



Blueprint
of
Blessing

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Blueprint of Blessing

An introduction to the Divine Pattern

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The Divine Pattern

Many of us have fallen into the habit of compartmentalizing our various doctrines of belief as separate pieces of information. Imagine that as you're learning different Bible truths, someone is handing you building blocks, each block representing a different doctrine. But you're not given any building plan, or instruction of what to do with these blocks. So as you receive them, you simply add them to a growing pile of blocks you've created in a spare room. The information is all there, and you may be able to sift through and find the one you're looking for when you need it, and even remember the Scriptures that were used to prove it. However, the information is jumbled and disconnected, without any of the doctrines being supported or strengthened by the others.

What is the danger of this? Well, imagine how easily a false doctrine could slip through and get added to the pile. There would be no indication of the fact that it did not fit within the structure of truth. However, if we have a blueprint to follow, we can easily discern truth from error, and see how each belief fits together perfectly to create a clear and beautiful picture of who God is, who we are to Him, and all that He has done for us.

Has God Provided a Blueprint?

Yes, and we don't have to look far to find it! We will refer to this blueprint from this point forward as **the Divine Pattern**. The first mention of this pattern is found in the very first inspired words of Scripture—"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (**Genesis 1:1**) The phrase "in the beginning," begins with the Hebrew letter **Bet**. It is the very first letter of God's Word, and this is no accident. This letter lays a critical foundation, which may seem very strange to us from the perspective of the English-language. How can one letter be so important? Well, it was not arbitrary that God chose the Hebrew language for His people and His written Word. Each letter of the Hebrew alphabet actually has several layers of meaning, which, when studied, reveal an amazingly deep and profound network of truth within the Scriptures.

Bet is the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet, signifying the number two. It represents **the beginning of duality**—so that there can be both a giver and a receiver, **a source and a channel**. As the first letter of the Bible it provides a dramatic leap from Absolute Oneness, to the ability for there to be two. It is the catalyst of all creation. Bet’s literal meaning denotes a house, representing the concept of a vessel for something else to fill, dwell within, and operate through.

This first letter of Scripture reveals that the Source/Channel relationship is the Divine Pattern of life by which our entire universe was created, and designed to operate within. We will see that rejecting this pattern was not only the cause of Satan’s rebellion, but the very root of his attack upon humanity—to obscure this pattern in our minds as well. But when we understand this Source/Channel pattern, we begin to see it everywhere—and I mean *everywhere!*—in the Bible. With this blueprint as our foundation, we can fit together all of the beautiful truths of Scripture and clearly discern the lies that Satan has brought in to try to collapse the structure.

#1. Source & Channel

The Source

The Divine Pattern is founded in the fact that there is **one** ultimate Source of all things—all life, love, goodness, and truth. Since understanding this pattern is essential for us, the Scriptures have clearly identified that Source.

- **1 Corinthians 8:6** *"But to us there is but **one God, the Father, of whom are all things**, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him."*
- **Ephesians 4:6** *"**One God and Father of all**, who is **above all**, and through all, and in you all."*
- **1 Timothy 6:16** *"**Who alone has immortality**, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honour and everlasting power. Amen."*
- **James 1:17** *"**Every good gift** and every perfect gift is from above, and **comes down from the Father of lights**, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."*

The truth that our Heavenly Father is the one and only Source of life and goodness, and only desires to bless His creation, is exactly what Satan rebelled against. Satan believed that he could step outside of God's channel of blessing, and experience a higher state of existence on his own. He believed that God was withholding something good from him, and he could be his own source of life and goodness. This is the exact same lie that he told Eve in the garden, saying,

- **Genesis 3:4-5** ⁴ *"**You will not surely die.**"* ⁵ *For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil."*

Satan continues to use the same tactics today. He constantly seeks to convince men and women that they can live better and more fulfilling lives apart from God—that they have life *in themselves*. Once we understand the Divine Pattern, we can begin to see how every deception and false doctrine of Satan has its roots in denying the Father as the Source of all things, and also denying His appointed Channel...

The Channel

Jesus came to this earth to reveal the Father's love for humanity. Therefore, it was necessary that He clearly reveal His Father's identity, and our relationship to Him. Jesus strongly expressed and upheld the truth that His Father is the ultimate Source of all life and goodness.

- **John 10:29** *"My Father, who has given them to Me, is **greater than all**; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand."*
- **John 17:7** *"Now they have known that **all things** which You have given Me are **from You**."*
- **Luke 18:19** *"So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? **No one is good but One, that is, God**."*
- **John 5:19** *"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."*
- **John 5:30** *"I can of Myself do nothing...."*
- **John 17:3** *"And this is eternal life, that they may know **You [Father], the only true God**, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."*

If Jesus identified His Father as the "only true God," then who is Jesus?

