

12 Proofs That Jesus Is God
Adult Sunday School Class
Lesson 2: Son of God & Son of Man

Matthew 16:13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the **Son of Man** is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, **the Son of the living God.**" 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.

Son of God

Council of Nicea (325 AD): "We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, **the only Son of God**, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

- **What does Scripture mean by "Son"?**
 - **"Son" in Scripture can refer to a person's character or identity:**
 - "A "son of Aaron" was a priest, a "son of Asaph" was a musician and songwriter (2 Chronicles 35:14-15), and a "son

of the prophets" was a prophet (2 Kings 2:3). "Son of" was also used metaphorically to identify one's nature or a personality trait: Jesus is called the "Son of God," a title communicating His divine nature (1 John 5:13); and the "sons of thunder"—James and John—were known for their somewhat outgoing personalities (Mark 3:17). Son could refer to nationality: a "son of Zion" was a Jew—a citizen of Israel or Jerusalem. Son also indicated religion: sons of Chemosh (Numbers 21:29) and sons of Belial (Deuteronomy 13:13)."¹

- **Ephesians 2:2** ...the spirit that is now at work in the **sons of disobedience**— ESV
- **John 17:12** not one of them has been lost except the **son of destruction**, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ESV
- **Is the term "Son of God" a statement of Christ's deity?**
 - **When Jesus called himself the Son of God, he was claiming to be God:**
 - **John 5:16** So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jewish leaders began to persecute him. 17 In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working."

18 For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even **calling God his own Father**, making himself **equal with God**.

19 Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. 20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed. 21 For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. 22 Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, 23 that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him. 24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. 25 Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

- **John 19:7** The Jewish leaders insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God."

- **Why are others called "son(s) of God" in Scripture?**
 - **Claim:** "The term "son of God" is also used of Adam, angels, the nation Israel, peacemakers, and Christians."²
 - **Truth:** "Son of God" is used differently when referring to Christ in contrast to others (angels, people, etc.).
 - **Hebrews 1:1-14**

- **Did Jesus become the Son of God or was he always the Son of God?**
 - **The Eternal Sonship of Christ:** "The doctrine of eternal Sonship is the teaching that Jesus has always, eternally existed as the Son of God. In contrast with the view that teaches Jesus "became" the Son of God when He was born in Bethlehem, eternal Sonship affirms Jesus has existed as God's Son for all eternity."³
 - "If the Son was not in the Trinity from eternity, how then could the Father have any such title until Christ was born of Mary?"⁴

²https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/stewart_don/faq/what-everyone-needs-to-know-about-jesus/14-if-others-are-called-the-son-of-god-how-is-jesus-different.cfm

³ www.compellingtruth.org/eternal-sonship

⁴ <https://plymouthbrethren.org/article/10136>

- When Jesus was "given", He was already known as God's Son (John 3:16)
- The Son made the world (Hebrews 1:2)
- The Son was with the Father before the creation of the world
 - **John 17:5** And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

The Son of Man⁵

- **Why did Jesus Call Himself "Son of Man"?**

- Son of Man is a title of humanity.
- Son of Man is a title of humility.
- Son of Man is a title of deity.

- The Son of Man was able to forgive sins (Matthew 9:6).
- The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath (Mark 2:28).

- The Son of Man came to save lives (Luke 9:56; 19:10), rise from the dead (Mark 9:9), and execute judgment (John 5:27).

○ Son of Man is a fulfillment of prophecy:

- **Daniel 7:13** "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

- **Matthew 26:63** But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." 64 "You have said so," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." 65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy.