

“WORD OF LIFE”

August 14, 2022

30. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (10) – In Resurrection

4. The Firstborn Son of God

Hymns: #203 / #277 / O Father, Thou art boundless love

✚ IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD (John 1:1)

Acts 13:33 - That God has fully fulfilled this *promise* to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, “**You are My Son**; this day have I **begotten** You.”

Rom. 8:29 - Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the **Firstborn** among **many brothers**;

Heb. 2:10 - For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading **many sons** into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

2Pet. 1:4 - Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

✚ LET US OFFER UP A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE CONTINUALLY TO GOD (Heb. 13:15)

❖ Christ’s resurrection was His birth as **God’s firstborn Son**.

- He was the **only begotten** Son of God from eternity (John 1:18; 3:16).
 - **As to His divinity** there **was no need** for Him to be begotten as the Son of God.
- He was **begotten** by God **in** His resurrection **to be** the **firstborn Son of God** among many brothers (Rom. 8:29).
 - **As to His humanity** there **was the need** for His human nature to be uplifted and transfigured into a glorious substance
 - **Through** resurrection He was **begotten** by God in His **humanity** to be **God’s firstborn Son**.
 - Christ was **begotten** as the **Son of God** on the day of His resurrection.
 - He needed to be **begotten** by resurrection **because** He had put on humanity.

❖ The word “**Firstborn**” indicates that there will be other sons (Rom. 8:29; Heb. 2:10).

- **As believers in Christ**, we all are sons of God and **brothers** of the **firstborn Son**.
 - **Through regeneration** we have the **divine nature** (2 Pet. 1:4).
 - Although we are human beings, we now have the divine nature.
 - Although the Lord Jesus is divine, He also has the human nature.
 - Both the Lord Jesus and we are the same in that both He and we have the human nature and the divine nature.
- **As the Son of God**, Christ has passed through two births.
 - The **first** birth took place at His incarnation, He was **born** as a **son of man**.
 - The **second**, in His resurrection, He was **born** as the **firstborn Son of God**.

✚ WITH ONE ACCORD ... WITH ONE MOUTH GLORIFY THE GOD (Rom. 15:6)

✚ **Through incarnation** God’s only begotten Son put on humanity and became the God-man. **Then in resurrection** He was born of God to be His **Firstborn**. **Before** incarnation God’s **only begotten** Son did not have human nature, only the divine nature. **However**, in resurrection God’s **firstborn Son** has a **human** nature as well as the **divine** nature.

✚ **Through** the two births of Christ divinity has been brought into humanity, and humanity has been brought into divinity. **By** the incarnation of Christ **God was brought into man**. Prior to Christ’s incarnation, God was outside of man. However, with the birth of Christ God was born into man. Then **through** Christ’s **second birth** in **resurrection** **man was brought into God** and **became one with God**.

Hymn 203

- 1 In the bosom of the Father,
Ere the ages had begun,
Thou wast in the Father's glory,
God's unique **begotten Son**.
When to us the Father gave Thee,
Thou in person wast the same,
All the fulness of the Father
In the Spirit to proclaim.
- 2 By Thy death and **resurrection**,
Thou wast made God's
firstborn Son;
By Thy life to us imparting,
Was Thy duplication done.
We, in Thee regenerated,
Many sons to God became;
Truly as Thy many brethren,
We are as Thyself the same.
- 3 Once Thou wast the only grain,
Lord,
Falling to the earth to die,
That thru death and resurrection
Thou in life may multiply.
We were brought forth in
Thy nature
And the **many grains** became;
As one loaf we all are blended,
All Thy fulness to proclaim
- 4 We're Thy total reproduction,
Thy dear Body and Thy Bride,
Thine expression and Thy fulness,
For Thee ever to abide.
We are Thy **continuation**,
Thy life-increase and Thy **spread**,
Thy full growth and Thy
rich surplus,
One with Thee, our glorious Head.

Hymn 277

- 1 Christ the Savior hath ascended
To the heavens far above,
Crowned with glory and
with honor
By the Father God in love;
He hath made Him Head
of all things,
His supremacy to prove.
- 2 From this Christ to God ascended
Hath the Spirit been outpoured,
Poured upon the Church,
His Body,
That His members be empow'ered;
Thus the Lord of all in heaven
Thru His Church will be adored.
- 3 In the flesh by **incarnation**,
Into man He God hath brought;
By His **death** and **resurrection**,
Into God **He man hath brought**;
God and man together mingled,
In Himself is fully wrought.
- 4 Now in heaven by ascension
He is seated on the throne;
All the lordship, all the headship,
He Himself doth fully own;
And by pouring out His Spirit,
He as such might be made known.
- 5 By this outpour, His descension
On the Church was realized;
'Tis by this, that in His Spirit
All the Church He hath baptized;
Thus the baptism of the Spirit
Was forever actualized.
- 6 Hallelujah, 'tis accomplished,
And accomplished once for all!
Hallelujah, we're included,
All included, great or small!
Praise Him, He hath sent the Spirit
And baptized the Church withal!

O Father, Thou art boundless love

- 1 O Father, Thou art boundless love,
We praise Thee and adore Thee;
Such lessons of Thy grace
we've learned,
We can but joy before Thee.
For sonship Thou predestined us,
Before the earth was founded;
In time Thy pow'r was manifest:
Thy grace toward us abounded.
- 2 Thine **only Son** from death
Thou raised,
Firstborn in resurrection,
His work completed, we by faith
Can stand as Thine expression.
We've now become
Thy **many sons**
With joy our hearts are ringing;
Thy **Firstborn Son** so much
has done,
We sing with praise unceasing.
- 3 Not only is His God our God,
His Father is our Father;
Same flesh, same bones,
with Him we're one
And naught we twain can sever.
He leads us back now,
Thee to see,
And sing in Thine assembly;
We're just like Him,
we're one with Him,
Thy **many sons** in glory.
- 4 What love we find!
What grace divine!
Thy **Son** and **sons** joined ever;
This is our portion evermore,
Our Father's joy and pleasure!
Thy Son will come down
from on high,
Today we're waiting for Him;
Oh, this is all our heart's desire:
To sound our joy before Him.