- **Matthew 16:15-17** ¹⁵ *"He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?'"* ¹⁶ *Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, **the Son of the living God**.'* ¹⁷ *Jesus answered and said to him, 'Blessed are*

*you, Simon Bar-Jonah: for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but **My Father** who is in heaven."*

Christ proclaimed that Simon Peter's answer was inspired by the Father Himself – that Jesus is **His Son**! His answer was so powerful that Christ shortened his name to Peter, which means "a rock", and declared that "**on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.**" (**Matthew 16:18**) The Father declared this same truth with His own voice at Jesus' baptism, saying, "**This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**" (**Matthew 3:17**)

But how do we understand the Sonship of Christ? Let's first look again at **1 Corinthians 8:6** to understand how Jesus, the Son of God, fits into the Divine Pattern:

- *"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and **one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him.**"*

Paul explains that the Father is the "of whom," and Jesus Christ is the "by whom." The Father is the Source, and Jesus is the Channel. This is brought out in many other passages describing the work of creation as well.

- **Hebrews 1:1-2** ¹ "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by **His Son**, whom He has appointed heir of all things, **through whom also He made the worlds;**"
- **John 1:3** "All things were made **through Him**, and without Him nothing was made that was made."
- **Colossians 1:15-16** ¹⁵ "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ 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."

The testimony of Scripture is that God, the Father, created all things through His Son, Jesus. Jesus was the Channel through which the Father manifested His creative power. This Source/Channel relationship continued forward from the work of creation into all of God's dealings with humanity in the work of redemption.

- **1 Timothy 2:5** *"For there is **one God** and **one Mediator between God and men**, the Man Christ Jesus,"*
- **John 14:6** *"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes **to the Father** except **through Me**."*

The question that naturally follows, then, is: When and how was this relationship established?

Only Begotten

If the Father is the Source of *all* life and being, He must also be the Source of the life of His Son, Jesus. We just read in **Colossians 1:15** that Jesus is *"the firstborn over all creation,"* and in the most well-known verse of Christianity, the nature of His Sonship is revealed as well.

- **John 3:16** *"For God so loved the world that He gave His **only begotten Son**, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

The word translated "only-begotten" is the Greek **monogenes**, and it is used to describe Christ's Sonship in four other verses as well (**John 1:14, 1:18, 3:18,** and **1 John 4:9**). It literally means "only-born," i.e. the only child of a parent. Angels and humans are both referred to as "sons of God" in the Bible, but Jesus is the only One identified as God's **begotten** Son. So how do we understand that Jesus was "begotten" of the Father? When did this take place?

Scripture reveals that Jesus was God's Son *before* He came to this earth. In other words, it was not His birth in Bethlehem that made Him the begotten Son of God. Referring to the work of creation, King Solomon declared,

- **Proverbs 30:4** *"Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is **His name**, and what is **His Son's name**, if you know?"*

King Solomon, who'd received more wisdom than any other man, understood that God, the great Creator of the universe, had a Son! Likewise, when Daniel and his three friends were taken captive to Babylon, the prominent positions they were granted caused their faith in the God of heaven to become well-known. When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego were thrown into the fiery furnace for refusing to worship the golden image (**Dan. 3:13-23**), King Nebuchadnezzar knew about the God whom they served, and recognized who the fourth Being that appeared in the fire with them must have been:

- **Daniel 3:25-26** ²⁵ *"Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like **the Son of God**."* ²⁶ *Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, **servants of the Most High God**, come out, and come here."*

The faith of Daniel and his friends had witnessed to the Babylonian King not only that they served the Most High God, but that this God had a Son!

But if Jesus was God's Son before He came to this earth, when was He "begotten" of the Father? We find that through King Solomon, Christ gave amazing insight into His relationship with the Father in **Proverbs 8:22-30**. Though this passage appears to be attributed to "*wisdom*," note that **1 Corinthians 1:24, 30** and **Luke 11:49** reveal that Jesus Himself is "*the wisdom of God*." Thus, we infer that Christ is speaking of Himself in this passage.

"The LORD (Yahweh) possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old.

*I was **set up** from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.*

*When there were no depths, I was **brought forth**; when there were no fountains abounding with water.*

*Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I **brought forth**:*

While as yet He had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.

When He prepared the heavens, I was there: when He set a compass upon the face of the depth:

when He established the clouds above: when He strengthened the fountains of the deep:

when He gave to the sea His decree, that the water should not pass His commandment: when He appointed the foundations of the earth:

*then I was by Him, **as one brought up with Him**: and I was **daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him,**"*

(Prov. 8:22-30)

This beautiful description of the companionship between the Father and Son in the days of eternity reveals that Jesus had an origin to His existence. Our finite minds cannot fathom *when* this occurred, because in reality it was before the measurement of time was established. All that we are granted to know is that it was before the creation of the universe, because the Father created all things through His Son. This is how Jesus is *"the firstborn over all creation."*

This moment, the origin of the Christ's existence, is exactly what is described within that first letter of the Bible—Bet—the dramatic leap from the absolute Oneness of God to the duality of Father and Son; the beginning of the Source/Channel relationship through which the worlds were created.

Jesus tried many times to point His listeners to the origin of His existence—the Source of His life.

