeshua referred to Himself as “the I AM” – which is a form of saying the name given to Moses – I am who I am (Exodus 3:13-15). Yeshua often simply said He **was “I am” (John 18:5-8)**. This was not lost on the Jews around Him. On top of that, He gave descriptives to **the “I am” – I am** the Bread of Life, I am door, **I am** the true vine, I am the Way, the Truth and The Life, **I am** the good shepherd, I am the alpha and omega (the first and the last) and so on.

So He's not afraid to claim to be what He was – the SON OF GOD who came from God, was up there with God Most High prior to coming to earth, and shared the Glory of God Most High.

He also often used the term “Son of Man”, which is used in Ezekiel and other places and many times it referred to the coming Messiah. So He openly said who He was. He was not from here –

but from heaven. He used to be up there with God unless the power of the Highest God – God the Father—came upon Mary and she bore the Son of God. We just read that. Believe it!

SO with all this going on, the Jews weren't stupid. They understood Elohim is "echad", meaning "one" in Hebrew. But, they said, "this man Yeshua is claiming to be His Son. We know the SON of Something is the same KIND of being (the son of a cat is a cat, etc.). So if this Yeshua is claiming to be the Son of God, He is saying HE is also GOD!" That's how they understood it!

Let's read it, and then notice that Yeshua does not deny their allegation. They got it!

John 10:27-37

27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 **My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all [OK—that has to be God, right?];** and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. 30 **I and My Father are one."**

31 **Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.** 32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"

33 The Jews answered Him, saying, "**For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.**"

34 Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, "YOU are gods"'?"

35 *If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), 36 do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?*

Yeshua was quoting from Psalm 82.

Psalm 82:6

I said, "**You** are gods (elohim in Hebrew), And all of you are children of the Most High.

The JEWS GOT IT! "The son of" anything is the same kind as its father. Someone who is the SON of God has to be..... what was Yeshua saying? Yes, HE was also GOD! They got it! And Jesus and His followers don't deny it: YESHUA IS GOD and with God Most High (the Father) IF HE IS THE SON OF GOD.

But Yeshua then quotes Psalm 82:6 and told the people right in front of him – "Hey, the Psalmist wrote that even YOU are elohim and children of the Most High".

He told Pilate He was the Son of God – Luke 22:70

THIS IS THE GREAT MYSTERY BEING REVEALED. GOD OUR FATHER IS HAVING CHILDREN. HE will forever and ever be the ONE TRUE GOD, but He is so ONE with Yeshua that they are considered ONE – echad – like Adam and Eve. And we are IN Christ, part of HIS One body – and yet we can still have our own unique personality. Remember: Christ said to the people of his day: "Your own law says 'You are gods (elohim)..."

One more thing: don't forget that we are said to be the "temple of the Holy Spirit" from God – housing the very divine power within us when Yehowah sends us His Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19).

2 Cor. 6:16 says God dwells in us by His Spirit – “I will dwell in them...” This was the same thing Yeshua promised the disciples, that He AND the Father would come and make their bodies and lives “their abode”.

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; **and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.**"

Did you notice the “We” and “Our” in that sentence? Yehowah’s Divine Family has more than one Being, but there is ONE God in the Highest, One God most High, and this Divine Family will be truly one, be one body, and speak with one voice reflecting the one mind of Christ. Do you realize how special this is? To have God Most High and Yeshua His Son SOMEHOW, by their Spirit, *make their home with mere mortals, we who still stumble from time to time... you and me?*

And are we also beginning to grasp how horrible it is when members of the royal family of the Kingdom of God, won’t come together, or won’t accept some of its members, or seem intent on staying apart? *We’ve got to change that, my brothers and sisters.*

Now let’s focus on Yeshua and be sure we understand this. For time’s sake, I will give short statements with back up scriptures you can read and study on your own if you’re not familiar with them.

Yeshua – the “ELOHIM” WHO CREATED AND SPOKE AND WALKED WITH MAN FROM THE BEGINNING.

John 1:1-3 – the Word of God was also God and was with God. The Word created all things.

John 1:12 – those who believe in the Word have the right to be born of God.

