*Monday, May 23, 2011*

**Our Father**

Matthew 6:9-11 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. (10) Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. (11) Give us this day our daily bread. (KJV)

Our goal this week is to continue on the topic of the Father-Son relationship and how it applies to His people today, which are described as Christians. We see Jesus of Nazareth pointing the people to the Father which is in heaven, and showing them a pattern of how they should pray. Now I have heard the term “God man” when reference is made to Jesus of Nazareth, but just like a comment I heard recently concerning our Lord praying to His Father in heaven, that if Jesus was God then He would literally have had to be beside Himself so to speak.

Hebrews 2:9-10 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. (10) For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. (KJV)

How about this Church; we see Jesus who was a man just like you and I, a created being who was made lower than the angelic beings in heaven. Yet when reading through the Word I see clearly that God our Father is above all. Simply put God never was made because He always was and will always be, thus the term “I Am”.

Hebrews 2:14-16 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; (15) And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. (16) For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. (KJV)

So what better man to have mediating the plan of salvation, than someone who has been here and done that concerning the will of God? This man that we are referring to, Jesus of Nazareth, was born after the flesh, or the seed of Abraham. However, as we go along this week we will see that there was more to this man than just what meets the eye; rather someone deeper within Him is what empowered Him to be able to live a life without sin.

Hebrews 2:17-18 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. (18) For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. (KJV)

Jesus of Nazareth was tempted in every manner as we are, and yet sinned not. He chose to be lead by the Spirit so that he could demonstrate the works of His Father in heaven by dying to self on a daily basis. Because of His obedience and delivering a perfect sacrifice which was accepted by our Father in Heaven, we are now considered to be brethren.

James 1:12-14 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. (13) Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: (14) But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. (KJV)

Before jumping on a bandwagon, which reminds me of some of the old westerns where they have a runaway wagon headed for a cliff, it would do you good to take the time to study the Word and rightly divide what God is saying as compared to what wild claims man makes. If God cannot be tempted with evil, then how could Jesus of Nazareth who many claim was God have been tempted?

Hebrews 4:14-15 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. (15) For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (KJV)

By the way, I don’t know why some denominations still have those that they consider priests when we have the highest one sitting on the right hand of God.