- **John 5:26** *“For **as the Father has life in Himself**, so has He **given to the Son** to have life in Himself;”*
- **John 8:42** *“Jesus said unto them, ‘If God were your Father, you would love Me: **for I proceeded forth and came from God**; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.”*
- **John 16:27-28** ²⁷ *“For the Father Himself loveth you, because ye have loved Me, and have believed that **I came out from God**. ²⁸ **I came forth from the Father**, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.”*
- **John 17:8** *“For I have given unto them the words which Thou gavest Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that **I came out from Thee**, and they have believed that Thou didst send me.”*

In every instance, the event of proceeding/coming forth from the Father is *separated* from the event of being sent into this world (conjunction underlined). This clarifies that Jesus was speaking of two separate events – being begotten in heaven, and being sent to earth. Jesus has been the only begotten Son of God, the Prince of Heaven, from the beginning of God’s way—before the creation of the universe and all its inhabitants.

The Deity of Christ

By the testimony of Jesus, it is revealed that there was a point in the great expanse of eternity when the Father chose to bring forth a divine Son. Therefore, Christ had an origin, while the Father did not. Does this lessen Christ’s divinity in any way? Absolutely not!

- **John 5:26** *“For **as the Father has life in Himself**; **so has He given to the Son** to have life in Himself”*

- **Colossians 1:19** *"For it **pleased the Father** that in Him **all the fullness** should dwell."*

What is the fullness that the Father was pleased to have dwell within His Son?

- **Colossians 2:9** *"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead (**deity/divinity**) bodily."*

** Note that the word translated "Godhead" here is the Greek word **theotes** (G2320), which simply means **deity – the state of being divine**. Christ was brought forth from the very life of the Father Himself. It pleased the Father to bring His Son into existence, with the same full, divine, eternal life that He had in Himself. Just as a *human* father begets a *human* son, our *divine* Father begot a *divine* Son!

John 1:1 presents this beautifully in the original Greek, with the first use of "God" actually being a definite article. If thus more directly translated it would read:

- *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with **the God**, and the Word was God."*

This sounds a bit funny in English, which is likely why it wasn't translated this way, but it helps to clarify the verse. In the beginning Jesus was with His Father (the only true God; the Source of all things), but Jesus Himself was also God in nature. He was fully divine.

- **Hebrews 1:4-5** ⁴ *"... as He has **by inheritance** obtained a more excellent name than they.* ⁵ *For to which of the angels did He ever say: 'You **are My Son**, today **I have begotten you**?' And again: 'I will be to Him a **Father**, and He shall be to me a **Son**'?"*

Jesus is divine because He *inherited* His Father's divinity. But the Father is the Source of all, without origin, making Him the only *true* God—the LORD (*Yahweh*) Almighty. In verses 8 and 9 we again see that while Jesus is divine in nature, His Father is still God over all.

- **Hebrews 1:8-9** ⁸ *"But to the Son He says: "Your throne, **O God**, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore **God, Your God**, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions."*

Though Jesus is fully divine, and worthy of our worship as the Son of God, He also *has* a God – His own Father.

- **Matthew 27:46** *"And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, '... **My God, My God**, why have You forsaken Me?"*
- **John 20:17** *"Jesus said to her, '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.**'"*
- **Romans 15:6** *"That you may with one mind and one mouth glorify **the God and Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ."*
- **1 Corinthians 11:3** *"But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and **the head of Christ is God.**"*
- **Ephesians 1:3** *"Blessed be **the God and Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ..."* (See also **2 Corinthians 1:3**, **2 Corinthians 11:31**, **Colossians 1:3**, and **1 Peter 1:3**)
- **Ephesians 1:17** *"...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"*

- **Revelation 1:5-6** ⁵ *“...To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His blood, ⁶ and has made us kings and priests to **His God and Father**, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”*
- **Revelation 3:12** *“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of **My God**, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of **My God**, and the name of the city of **My God**, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from **My God**. And I will write on him My new name.”*

Jesus' Father is His God because He is the ultimate Source of all life, including Christ's! But the Father begot His Son to be **the Channel** through which He would manifest His power and blessing to His created beings. Understanding the relationship between the Father and Son is the foundation of the Divine Pattern. It's no wonder that Satan has sought to confuse and obscure the reality of Jesus' Sonship so greatly in the minds of men.

Not surprisingly, Christ's identity as God's Son was the very truth that Satan attacked during His temptation in the wilderness. The devil knew that the only way he could overcome Jesus was if he could get Him to doubt His identity, and surrender His trust in His Father.

- **Matthew 4:3** *“...**If You are the Son of God**, command that these stones become bread.”*
- **Matthew 4:6** *“...**If You are the Son of God**, throw Yourself down...”*

The fallen angels knew who He was as well:

- **Mark 5:2-7** ² *“And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit... ⁷ And he cried out with a loud voice and said, ‘What have I to do with You, Jesus, **Son of the Most High God**? I implore You by God that You do not torment me.”*

- **Luke 4:41** *"And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, 'You are the Christ **the Son of God!**' And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak: for they knew that He was the Christ."*

Christ's own declaration of His identity was the reason He was persecuted:

- **John 10:36** *"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?**"*
- **John 19:7** *"The Jews answered him, 'We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself **the Son of God.**'"*
- **Matthew 26:63** *"But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, 'I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, **the Son of God!**'"*
- **Luke 22:70** *"Then they all said, 'Are You then **the Son of God?**' So He said to them, 'You rightly say that I am.'"*
- **Matthew 27:40** *"And saying, 'You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are **the Son of God**, come down from the cross.'"*
- **Matthew 27:54** *"So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that happened, they feared greatly, saying, 'Truly this was **the Son of God!**'"*

And this is, in fact, the only belief by which we are saved!

