

Who The “Us” is of Genesis 1:26 “He That Hath an Ear. Let Him Hear.”

I would like to start out this lesson with reading Genesis 1:26

Gen 1:26

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

To explain who the Us was referring to in Genesis 1:26 from the Bible, I would like to first explain who the Us was not referring to by telling you when the Trinitarian doctrine first came into existence, by briefly explaining to you the two councils which eventually brought forth the Trinitarian Doctrine, and pointing out some key elements about the people of those councils and the Emperors influence within those councils.

This can be found by reading and studying the two councils that ultimately brought forth a Trinitarian point of view. The first council, The Council of Nicea took place in 325 AD. Unlike what you may be thinking, this Council was not over a debate of a Oneness point of view versus a Trinitarian point of view. However it was because of a man named Arius who believed that the Son (Jesus) was created out of nothing before the world was called into being, and for that very reason was not eternal nor of the divine essence. For his argument he referred to Proverbs 8:22, which reads, 22 The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. The Hebrew word translated for possessed, he said, could also have meant created or brought forth. Thus Arius, interpreted the passage that the Son was created at some point by God before the creation of the world. This was the reason for the first council.

The council convened in 325 AD in Nicea. It lasted for just about six weeks. It has been said that 318 persons attended, but a more likely number is 225, including every Eastern bishop of importance, four Western bishops (among them Hosius of Córdoba, president of the council), and two papal legates.

Papal: Of, relating to, or issued by a pope

As the Council began to unfold, it was found that there was mainly three points of view. The first group was a minority led by Athanasius who argued that the Father and the Son were of the same substance. The second group was the Arian group which believed the Son was of a different substance from the Father. And the third group was the majority, in which case the majority of them never fully understood the issues at hand but wanted peace. The majority of them never agreed with Arius, but they also never agreed with Athanasius. Thus later in history they received the nickname of Semi-Arians.

Finally Emperor Constantine, hoping to obtain the most unanimous decision possible, introduced a word homoousios. This was considered controversial because it was used by some people to support a Oneness doctrine of the Godhead, known as Sabellianism, against those with a Trinitarian position.

Upon conclusion of this first Council, the position of Athanasius prevailed. At this time Emperor Constantine sealed the victory by threatening to banish all dissenters. However there were two Bishops who would not sign the creed along with Arius. One of the two Bishops was Eusebius of Nicomedia and these men were placed in exile.

Constantine then declared that the decrees of the council were divinely inspired, declared them as laws of the empire, and made them punishable by death.

The creed that was created from the Council of Nicea was not, however, the creed generally circulated today as the Nicene Creed.

In summary up to this point, this council was mainly those of a Trinitarian mind set concerning the Father and the Son being of the same substance, where as the Arians were of the mind set that the Father and the Son were of a different substance. During their debates, the Emperor Constantine introduced a word that those of the Trinitarian mind set did not like, because a group of people of the mind set that God was not only of one substance, but he manifested himself as the Son, so he was not two separate persons of one substance, but rather one person who manifested himself as

the Son and the Father. These people were known as Sabellianism or Oneness people.

The original Nicene Creed that came out of this Council stated: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of all things visible and invisible. And in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten of the Father, the only begotten of the Father; (they then clarify what they mean concerning Jesus Christ) that is (He Jesus is) of the essence of the Father, (He is) God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, (He was) begotten, not made, from the substance of the Father, by whom (Jesus) all things were made both in Heaven and on Earth; who for us men, and for our Salvation, came down and was incarnate (that means he was robed in flesh) and was made man; he suffered, and the third day he rose again, (He) ascended into heaven; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. And in the Holy Ghost.

Remember this creed was to refute Arianism. And again, Arianism was those who believed that the Father and the Son were of a different substance. Due to the fact that during this council, the Trinitarian people as they were trying to refute Arianism, were speaking in a manner that actually was supportive of the Oneness or Sabellianism people. This controversy led to the bishops signing the creed so that they would not be exiled, but to continue teaching the Godhead the way that they always had, which was somewhere between the teachings of Arianism and Trinitarianism. This also sparked the Arians to continue to pursue their doctrine, thus in 381 AD there was a second council that convened.

The second council that convened was the council of Constantinople. This council was summoned by Emperor Theodosius I in 381 AD. Theodosius was a staunch supporter of the original Nicene Creed. So he was biased already. Only Eastern bishops were summoned to this council, but the Greeks claimed that it was ecumenical. Even though they never invited anyone from the West.

Ecumenical: Of or relating to the worldwide Christian church. So basically the people of this council were claiming that it represented the worldwide Christian Church, even though no one from the West was invited.

