

and Doctrine :: Do Christians study to know what the Bible says or do they just repeat what has always been taught?

**Do Christians study to know what the Bible says or do they just repeat what has always been Taught? - posted by Rev**

<http://revsre.blogspot.com/2015/12/two-roads-out-of-time-and-into-eternity.html>

This link is to a Study journal that I am working on.

I know it is different.

I know some will disagree.

BUT, I am sure it is what the Bible teaches.

Your comments would be greatly appreciated.

**Re: Questions - posted by docs (), on: 2016/7/10 8:12**

You are obviously a thinker and I laud that. You have done a pretty good job with your journal and I laud that also. You must have a more than a usual amount of personal discipline to take time to write these things down. So not for argument's sake but for discussion I did have a few questions regarding the first part of your thoughts about the "Word."

Quoting,

"John 1:1 was translated to Latin then German and English with the theology that Jesus existed from before creation because He could not be Flesh, a man. BUT, Jesus was a man, He had to be a man to take our place and pay the sin debt. In a wonderful, hard to understand, God controlled mystery Jesus was both God and man, the exact extent of which I cannot explain."

I read through your reference to Tertullian and his translation three times and I kept being drawn to the part above. Especially,

"John 1:1 was translated to Latin then German and English with the theology that Jesus existed from before creation because He could not be Flesh, a man.

After having read it three times I kept coming to the same conclusion that you are challenging the common Christian view that Jesus existed before creation. Taking the totality of these comments in mind, including what came before this paragraph, do you believe God had a thought or a plan and then decided for Jesus to come into being as the One who would carry out that plan? That's a honest question from me. I'm just not clear what you are getting at here in these interesting comments. And then above you seem to be saying that the common Christian doctrine that Jesus existed before creation is wrong. Yet I may not be reading your comments correctly so, are you saying the notion that Christ existed before creation is wrong? I offer these questions in the same spirit that you said comments are welcome - civil discussion.

Thank you.

**Re: Is Jesus eternal? - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/10 22:24**

You read it correctly. Yes the second person of the trinity is God and self-existent before time. The MAN JESUS was born in time and place of Mary and the Holy Spirit The Literal son of God. HE was a man in every way we are. In the "God-Man union He was GOD. But the man had a beginning lived, taught, Took our place on the Cross. Was raised from the dead and Glorified in Heaven. I think the problem is in understanding the God-Man. Many seem to see Him as one. There are two. God the second Person and a man the Son of God. Jesus was a real man in time and space, YES he had a beginning and a death and resurrection and was seated at God's right hand. That is what the Bible teaches, men have tried to make Jesus not be FLESH because flesh is evil.

Now so I am not a Heretic God is self-existent HE created eternity and time, God does not live in Eternity day by day He inhabits eternity Every second of time before Him present now. So in that Jesus has existed with GOD for all eternity, and appeared several times in the OT.

THE WORD in John 1:1 means a thought carried out to maturity NOT A PERSON. Simply THAT VERSE does not say Jesus is eternal. He was a real man that lived and died.

One more point PLEASE do not take an illustration of some thing men teach and don't understand as the purpose for what I wrote. There is a lot more here that will CHALLENGE "Common" Church doctrine.

**Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2016/7/11 1:55**

How was Jesus a Human Being? His mother was a human being.

How was Jesus the only begotten Son of God. God was His Father.

Who created all things for Jesus and by Jesus? Who is the Word of God?

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

First word; beginning: Strong's Greek Dictionary

746. ἄρχη arche

Search for G746 in KJVSL

ἄρχη arche ar-khay'

from 756; (properly abstract) a commencement, or (concretely) chief (in various applications of order, time, place, or rank): beginning, corner, (at the, the) first (estate), magistrate, power, principality, principle, rule.

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

2nd word: with; Strong's Greek Dictionary

4314. πρός pros

Search for G4314 in KJVSL

πρός pros

a strengthened form of 4253; a preposition of direction; forward to, i.e. toward (with the genitive case, the side of, i.e. pertaining to; with the dative case, by the side of, i.e. near to; usually with the accusative case, the place, time, occasion, or respect, which is the destination of the relation, i.e. whither or for which it is predicated): about, according to, against, among, at, because of, before, between, (where-)by, for, X at thy house, in, for intent, nigh unto, of, which pertain to, that, to (the end that), X together, to (you) -ward, unto, with(-in). In the comparative case, it denotes essentially the same applications, namely, motion towards, accession to, or nearness at.