- **John 3:16,18** ¹⁶ *"For God so loved the world that He gave **His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life...*** ¹⁸ *He who believes on Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of **the only begotten Son of God.**"*

- **John 20:31** *"But these are written that you **might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God**, and that believing you may have life through His name."*
- **1 John 5:10-13** ¹⁰ *"He who **believes in the Son of God** has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and **this life is in His Son**. ¹² He who **has the Son has life**; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who **believe in the name of the Son of God**, that you may know **that you have eternal life**, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."*
- **John 5:25** *"Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God: and those who hear will live."*

One of the main reasons that Satan has so strongly fought to hide the truth of Christ's relationship to the Father, is because it critically affects the way that **we** relate to the Father. God has revealed in His Word that our salvation is dependent upon us having "**the faith of Jesus**."

- **Galatians 2:16** *"Knowing that a man is not **justified** by the works of the law, **but by the faith of Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified."*
- **Romans 3:21-22** ²¹ *"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; ²² even **the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ** unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:"*

- **Philippians 3:9** *"And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is **through the faith of Christ**, the righteousness which is of God by faith:"*
- **Revelation 14:12** *"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and **the faith of Jesus.**"*

We can see why Satan does not want us to understand the faith that Jesus has; the faith that He longs to impart to us. The faith that Jesus has is the faith He has in His Father, The devil certainly does not want us to receive justification, righteousness, and eternal life.

So what is "the faith of Jesus"? It is complete trust, joy and delight in doing His Father's will at all times.

- **John 5:30** *"I can of Myself do **nothing**. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, **because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father** who sent Me."*
- **John 12:49-50** ⁴⁹ *"For **I have not spoken on My own authority**; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. ⁵⁰ And **I know that His command is everlasting life**. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."*
- **John 14:10** *"... The words that I speak to **you I do not speak on My own authority**; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works."*
- **John 6:38** *"For I came down from heaven, **not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.**"*
- **John 7:16-18** ¹⁶ *"... **My doctrine is not Mine**, but His who sent Me. ¹⁷ If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is of God or whether I speak on My own authority. ¹⁸ He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but **He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.**"*

Notice the direct contrast between the faith of Jesus, and the way Satan operates:

- **John 8:44** *"You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and **does not stand in the truth**, because **there is no truth in him**. When he speaks a lie, **he speaks from his own resources**, for he is a liar **and the father of it**."*

God is **the only Source of truth**, which He imparts to us through His Son, but Satan rejected this Divine Pattern. He began to speak "*from his own resources*," which could only produce that which is outside of truth. Thus, he became the father of lies. From that moment until now Satan speaks from himself, seeking his own glory. There is no righteousness and no truth in him. He continues to try to convince men and women that they can also speak from themselves, and create truth and righteousness apart from God. This mindset is directly opposed to the faith of Jesus.

The faith of Jesus is to know that we can of ourselves produce no goodness, no truth, no life, but that any good thing must come to us from the only true Source—the Father. And as Jesus is the appointed Channel for all created beings, we receive all things from the Father, through His Son.

Understanding the Divine Pattern and grasping the reality of this Source/Channel relationship in our own lives is the only way we can come to the place of admitting that we have no power to save ourselves from the bondage of sin, and come to Jesus to receive the victorious life the Father has provided through Him.

- **Ephesians 1:3** *"Blessed be **the God and Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with **all spiritual blessings** in heavenly places **in Christ**."*

#2. In Our Image

As we've discussed, Satan's rebellion was caused by his desire to step outside of the Divine Pattern. He did not accept the relationship between the Father and the Son. He didn't want to submit to Christ, to receive all things from the Father through Him. The lie that this submission was unnecessary for life was what he dispersed throughout the heavenly angels, and, as Scripture reveals, one third of them accepted this lie. (**Rev. 12:4**)

When it came time to create humanity, God's plan was far from arbitrary.

- **Genesis 1:26-27** ²⁶ *"Then God said, **Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness**; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.* ²⁷ *So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."*

Male & Female

As the Father and Son worked together in the creation of all things, this included the creation of humanity. The Father said to His Son, *"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness."* I used to assume that this verse was simply referring to physical appearance, or perhaps even the ability to procreate and have dominion over lesser creatures. But the truth is much more profound than that... *"In the image of God He created him; **male and female** He created them."* The creation of both the male and the female is a crucial part of creating mankind in the image of God. It is in fact a reflection of—you guessed it—the Divine Pattern.

As Satan had confused the minds of the angels, God chose to use the creation of mankind to illustrate the Source/Channel relationship between Himself and

His Son to the entire universe (**1 Cor 11:10**). This is how we were truly made in the image of God, and the design of humanity holds much greater significance than most of us realize.