This council was not truly ecumenical and their were only about 150 bishops in attendance. It gave the bishop of Constantinople honour second

only to that of the pope. Even though the Western church did not accept the ranking of Constantinople as second to Rome until the 13th century. Hear what was just said. It took close to nine hundred years before the West finally agreed that the bishop of Constantinople was second only to that of the pope. This Council declared, and the Emperor made it law, that there is one Godhead, Power and Substance of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; the dignity being equal, and the majesty equal in three perfect persons. This is how the Trinitarian Doctrine was born and was the first time the Holy Spirit was even considered a third person in the Godhead.

However it wasn't until some time in the fourth century that the Nicene creed that we use today, came into existence. That's right. Four hundred and some odd years after Jesus' death, the Nicene creed we use today, based off of these two councils that were both completely biased and declared law by the Emperors of Rome, with adjustments to the creed as late as 589 AD at the Synod of Toledo, became the common doctrine of the Trinitarian today.

The Nicene creed in use today omits (that means that they removed it from) the original clause in the first Council of Nicea that stated that Jesus was of the essence of the Father, because it left open the possible interpretation of a Oneness point of view. And then added to the original creed, concerning the portion that stated, And in the Holy Ghost.

The addition reads: And [I believe] in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceedeth from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified. It also confessed one Baptism which was Matthew 28:19.

This information is readily available at any library or by searching online about these two councils. Due to the fact that there is no mention of Trinity or Triune in the Bible, and the fact that these councils were not divinely inspired, there is no reason to believe our God is three co-equal persons. During the course of these three lessons we will be reading many scriptures to show who Jesus Christ is, the law of sin and death, who is truly of the seed of Abraham, what the everlasting gospel is, the resurrection of the dead (better know as the rapture), the importance of water baptism, and finally who the us is in Genesis 1:26.

Let's begin with,
Deut 6:4-6

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

Deut 32:39 reads,

39 See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

So up to this point, we see that the Lord our God is one Lord and there is no god with Him.

In II Sam 7:22 it reads,

22 Wherefore thou art great, O LORD God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee,

In Deut 4:35 {it also says that there is no god beside Him.}

35 Unto thee it was showed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.

This is very important to understand. Now we know that God is one Lord, and there is no god with him, neither is there any god beside of Him.

Isa 43:10-11

10 Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

11 I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour

Here we see that not only is there no god with Him, or beside of Him, there also was no God formed before Him, neither shall there be any god created after Him. This scripture completely eliminates Ariansism

James 2:19 {reinforces that the Lord is one God. It reads,}

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

So, we have just read in Isaiah that the Lord said beside me there is no saviour. Now listen to what it says in,

Acts 4:10-12

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other **name** under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Here we see that God said beside me, there is no saviour, and we just read in Acts that there is no salvation in any other name but Jesus Christ.

I Tim 3:16 it reads,

16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

This verse tells us that God manifested himself in the flesh as Jesus.

Col 2:1-9 Apostle Paul Explains Jesus Christ's role is in the Godhead.

1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, **to the acknowledgment of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;**

Notice in this verse that he told them be knit together in love, and unto the riches of understanding, of the mystery of God, the Father, and of Christ. The three things he mentioned was the mystery of God, the Father, which is God, and of Christ, which is the anointed one of God.

Verse 3

3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

4 And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.

5 For though I (Paul) be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.

6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Hear the Reason to be rooted in the faith!!!

- 8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, **after the tradition of men**, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.
- 9 For in him (Jesus) dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

This is very important. Now we just learned that Jesus is the fulness of the Godhead bodily. An example of what Paul was referring to when he said in verse eight, beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit. Think about what you have learned from the two councils that established the Trinitarian Doctrine. This is a prime example of being spoiled by man's philosophy and vain deceit. They took place hundreds of years after Jesus' death and the teachings of the gospel, they were presented in a controlled environment in a biased group of men, and enforced by Emperors of Rome.

So the next question is, Is it possible for anyone to know the mystery of the Godhead? The answer to this question is yes according to:

Rom 1:19-22 In these verses Apostle Paul is addressing all the people in Rome

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them (the Apostles).

20 For the invisible things of him (God) from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, **even his eternal power and Godhead**; so that they are without excuse:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, **they became fools**,

Again verse 20 very clearly states that even his eternal power and Godhead can be understood.

So to recap what we have learned thus far. We now know that God is one Lord, that there is no god with Him, or beside of Him, that there was no God formed before Him, neither shall there be any god created after Him, and that beside Him there is no Saviour, and that there is no other name, but Jesus Christ, given under heaven where by we must be saved. We also learned that Jesus Christ is the fulness of the Godhead bodily, and that the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ can be understood.

The next scripture that will help to better understand the Godhead is,

Matt 1:23

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Now we see that Jesus Christ is God with us.

In John 14:9 listen to Jesus' reply to Philip.