John 1:14 – the Word became flesh, and we know the Word now as Jesus Christ, or Yeshua.

Eph 3:9 says God created ALL THINGS through Jesus Christ. See also Heb 1:2; Col. 1:15-18.

SO the Elohim who said the words “Let there be light” was Jesus Christ.

YHVH who formed Adam with His own hands, and later formed Eve with His own hands – was Yeshua! Doesn’t that help you respect and praise Yeshua more than ever when you come to understand the “God of the Old Testament” who interacted with mankind – was none else than Yeshua!? Doesn’t it make you have exciting chills up your spine to realize the One who died for you and me on Calvary was the powerful Word who spoke billions of galaxies into existence?

How do we know this had to be Yeshua? Again, because scripture says all things were created by HIM and for Him. Besides that, NO MAN has seen God Most High or heard His voice except the Son of God (John 5:37; John 6:46; John 1:18) Also 1 John 4:12 – no human has ever seen God the Father except Yeshua.

But we know millions heard the voice of Yehowah on Mt. Sinai – Ex. 20:1-2. So that YHVH could NOT have been God the Father. It has to be the WORD again. We know Abraham pleaded with Yehowah (the LORD) face to face to be merciful to Sodom, for his nephew’s sake (Lot) (see Gen 18, especially verses 16-32). Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses and so many others walked and talked with Yehowah. The YHVH who wrote the 10 commandments with his own finger – was Jesus Christ, Yeshua the Messiah.

I'm convinced that the name "Yehowah" therefore is applicable to both God the Father and God the Word – just as "Elohim" refers to either one as well. Sometimes it refers to God Most High, and sometimes it refers to the Word of God. The context will make it clear as to which one.

BUT Yeshua – Jesus – is NOT equal to His Father, God Most High, in authority.

We know that the Trinity doctrine is false on several counts. It teaches that "God" is composed of three persons in one and these 3 persons are co-equal. But that's simply not Biblical. Yeshua said MANY times that He is not equal to His father before or after His resurrection.

Here's proof of that:

- He is called the Son of God Most High, or the Most High God – Mark 5:7; Luke 8:28
- Yeshua SAID – "My father is greater than I." John 14:28
- He was born from the Power of the Most High and called the SON of God.
- "The head of Christ is God" – 1 Cor. 11:3b
- Yeshua said over and over that he was not here to do his own will, but the Father's. He said repeatedly that He was one sent – and the sender is greater than the one sent.
- Other verses that prove Christ is subject to God the Father – and not co-equal – Eph. 4:6; 1 Cor. 3:23; 1 Cor. 15:27-28; Eph 1:3, 17.

So there is God the Highest and there is The Word of God. They are not equal in authority. But they are both God. And they are said to be "in" each other (John 10:10, 38) as one, much the same way that I am in Christ and He is in me, but I am also separate from Christ, I exist. And yet I am said to be part of His Body and in Him.

Yeshua, though He is God, has a God

Now this will make some of you think: Though Yeshua is God, and was with God – did you realize Yeshua (Jesus Christ) HAS a God as well? However, Father is never said to have a God. God the Father is the God of Yeshua. Have you ever realized it that way before? I'll prove it.

Why is this not being taught in church? Every Christian church teaches Yeshua is the Son of God, but who teaches Yeshua HAS a God?

Let's read a few just so you know what I'm saying is straight from scripture.

I'm reading these verses out to you, and ask you to pause the audio so you can read them carefully yourself in your own Bibles. Why? Because understanding this concept will be paramount to understanding this series: The Father, God Most High, has a Son – and wants more children and will have more children! So we're reading how even Yeshua (Jesus) HAS a God in God the Father. Sure, every Christian church teaches Jesus is the son of God. But do they teach Jesus HAS a God? [And WE will always have a God and Father, just like our Yeshua does.]

What did Yeshua cry out on the cross? "MY GOD, MY GOD, why have you forsaken me?" (Mark 15:34). Then AFTER His resurrection, He says to Mary Magdalene, "I go to my father and your father, to MY GOD and your God." – John 20:17

Ephesians 1:3 (Apologetics/Holman)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, in Christ;

He repeats it again in verse 17.