So let's study the creation of mankind. What was the first step?

- **Genesis 2:7** *"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and **man** became a living being."*

God created Adam. The first human being to ever exist. He was to be the **source** of all human life. We could say that in Adam dwelt the fullness of humanity. But God was not finished. Adam alone could not fully represent "the image of God."

- **Genesis 2:18** *"And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him **a helper comparable to him**."*
- **Genesis 2:21-23** ²¹ *"And the LORD God 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 which the LORD 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**."*

Eve was born in a manner different from any other human being. She was brought forth from the very life and substance of the man, and therefore was a part of him in the truest sense.

In her, then, also dwelt the fullness of humanity. She was just as fully human as Adam was. This design beautifully parallels the way that the Son was begotten of the Father's own life, and thus is just as fully divine as the Father is. This parallel can help us to better understand **John 1:1**, if we insert the names of Adam and Eve for the sake of the illustration.

- **John 1:1** *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with [the] God, and the Word was God."*

- (In humanity's case) → "In the beginning was **Eve**, and Eve was with **the human**, and **Eve** was **human**."

Or → "In the beginning was **Eve**, and Eve was with **Adam**, and **Eve** was **Adam**."

Eve was not "*the human*"—the first human, the source of all humanity, Adam—but she was not any less human than Adam was. She was completely human, completely *Adam* in **nature**, yet she was a distinct personality. She was a part of him, his helpmate, and was brought forth to be the **channel** through which the rest of humanity would be created and blessed.

- **Genesis 3:20** "And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was **the mother of all living**."

The Flow of Blessing

The relationship God created between the man and the woman, reflects the beautiful Source/Channel relationship between Himself and His Son. Jesus was brought forth from the Father's divine life, just as Eve was brought forth from Adam's human life. This does not make the Son any less divine than the Father, just as Eve is not any less human than Adam. The Son is a part of the Father as much as Eve was a part of Adam. The Father and Son share one life, one Spirit, and the same is meant for man and woman. God intended that the marriage relationship would bless the world with an understanding of what it means to be one in Spirit.

- **Genesis 2:24** "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall **cleave unto his wife**: and they shall be **one flesh**."
- **Colossians 2:2** "that their hearts may be encouraged, being **knit together in love**, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both **of the Father and of Christ**,"

And just as the oneness of a husband and wife does not do away with their unique personalities, the same is true for the Father and Son. Husband and wife are meant to be one in Spirit, in purpose, and in labour, as the Father and Son are one.

- **John 17:22-23** ²² "... That they may be one **just as We are one...** ²³ *that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.*"

That Eve was created from Adam's **rib** is just as significant, as this represents her place of appointed blessing and rest in the bosom of the man, near to his heart, and at his side as his help mate. This intended relationship of submission becomes so beautiful, and in complete opposition to the idea of bondage—giving up of woman's rights or freedoms—when we realize that it represents the relationship that Jesus has with His Father.

- **1 Corinthians 11:3** *"But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, **the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.**"*
- **John 1:18** *"No one has seen God at any time. **The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.**"*

Jesus knows that His submission to His Father is in no way a position of bondage, but a position of abundant blessing!

- **John 3:35** *"**The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.**"*

According to this beautiful Pattern, the husband is intended to be the source of spiritual strength for his household. He is intended to pour out love, honour, and spiritual blessings upon his wife, that they may flow out through her to their children, relatives, friends, and others, just as the Father imparts these blessings to His Son, that they may flow out to all created beings through Him. The ways that the wife is able to bless others thus glorifies her husband as the head of their home, just as the works of Jesus glorify His Father as His Head. This is why the woman is called "the glory of man," as Jesus is the glory of the Father!

- **Hebrews 1:1-3** ¹ *"God...² has in these last days spoken to us by **His Son...³ the brightness of His glory** and the express image of His person..."*
- **1 Corinthians 11:7-8** ⁷ *"For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and **glory of God**; but woman is the **glory of man**. ⁸ For man is not from woman, but **woman from man**."*

Satan's Misrepresentation

In the Scriptures, glory is related to **character**. Satan has so attacked the identity of men over the years, that many people have a picture of the husband/father role as unemotional, unaffectionate, stern, exacting, and even absent in many cases. Thus, the position of a wife and mother is held in contrast as the one who is warm and loving; full of compassion, sympathy, and affection for her family. Hollywood makes great use of these stereotypes, often making the negative traits of the male a source of either humour or pain in the family setting. This is why many people today are more readily drawn to the idea of a "Mother Earth," instead of a Heavenly Father. In a recent discussion with a friend of mine about God being a Father, she replied, "But there's just so much coldness and tension and anger in the world right now... I feel like what humanity needs is a Mother, who can bring us back into true compassion and love for one another."

What I shared with her is that this love the world needs **is** found within our heavenly Father, and that it has been Satan's greatest objective to hide this fact. But all the evidence we need is found in the life of Jesus, as He is the brightness of His Father's glory, and the express image of His person! The character of Jesus, who longed to gather the children of Israel as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings (**Matt. 23:37**), and gave His life for those who hated and killed Him, forgiving them in the midst of the very act, is simply a revelation and magnification of His Father's love for humanity.