Third word; Life: Strong's Greek Dictionary

2222. ζῆ zoe

Search for G2222 in KJVSL

ζῆ zoe dzo-ay'

from 2198; life (literally or figuratively): life(-time). Compare 5590

Who was the breath of life breathed into Adam?

If all things were made by The Word, (Jesus) that had to be in beginning of God who has no beginning. This breath had to be the beginning of the World plus seven days as we know it from scripture and what we know today.

Jesus is God the Son from all eternity to all eternity.

"if you see Me you have seen the Father."

"I and the Father are One." Like Jesus Christ and I are one in spirit.

1 Peter 1:22-25 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

From the world began without end. BY the Word who liveth and abideth forever.

Is His present body eternal? If my body is to be changed to be like His, is my body eternal also?

You wrote: " There is a lot more here that will CHALLENGE "Common" Church doctrine."

What is that?

Lastly; 1 Corinthians 15:28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

In Christ: Phillip

**Re: A seeming contradiction - posted by docs (), on: 2016/7/11 5:19**

/That is what the Bible teaches, men have tried to make Jesus not be FLESH because flesh is evil./

I'm just speaking from my own experience of many years in the Lord yet I have never heard any orthodox teacher anywhere being afraid to make Jesus FLESH because flesh is supposedly evil. The glory and mystery of the incarnation of Christ is that indeed the Word did become flesh and dwelt among us.

I think there is a contradiction in some of what you say as illustrated below. You stated,

/ So in that Jesus has existed with GOD for all eternity, and appeared several times in the OT./

So you verify that Jesus has existed from all eternity. Then in the next sentence you seem to contradict that what you have just stated when you write,

/THE WORD in John 1:1 means a thought carried out to maturity NOT A PERSON. Simply THAT VERSE does not say Jesus is eternal. He was a real man that lived and died./

You say the verse John 1:1 does not mean Jesus is eternal when just before that you stated He has existed with God from all eternity.

So there's a circular type of contradiction here or something.

John 1:1 should automatically be paired with John 1:2.

1 In the beginning was the Word and the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 HE was in the beginning with God.



This could go on forever I see your position and your point. You are all teaching to traditional view of this verse, and it is not my idea to change your mind, it is only an exercise in thinking, WHAT DOES IT SAY, I of course think it says way more than the traditional teaching.

Please read and comment on ALL the work Especially the second part Satan's Counterfeit. If you understand Satan's counterfeit (ancient Babylonian mysticism) Possibly my position on John 1 will be clear.

Please do not lose the meaning of the whole over one illustration.

Based on you Brethren not following my thought here, I will remove the illustration from later copies of this lesson. If you do not follow my thinking other Church members will not either.

**Re: , on: 2016/7/11 18:15**

Hi Steven

Could I ask who else holds your view?

**What does Moral mean to you? Do we serve a Moral God? , on: 2016/7/11 18:48**

You say: "but I am a defender of Natural Free Will making us Morally Responsible Agents."

Steven, there is no "natural goodness" which becomes the basis of a "natural morality" within a "natural theology." "There is none good, no not one" (Rom. 3:12). "No one is good, except God alone" (Luke 18:19). When mankind thinks that he can know "good" and define "good" from his own perspective alone, he ends up calling "evil good, and good evil" (Isa. 5:20), and Isaiah pronounces a woe upon those who are thus "wise in their own eyes, and clever in their own sight." (Isa. 5:21).

Evil and Good are not autonomous. They do not exist independently by themselves.

God alone is autonomous and we are but derivative creatures deriving good from the character of God or evil from the character of Satan. We cannot stand alone as "Morally Responsible Agents" as you put it.

**Re: What does Moral mean to you? Do we serve a Moral God? - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/11 19:18**

Brother J

You changed the subject. I only said Natural Free will in the respect that GOD gave man a free will, in that respect it is natural or from God. You passed to Natural Theology a different subject.

Romans 3:12 is a reference to NATURAL MAN as Paul discusses him. Natural Man without God is not good he is LOST.