Ephesians 1:16-17

I do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: 17 that **the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory**, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

2 Corinthians 1:3 (also 2 Cor. 11:31)

Blessed be **the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

1 Peter 1:3-5

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope *through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 *who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

In Yeshua's prayer to Father:

John 17:3

3 And this is eternal life, that they may know **You, the only true God**, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Psalms 45:7 – a prophecy about the Anointed (that's what Messiah/Christ mean)

"You love righteousness and hate wickedness; **Therefore God, YOUR God**, has anointed you (Elohim your Elohim) with the oil of gladness more than your companions."

David understood that God is so unified it comes across as one – but that there were **two Beings on 2 thrones up there.**

Psalms 110:1

The LORD (Yehowah) said to my Lord (Adonai),

"Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

Obviously YHVH is not speaking to Himself. Yehowah is speaking to David's Adon – David's Lord. (Adon= Lord; Adonai = my Lord). Peter quotes this very passage in his Pentecost sermon in **Acts 2:34-36** and says that is about Yeshua!

Now AFTER His resurrection, Yeshua was worshiped and called "GOD" numerous times. Here are four of many I can use.

- **Thomas**, when realizing He was talking to the risen son of God, **John 20:27-28** **exclaimed, "my Lord and MY GOD".** (For the complete context, read verses 19-29 on your own)
- **Of course John 1:1-3** famously says the Word was in the beginning, was with God, and was God. Then verse 14 says the Word became flesh, and in context, this GOD who was the Word was Yeshua

- **2 Peter 1:1 -- Peter speaks of “the righteousness of our GOD and Savior Jesus Christ...”**

Romans 9:6 – refers to Christ as “the Eternally blessed God”

“...of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, **Christ came**, who is over all, **the eternally blessed GOD**. Amen.

Now TIE all this together: this GOD BEING – whom we know as Jesus Christ or Yeshua the Messiah – calls you and me HIS SIBLINGS (Hebrews 2:10-13).

John 1:12 says that those who believe in Him are given the right to be BORN OF GOD. In John 3:3-8 Yeshua says we have to be born again, this time to become invisible spirit, like wind (that is, invisible to the HUMAN eye). He says we're part of HIM, part of HIS one body and that he'll share the whole universe with His brothers and sisters.

And remember what we covered last time? WHO are His siblings? The ones who have God's spirit and ONLY those (Romans 8:9, 14). Later, just about everyone else will have their minds opened too and will have their chance at the Holy Spirit too. But we are the firstfruits of the plan of salvation of God Most High.

Because Christ is in me, I – even I -- have a hope of glory – but it has to be “in Him”. HE is my righteousness. Because HE lives, I will live. That's why Paul said he wanted to know Him and the power of *HIS* resurrection.

*If we claim we know Him, we must not deny His POWER to change us – no matter what we've been “BC” - - before Christ! Read 2 Timothy 3:5 – we must not deny His power to change us. IF I'm letting Him live in me, I will start to live more and more obediently (1 John 2:3-6) . When I stumble spiritually – for we all still stumble (James 3:2), I have an advocate with our **Father (1 John 2:1-2)** who defends me and stands up for me. He'll do the same for you if you accept Yeshua as your Savior.*

HE will clean you and me up and present us without flaw in HIM. Over time Christ is growing in you and me (Gal. 4:19) and we should be looking more and more like Him, day by day.

THIS MATTER OF 'ECHAD' – ONE, ONE GOD

I will have to cover this again, in more detail in part 3. A big reason most would reject the idea that Elohim wants REAL children is the “shema” – Deuteronomy 6:4 where God is said to be one, or in Hebrew “echad” – pronounced “ehad”.

Deuteronomy 6:4

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord (YHVH) our God(Elohim), the Lord is one!

“Hear, O Israel, Yehowah our Elohim, Yehowah is one.”

It is explained that this word “Echad” (one) means one unit and has to be one unit. But the way Scripture uses this word says something quite different. We know there was man, then there was woman built from the side of man. Now there were TWO distinct creatures. Now let's read Gen 2

Genesis 2:21-24

21 And YHVH ELOHIM caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. 22 Then the rib [side] which YHVH God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

23 And Adam said:

"This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh;
She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."