These negative traits so often attributed to and expected from husbands and fathers is completely contrary to God's design and purpose for men. Just as the character of Jesus is but a magnification of His Father's character, the same is meant to be true of wives and husbands! The warmth, compassion, and love that a wife displays are meant to be nothing but a magnification of the warmth, compassion, and love that her husband has within himself, and has shown unto her. Any positive traits that a wife/mother can express, should also reside within the man, for "man is not from woman, but woman from man." Remember that Eve was made from Adam's own flesh. All that she had within herself was originally from him! But she was brought forth to magnify these traits, that she should be "the glory of man."

However, it is only possible for a wife to receive and magnify these traits from her husband if he has accepted his own divinely appointed position as "the glory of God." He can only receive the fullness of the Father's character of love into his own heart if He is intimately connected to the Channel, Jesus Christ.

- **Ephesians 5:25** *"Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ** also loved the church and **gave Himself** for her."*

This selfless love can only come from God through Jesus. Thus a man is to receive it and pour it onto his wife that she may magnify it, that the "glory [character] of man" may become a magnification of the "glory [character] of God." This is God's will for humanity!

If a husband rejects this calling, his wife is certainly able to draw the love she needs directly from Christ to give to her children, but this bypasses the channel of blessing God created the husband to be for her, and thus creates disunity in the family. The rejection of this calling by so many men today is the reason why it is easy to find studies showing that, in general, women pray, read their Bibles, and attend church more regularly than men. Mothers feel their responsibility to pour out love upon their children, more than men often feel their responsibility to pour out love upon their wives. And this is simply because children are completely uninhibited in the demands for love they make upon their mothers, while many wives hold themselves back from making their need of love known to their husbands (for a variety of possible

reasons). If a man is disconnected from Christ as his Channel of love from God, he may be able to deceive himself for a time into believing that this choice only affects him, due to not seeing the effect on his wife immediately. But if the selfless love a mother needs to give her children is not coming to her through her husband, the intensity of this need will often cause her to turn to Christ to receive it. Thus, it seems women tend to feel their need of God, and open their hearts to receive Him, more readily than men.

Yet even when a wife of an unbelieving husband turns directly to Christ to receive all the love she needs for herself and her children, notice the counsel that is given to her:

- **1 Peter 3:1-2** ¹ *"Wives, likewise, be **submissive** to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be **won by the conduct of their wives**, ² when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear [reverence]."*
- **Ephesians 5:22** *"Wives, submit to your own husbands, **as to the Lord.**"*

Even while a husband is not fulfilling his role within the Divine Pattern, his wife can still be blessed in fulfilling hers. Paul continues by encouraging her to have *"... the incorruptible beauty of **a gentle and quiet spirit**, which is very precious in the sight of God."* (**1 Peter 3:4**) This kind, non-combative spirit, with a willingness to submit to a man's leadership regardless of differing views, will serve as a powerful witness to her husband. As she allows the character of Jesus to be magnified in the way she loves and serves her spouse, he will experience deeper and deeper conviction of the state of his own heart, until he finally realizes his own desperate need of Christ.

God will faithfully bless any wife or husband who comes to Him individually, but only once both partners have embraced their ordained roles as the source and channel of spiritual blessings for their family can they begin to *fully* flourish in the richness of God's intended pattern for mankind.

God designed the genders of humanity in this amazing way for the purpose of drawing the whole universe into a deeper knowledge of the Source/Channel relationship between Himself and His Son, *"because what may be known of*

God is **manifest in them**, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, **being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead (divinity)**, so that they are without excuse." (Romans 1:19-20)

It is not shocking at all that Satan's first attack upon humanity sought to break this relationship between Adam and Eve, as his goal from the beginning has been to rebel against the Divine Pattern. What he initiated by simply tempting Eve to leave the side of her husband, resulted in Adam first choosing loyalty to Eve above loyalty to Christ, his Head, and soon afterwards blaming Eve for deceiving him, and blaming God for having given her to him—completely severing the channel of blessing God had intended him to be to her.

- **Genesis 3:12** *"Then the man said, **"The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."***

From this point onward, Satan has not ceased to attack and pervert human relationships, knowing that by destroying the family dynamic God designed for our spiritual blessing, he can lead many men and women into lives of misery and sin. We surely see the results of his efforts in our society today.

In all of this Satan seeks to obscure the Divine Pattern in our minds, to keep us from stepping into the channel of blessing that he stepped out of. He is now fully aware of the fate that awaits those who disconnect themselves from the Source of life, so he desires to lead as many as possible to disconnect along with him. He will go to any length to keep us from understanding and taking hold of the faith of Jesus. But praise be to our heavenly Father, for sending His Son—His Right Arm, His True Vine, His Living Word—to reveal these things to us. That we may be drawn back into Their channel of blessing, and receive all that our Father longs to give us through Christ.

- **1 John 1:3-4** ³ *"that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is **with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.*** ⁴ *And these things we write to you **that your joy may be full.**"*

#3. The Spirit of God

As we've discovered that the Father is the Source of all, we can also confirm with scripture that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father Himself.