Good is an attribute of GOD it tells us something about Him. Evil is simply the opposite of Good. Think of it, words have meaning, Satan has used this you are to evil to know God for a long time to defeat us in our fellowship with God.

Please READ what I said. God made man for FELLOWSHIP and gave us enough of His image to truly fellowship with HIM.

There is a lot in traditional theology that is not only WRONG but HARMFUL.

**Re: - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/11 19:21**

Sister Brenda

Every one who understands what the Bible says apart from old school theology will understand the TRUTH. I do not hold the any specific theology other than what I find to be taught in the Bible.

**Re: , on: 2016/7/11 20:21**

Thanks for clarifying.

**Re: The Son did not create the world? - posted by docs (), on: 2016/7/11 20:45**

16 For BY HIM ALL THINGS WERE CREATED, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created BY HIM, and for Him:

17 And He is BEFORE ALL THINGS (eternal), and BY HIM ALL THINGS EXIST. (Col 1:16-17)

The verses before this fully reveal Jesus the Son is being spoken of.

It seems difficult to confidently advocate that Jesus in the beginning was just a thought or plan that later came to maturity.

I fully 100% concede Jesus was incarnated as fully God and fully human.

**Re: OK who was it God of Jesus? - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/11 21:21**

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Rev 4:8 And the four living creatures had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

Rev 4:9 And when those living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him that sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,

Rev 4:10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that is sitting on the throne, and worship him that lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

Rev 4:11 You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for you have created all things, and for your pleasure they are and were created.

That is GOD!

**Re: brother Steven - posted by JFW (), on: 2016/7/11 21:50**

I think I'm tracking with you on this and am hopeful to understand fully what you're putting forth-

I've noticed similar if not the same inconsistencies between what we're taught verses what the scriptures say,...having said this, would you mind (if it doesn't detract too much) explaining how this relates to your understanding of the trinity?

**Re: , on: 2016/7/11 22:28**

Heresy:

belief or opinion contrary to orthodox religious (especially Christian) doctrine:

here we have a good example

**Re: Do Christians study to know what the Bible says or do they just repeat what has a - posted by InTheLight (), on: 20**

Quote:

-----Do Christians study to know what the Bible says or do they just repeat what has always been Taught?

-----

What your question is implying is that we only believe in the living God who is there and exists on the high order of the Trinity because someone told us so when we were growing up. It's like saying that you only believe  $1 + 1 = 2$  because your first grade teacher told you so. What we learned something from is merely incidental, what really matters is, is it true? As

you yourself have pointed out, godly men of the ages have affirmed the truth of the Triune God, and they know for themselves the God who is there.

In Christ,

**Re: - posted by docs (), on: 2016/7/12 0:54**

Jesus is God.

Two plus two = four.

7 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government shall be upon His shoulders; and His name will be called Counselor, MIGHTY GOD, ETERNAL FATHER, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:7)

How can the Son to be born legitimately be called MIGHTY GOD and ETERNAL FATHER if He wasn't that? The Spirit of prophecy is the testimony of Jesus and the Spirit who prophesied this does not lie or embellish because it is the Spirit of TRUTH.

Colossians 1:15-17 proves beyond doubt that Jesus, the MIGHTY GOD and ETERNAL FATHER, was the agent of creation.

One plus one = two

Two plus two = four.

God = Jesus

Jesus = God

Basic foundational truth as basic to the universe as neutrons, electrons and protons (created by Him by the way)

He regarded EQUALITY WITH GOD as a thing to not be grasped.

If we don't understand all things as clearly as we will one day it gives us a chance to exercise our faith. We don't have to understand everything to believe. JESUS IS GOD.

**Re: Do Christians study to know what the Bible says or do they just repeat what has a, on: 2016/7/12 3:18**

Steven

Apart from the theological aspects of your writing, your OP is presenting a false dichotomy.

You may have always been taught that true religion consists of having an encounter with the living Christ, and hearing His voice speak through the Holy Spirit to teach and train in the ways of godliness (backed up by your understanding of scripture).

Conversely, you can study the scriptures till the cows come home, and yet still fail to be in living contact with Christ who makes known what is of God and what is not, by the gift of discernment only given to those who are born again of the Spirit and who walk in righteousness and purity.

Are you in agreement with this?