24 **Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and THEY (the 2) shall become ECHAD – ONE—flesh”.**

So TWO can be echad, ONE, if there's one unified purpose and direction. If they work for a common good, the same direction, speak with one voice and work together. Let's look at another example of "echad".

Tower of Babel – hundreds/thousands of people -- that's the context.

Genesis 11:5-7

5 But YHVH came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And YHVH said, "Indeed ***the people are one (ehad)*** and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.

7 **Come, let Us go down** and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

If you look up the definition of this **Strong's Number 259 – e-had (echad)** in "**The Complete Word Study Dictionary of the Old Testament**", it points out that ehad is used in the Bible in many ways. It can mean simply one, one person, or a person from among many (Gen 3:22). They go on to say, "*It expresses agreement or unity among persons*" (Ex 24:3). . . It can also mean the first of something, like the first day of the month (Gen 8:5).

Then it says, "the word is pluralized to mean several, few, or a while (Gen 11:1; 27:44).

Exodus 24:3

So Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the judgments. And **ALL** the people answered WITH ONE (echad) VOICE and said, "All the words which the Lord has said we will do."

The many spoke as ONE – but they were MANY.

So this notion pushed by rabbinic Jews that echad means ONE PERSON only, in all instances in the Scriptures, is simply not the case, and I've made that case. When we are ONE in Christ, we can be ECHAD, like Adam/Eve, like the united peoples in Babylon, like Yeshua asking that the 11 remaining disciples be ONE. ELEVEN – be one! Let's read that.

John 17:11 (Jesus praying to His Father in heaven....)

11 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, **that they may be one as WE are.**

John 17:20-25

"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 **that they all may be ONE, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You;**

that THEY also may BE ONE in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, ***that THEY (the 11) may be one JUST AS WE are ONE:*** 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

SO “ELOHIM” is “echad” – ONE – but Elohim is PLURAL. And we read of WE, US, OUR, as we covered last time.

So when we read the Shema in **Deuteronomy 6:4**, we must realize that God is a UNIFIED FAMILY! ONE FATHER, ONE GOD – and yet Yeshua is also GOD, and HE’S just the FIRST OF MANY brothers and sisters, according to scripture, who will be part of the “CHILDREN of God”.

By the way, there is NO command in scripture that we are to SAY the Shema 2x a day. This is an added “oral law” that has no basis in scripture. I think that saying this over and over, with the misunderstanding of how echad could be used in scripture, is one of several reasons why so many Jews failed to see the SON of God who came to them, His own people. I’m hoping to have a whole sermon on why and how Jews missed Yeshua. But I praise Father in heaven as He IS opening the eyes of more and more Jews to see their Jewish Savior.

We’ll wrap this up next time. I hope this understanding of what our real destiny is, is taking your breath away. I had more I wanted to say, but let’s save that for next time.

Yes, YOU have been called to be among the firstfruits of those being born again as real children of God. We’ll soon be into the Passover season. And Passover is all about how the plan to have children can begin to come about. Our big brother Yeshua left the glory He had in heaven to come to earth as a baby, grow up and teach His Father’s Way – and then die for us all, to pay the penalty of our sins for us. He then was resurrected 3 days later to live again. We’re forgiven by his death, but saved by his LIFE (Romans 5:10). How? Because as He lives in us, He is molding and shaping us to look more and more like Him – “until Christ is formed in you” (Gal. 4:19).

We DO have to change. Don’t believe the lie that you must be the sinner you always were before. No, we must change, we can change with the power of the Highest cleansing us and making us His new creation in Christ.

Next time we’ll cover topics like:

- More about echad
- When will we be fully born again as a spirit being?
- What will that be like?
- Then what?
- And then let’s celebrate together this awesome calling we have!

Until next time, may Yehowah’s spirit be with you and guide you, may our Father beam when He thinks of you, may he watch over you and protect you and bring you peace. (I love reciting Yehowah’s name over His people!) If this message has blessed you, share it with others. Email or call me if you have any questions.