- **John 15:26** *"But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even **the Spirit of truth**, which **proceedeth from the Father**, He shall testify of Me"*
- **Genesis 1:2** *"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the **Spirit of God** moved upon the face of the waters."*

Just as the "Son **OF** God" implies possession (i.e. The Son belongs to the Father, He is His Son), the "Spirit **OF** God" does also. The Holy Spirit is exactly as the Bible describes – the Spirit **OF** God. It is God's *own* spirit, the spirit **of** the Father!

- **Matthew 10:20** *"For it is not you who speak, but the **Spirit of your Father** who speaks in you."*

What is a Spirit?

As a quick aside, let's look at some other "spirits" in the Bible...

- **Genesis 41:7-8** ⁷ *"...And **Pharaoh** awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. ⁸ And it came to pass in the morning that **his spirit** was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt..."*
- **Genesis 45:27** *"And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the **spirit of Jacob** their father revived."*

- **Deuteronomy 2:30** *“But **Sihon king of Heshbon** would not let us pass through: for the LORD your God hardened **his spirit**, and made his heart obstinate...”*
- **Ezra 1:1** *“Now in the first year of **Cyrus** king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the **spirit of Cyrus** king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom...”*

There are many more examples, but I think the point is clear. In no other instance would we think of someone’s spirit as being anything other than that – their own spirit, i.e. their mind, thoughts, and character. So why would we picture a separate, third being when the Bible says “the Spirit of God”? The Father is an all-powerful, omnipresent spirit-being, and therefore can be sitting on the throne of heaven in body, and yet be present here on earth in Spirit.

- **John 4:23-24** ²³ *“...for **the Father** seeketh such to worship **Him**. ²⁴ **God is a Spirit**: and they that worship **Him** must worship in spirit and in truth.”*

Through the Son

Remember that it pleased the Father that the fullness of divinity would dwell within His Son. Therefore, Jesus is filled with the Spirit of His Father—they are one in Spirit. Jesus was brought forth to be God’s “Right Arm”—the Channel through whom God would manifest His glory to His creation.

- **John 12:37-38** ³⁷ *“But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, ³⁸ that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: “Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has **the arm of the LORD** been revealed?””*

Just as the Father wrought all of creation through His Son, it is also through Jesus that we receive the Spirit of God!

- **Ephesians 2:13,18** ¹³ *"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ... ¹⁸ For **through Him** we both have access **by one Spirit to the Father.**"*

The book of John comes alive so beautifully when we understand this powerful truth.

- **John 14:20-23** ²⁰ *"At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will **manifest Myself to him.**' ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, 'Lord, how is it that You will **manifest Yourself to us**, and not to the world?' 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.**"*

The Holy Spirit is none other than the Spirit of Christ and His Father, and we can have Their Spirit living in us! We see that the terms, "Spirit of God" and "Spirit of Christ" can be used interchangeably, because they share one Spirit.

- **Romans 8:9-10** ⁹ *"But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the **Spirit of God** dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, he is not His.¹⁰ And **if Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness."*

When Christ became a member of the human race, He clothed His divinity in humanity...

- **Philippians 2:6-7** ⁶ *"who, being in **the form of God**, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking **the form of a bond-servant**, and coming in the **likeness of men.**"*

Yet He was still filled with His Father's Spirit, and it was by this sustained Oneness with the Father that He was able to overcome all the powers of the enemy; resisting sin in His own body, and destroying the effects of sin in the lives of others—healing the sick, casting out demons, and raising the dead!

- **Isaiah 42:1** *"Behold, My servant whom I uphold. My elect One in whom My soul delights! **I have put My Spirit upon Him**; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles"*
- **John 14:10** *"Do you not believe **that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me**? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but **the Father who dwells in Me does the works.**"*

Sending "Another" Comforter

After His victorious resurrection, the glorified Jesus would be the Channel by which mankind would have access to that very same Spirit. This is why the Holy Spirit, known after Christ's ascension as "the Comforter", could not be given to His disciples until Pentecost.

- **John 7:39** *"But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was **not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.**"*
- **John 16:7** *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away; **for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you**; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you."*

Only once Christ returned to heaven to be glorified, and commence His work in the heavenly sanctuary as our High Priest, could the Father send the gift of the Spirit through Him to His awaiting disciples.

- **Acts 2:32-33** ³² *"This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. ³³ Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having **received from the Father** the promise of the Holy Spirit, **He poured out this** which you now see and hear."*

- **Hebrews 4:15** *"For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in **all points tempted as we are**, yet without sin."*
- **John 14:16-19** ¹⁶ *"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you **another Comforter**, that He may abide with you forever; ¹⁷ even the **Spirit of Truth**; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth Him: but **ye know Him**, for **He dwelleth with you** and **shall be in you**. ¹⁸ I will not leave you comfortless: **I will come to you**. ¹⁹ Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; but ye see Me: because I live, ye shall live also."*

The Comforter could not be sent until Jesus was glorified, yet Jesus said "He dwelleth with you" in *present tense*, but "shall be in you" in *future tense*. By saying "ye know Him" and "He dwelleth with you", Christ was identifying Himself, filled with His Father's Spirit, as the very same Comforter. Though He was currently dwelling *with them* in person, in the future He would be *in them* by the Holy Spirit.