**Re: - posted by docs (), on: 2016/7/12 3:42**

So most of the truths ascertained over the centuries and history of the church needs to be discarded in favor of views like yours? Why are you and a few like you the only ones able to see this new school theology? False teaching and error are most always accompanied by railing against long established truth in favor of new truths supposedly not previously seen or understood. You identify yourself and your beliefs with the TRUTH that can only be seen your way is another telling sign. Letting the orthodox church at large exercise discernment and analysis of one's teachings is not unfruitful and is a sign of confidence and security. If I were you I would let the larger body of Christ take a look at your views and share their insight as to its correctness or lack thereof. You have done that here but haven't been so pleased with the corporate discernment that is coming your way. The safety valve of the body is there for a good reason and is a wise way for God to



o do things when doctrine is involved. No one means you any harm. Yet if you have lack of respect for the body (they're supposedly bound by old school theology) then you will find their comments and input to be a burr and that again is another sign of being an island alone instead of a part of a larger corporate body. Best of luck but in my opinion you need to rethink some of your very obvious contradictory comments. Meanwhile, Jesus was not a plan and thought in God's mind that later came to maturity. It just isn't so. Colossians 1:15-17 is very decisive insight regarding Jesus being eternal and the agent of creation. Yes in other places it says God created the world but JESUS IS GOD.

Blessings to you.

**Re: - posted by twayneb (), on: 2016/7/12 16:46**

Steven: There are a lot of tools that we use to help us rightly divide scripture. But the number one tool is context...scripture commenting on scripture. We must study the whole of the word of God so we have the full counsel of scripture before we fix a conclusion. I applaud you for your study and for your desire to present the conclusion you have drawn for others to critique. When we do this, we must do it with the right motivation. Are we seeking the opinion of others so that we might come to a knowledge of the truth, or are we seeking a debate for its own sake. Do we want to be proven right, or do we want to ultimately be correct in our interpretation?

There is so much about God that we do not understand. We are finite, created beings who are trying to comprehend an infinite, eternal being. We are incarnate. We are locked into flesh, this earth, and time. God is outside of all of these. He is Spirit. One of our problems is that we only have an understanding of what it means to be eternal from our own temporal perspective. So we really don't understand eternity or eternal existence much at all.

Jesus incarnation was not his creation. It was an eternal being, the Son of God, humbling Himself and taking on the form of a man.

I want you to consider the following scriptures.

John 5:54-58. Jesus Himself claimed to have existed before Abraham. The Jews were saying exactly what it seems you are saying. They were saying that Jesus' existence began at His birth. He corrects them and says, "Before Abraham was, I am."

Philippians 2:7. Paul tells us that Jesus was in the form of God and did not consider Himself to be taking what did not rightfully belong to Him to claim equality with God. God says that He is Spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth. So Jesus was also present as a spiritual being before His incarnation. Paul goes on to tell us that Jesus humbled Himself and was made in the likeness of men. That is what the incarnation is. That is the whole of the doctrine of the incarnation. Jesus, in the form of God, condescended to flesh and blood for the purpose of paying the price for our sins. It is perhaps THE foundational doctrine of all of Christianity.

The idea that Jesus was only a thought in the mind of God until he was born to Mary is simply not supported by scripture in any way, shape, or form. In fact, the great weight of scripture clearly and plainly states the opposite.

I recall a time when I thought I had really arrived at a revelation in scripture that I had never seen before. I was excited about it, and took it to some brothers for review. I was very quickly shot down, and the scriptural evidence that they gave me clearly showed me that I was wrong. I was doing a good job of study, but my understanding was incomplete and there were other scriptures that spoke to the matter that I did not know about. Once I had the full counsel of scripture, I was able to come to a fuller understanding of the truth...and I had to wad up my wonderful revelation and pitch it in the can. But I was thankful that I now knew the truth.



**Re: I agree - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/12 22:23**

Brother Travis

I agree with you. And there is a lot in what I wrote that I knew would spark real debate. BUT, MY Question was "DO CHRISTIANS JUST REPEAT WHAT THEY HAVE HEARD, OR DO THEY STUDY THE BIBLE AND KNOW WHAT THEY BELIEVE.