The Greek word for "Comforter" is "*parakletos*". John is the only author who used this term—four times in his gospel, and once in 1 John. Despite the *widely* held belief that the Comforter is a third individual, distinct from the Father and Christ, John had actually purposed in his writings that there would be no question of who he was referring to. Unfortunately, his effort for clarity was hidden in the translation. In **1 John 2:1** he identifies exactly who he was speaking about, but this term, *parakletos*, was here translated as "Advocate" instead of "Comforter".

- **1 John 2:1** *"My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an **Advocate** with the Father, **Jesus Christ** the righteous."*

OR → *"... if anyone sins, we have a **Comforter** with the Father, **Jesus Christ** the righteous."*

Our “parakletos”, our “Comforter”, is none other than Jesus Christ! But why, then, in **John 14:16** does Christ say that the Father will send **another** Comforter? Doesn’t this mean that it must be a separate person?

There are two Greek words which are translated as “another” – *allos* and *heteros*. While *heteros* means “another of a *different* sort” (ex. “May I try another type of apple?”), *allos* means “another of an identical sort” (ex. “Those green apples are delicious! May I have another?”) The word Christ used in this passage was *allos*. Therefore, He was not telling them that the Father would send a *different* Comforter, but that He would send a Comforter *identical* to the One who was currently with them! The Father had sent Christ to be their Comforter in a body of flesh, and would send Him again, in Spirit.

- **Hebrews 2:18** *“For in that **He Himself has suffered**, being tempted, **He is able to aid those who are tempted.**”*

Christ alone can give us victory over worldly temptation, because He has taken on our fallen human nature and triumphed over sin! We also shouldn’t take issue with the fact that while describing “the Comforter” Christ speaks of Himself in the third person, as He did this all throughout His ministry. (**Matthew 13:41, 24:27,30, Mark 10:33-34, 45, Luke 17:24, 18:8, John 10:2-4, 17:1-3**, etc.)

Only One Way

Remember that **1 Timothy 2:5** tells us, *“For there is one God and **one Mediator** between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.”* There is only one Mediator – one Intercessor.

- **Romans 8:26** *“Likewise **the Spirit** also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself **maketh intercession** for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”*

Letting Scripture interpret Scripture, who is said to make intercession for us?

- **Romans 8:34** *"Who is He who condemns? It is **Christ** who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also **makes intercession for us.**"*
- **Hebrews 7:25** *"Therefore [**Christ**] is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God **through Him**, since He always lives to **make intercession for them.**"*

Jesus Himself is that one Mediator, that one Intercessor between God and men. He is the only Channel—the only Way we are made one with the Father.

- **John 17:23** *"**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."*
- **Galatians 4:6** *"And because you are sons, God has sent forth the **Spirit of His Son** into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!'"*
- **1 Peter 1:10-11** ¹⁰ *"Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, ¹¹ searching what, or what manner of time, the **Spirit of Christ who was in them** was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow."*
- **1 Corinthians 2:16** *"For 'who has known the mind of the LORD that He may instruct Him?' But we have **the mind of Christ.**"*
- **1 Corinthians 15:45** *"... 'The first man Adam became a living being. **The last Adam** became a **life-giving spirit.**'"*

May we all pray to receive the only life-giving Spirit – the Spirit of our Saviour Himself!

- **Revelation 3:20** *"**Behold I stand at the door**, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, **I will come in to him**, and will sup with him, and he with Me."*

Christ wants to fill us with the very Spirit He has from His Father, that we may have the same power He had on this earth to overcome the temptations of this world, and live a victorious Christian life. Only through Him can we be transformed, day by day, to reflect God's image as He does.

- **2 Corinthians 3:17-18** ¹⁷ Now **the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.** ¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.**"
- **Philippians 4:7** "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds **through Christ Jesus.**"
- **John 16:13** "...when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He **will guide you into all truth.**"
- **Philippians 4:13** "I can do all things **through Christ** who strengthens me."

The Father and Son are longing to come abide with you through the Spirit, to give you the strength to overcome, guide you into all truth, and give you the peace which surpasses all understanding. *Will you let Them?*

- **Colossians 1:26-29** ²⁶ "Even 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.** ²⁸ Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect **in Christ Jesus.** ²⁹ To this end I also labour, striving according to **His working** which **works in me mightily.**"
- **Galatians 2:20** "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but **Christ liveth in me:** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by **the faith of the Son of God,** who loved me, and gave Himself for me."

Christ is the image of the invisible God, and by Christ were all things created. (Col 1:15-16)

Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

Why did God the Father create everything through Christ His Son? Why does God have a Son? Why do we need to go through the Son to reach the Father? The answers to these questions are at the heart of the science of salvation.

If we can understand the relationship of God to His only Begotten Son, and their relationship to the rest of the universe, we have a key to understanding creation itself and everything in it. For everything was created in this pattern of the Father-Son, and in this relationship is the loving pattern for all relationships.