There is a lot here I cannot explain nor do I know the exact meaning of all the Bible truths. But I do know I discuss Bible with a lot of people that do not know WHY they believe what they say. It is interesting to me that in all I wrote this one point seems to be the one we can't get past. Yes Jesus is God and eternal. In the HUMAN realm as a man HE was born lived and Died resurrected and rewarded. In the eternal realm of God He is eternal. WE MUST be sure to See Jesus is BOTH GOD and MAN, He has to be a man to the work of a high Priest that He did.

Heb5:1 For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:

Heb 5:2 Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are wayward; for he himself also is beset with weakness.

Heb 5:3 And for this reason he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins

I want every one to KNOW WHY They BELIEVE!

1Pe 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

Hard Questions help us all come to that reason.

**Re: Many see others as wrong. - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/12 22:33**

Sister Brenda

I do agree with you, I do not have all the answers but I know there are many things in the Church teaching that are not any better understood. I am not Calvinist, that makes me VERY WRONG to some but I still feel God gave man a free right to Choose. I am not Catholic I think Jesus paid for All Sin ONCE FOR ALL, so again I am seen as wrong.

THAT IS NOT MY POINT, I asked DO Christians know WHY they Believe what they repeat from "Church Teachings"

1Pe 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

**Re: Trinity - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/12 22:42**

Brother Fletcher

One what three who's! I think Charles Stanley said that but it is good any way.

THERE IS ONE GOD and three persons we MUST NOT make it three GODs. But in personal relation the the Time space realm of man there are three PERSONS. No I cannot explain it any better than One what three who's!

Thank you for the support, I don't know all the answers but no one else does either.

**Re: - posted by JFW (), on: 2016/7/13 0:04**

No worries,

Personally after I found out enough to know "they" were wrong on all of stuff, and saw how they devoured each other I began to question everything.... started over from scratch-

Basically I admitted I didn't know anything and imagined I was on a deserted island and had never been taught or indoctrinated by any man made system and a bible washed up on shore and I read it...what would I believe it was saying? So I began reading it again, with a fresh eye....That changed everything for me as I only had an allegiance to and a hunger for, the truth. Not finished yet but there are def some "golden calves" in the church that need to come down.

Nowadays and for centuries people are far more concerned with being "right" rather than righteous,...my eye is set on one end, the pleasure of my Father who is in Heaven. Whatever that requires I'll do it, whatever that costs I'll pay it, wherever it leads I'll follow it, whenever it stops so shall I. Tho I may at times fail His grace, He will lift me and set my feet on the

ancient paths and in the end if I fall short of the victory He won for me, it's no discredit to Him and it's all on me. Tho if I make it to the end of the race, finish well, having kept the pace it is all credited to Him, His mercy, His faithfulness, His righteousness, His grace.

Blessings to you brother, keep excavating and polishing what you find, mining the word of God is never a waste of time and it's not about being right but glory God gets from us striving....

Strive to maintain unity in the faith

Strive to enter through the straight gate

Strive to enter into His rest

Love every minute of it;)

Without love we are nothing and there's not nearly enough of it here on SI much less in the world-

**Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/7/13 0:35**

I believe it is Zac Poonen who said that if Christians do not read the Bible slowly and carefully they deserve to be deceived. If we do not take the time to read the entire Word of God then how will we know what is true and false? We will not, but just believe someone we believe knows better.

So the point of the thread is taken well that we should be students of the Word of God and learning from God Himself. Even the best of teachers at times should be confirming what the Lord has already shown us in "part".

**Re: - posted by twayneb (), on: 2016/7/13 7:42**

Quote:  
----- I agree with you. And there is a lot in what I wrote that I knew would spark real debate. BUT,  
MY Question was "DO CHRISTIANS JUST REPEAT WHAT THEY HAVE HEARD, OR DO THEY STUDY THE BIBLE AND KNOW WHAT THEY BELIEVE."  
-----

Steven: Totally agreed. I recently heard a pastor say this. "If what you were taught in church, if what your grandparents or parents taught you, if your own opinion of anything disagrees with what is clearly taught in scripture, then it is wrong and you must turn from it and agree with the word of God." It really is true. And the only way that we are ever going to know the truth is if we study the word of God and allow God to tell us what truth is. All too often we latch onto an idea and we never go to the word ourselves to find out if it is so.

**Re:Other points. - posted by RevSRE (), on: 2016/7/13 13:38**