9 Jesus saith unto him, **Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?**

Now listen to something very important!!!

In John 16:23-25 we find out that Jesus spoke in proverbs concerning the Father.

23 **And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.**

24 **Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.**

25 **These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall show you plainly of the Father.**

You may be wondering what a proverb is,

A Proverb is: a short saying stating a truth or piece of advice.

To better understand this proverb concerning the Father, let's read,

Isa 9:6

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called **Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.**

This was a Bible Prophecy concerning the birth of Jesus Christ, stating that he would be The mighty God and The everlasting Father. Now, Recall Matt 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

The book of Revelation in Chapter One helps to better understand who Jesus Christ is in four separate verses. They are verse 8, 10, 11, and 18. They read,

Rev 1:8

8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Rev 1:10-11

10 I (John) was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

11 Saying, **I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia;**

Rev 1:18

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

We all know that he that liveth and was dead is Jesus Christ. And we also know that Jesus Christ was the one who's soul went into hell and took back the keys of death and of hell.

This was the whole reason why Jesus Christ died on the Cross of Calvary. So that He could take back the Keys of death and hell.

To better understand "The Keys of death and of hell", you need to understand the Law of Sin and Death. For this we will refer to Ezek 18:4. It reads.

Ezek 18:4

4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

So the Law of Sin, is that the soul that sinneth must die.

To better explain Jesus' death on the cross we will read a few verses from a few books in the New Testament.

Romans 5:12-15 reads,

12 Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

So here we see that Jesus Christ died that we may live. His death is how he took back the keys of death and hell.

Heb 2:14-15 We find out who had power of death...

14 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.

I John 4:10 reads,

10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Propitiate: win or regain the favor of; appease.

I John 2:1-4 reads,

2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Rom 3:23-26 reads,

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Praise God for his love of mankind that we may live!! Glory to God! Give Him praise, for He is worthy!! Praise God!

With this understanding of why Jesus Christ died, I'd like to share with you that in the Old Testament, that Jesus kept his name secret.

Gen 32:24-30

24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

27 And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob.

28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

29 And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.

30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

Another example of this is found in,

In Judges 13:17-18 reads,

17 And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, What is thy name, that when thy sayings come to pass we may do thee honour?

18 And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret?

So through Jesus Christ's death, we will be able to also raise from the dead when the calling away of the saints (or rapture) takes place. I'd like to take a few moments expounding on the resurrection of the dead.

I Cor 15:42-45 reads,

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam (Jesus Christ) was made a quickening spirit.

Again we see that by one mans sin (Adam) we were all under sin. But under another mans death (Jesus Christ), we are all able to live and to carry once again the title of “Sons of God.”

Rom 7:22-25 reads,

22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Here we see from Apostle Paul, that it is a struggle to deny our flesh and to not partake of sin. But thanks be to God he made a way for us to live through Jesus Christ.

I Cor 15:50-58 reads,

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 **O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?**

56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

So we have just learned that death is not something to fear. For God has taken back the keys of death, hell, and of the grave. Praise God!!!

To better understand why Jesus Christ chose to come and die for us, I'd like to call your attention back to when Satan deceived Eve in the garden. This is when God pronounced judgement on Satan and prophesied of the coming of Jesus Christ.

Gen 3:14-15

14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

This was fulfilled in Jesus Christ's death. For Jesus took back the keys of Death and Hell. That was the only power Satan had over us. How we know this was fulfilled by Jesus Christ was prophesied by the prophet Isaiah.

Isa 53:1:12 reads,

53:1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

2 For he (Jesus) shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was **wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities**: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and **the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it pleased the LORD **to bruise him**; he hath **put him to grief**: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Oh my Lord and my God! What he went through for us, that we may have eternal life restored unto us. Oh give God praise!! Thank you Lord Jesus! Praise thy Holy name, my Lord! What a Mighty God we serve. What a loving and caring God we serve. Bless your name Lord!

Eph 2:13-18

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh **by the blood of Christ.**

14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

This wall of partition that Apostle Paul is referring to is the division of the Jew and the Gentile people. In verse...

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain **one new man, so making peace;**

16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

18 For through him (Jesus) we both (Jew and Gentile) have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

So then with this enmity being abolished, now a Jew today is one in the spirit and no longer of the flesh.

Rom 2:28-29

28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

In Eph 4:4-18 Paul further expounds and tells us.

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5 **One Lord,** one faith, **one baptism,**

6 **One God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

There is one body. The body of Christ. There is one Spirit. That is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God, Jesus Christ the Comforter, of which we have access by this Spirit to the Body of Christ. Even as we are called in the one hope of our calling which is the hope of Eternal Salvation by the death of Jesus Christ.

There is One Lord, which is the Lord Jesus Christ. One faith, which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and One Baptism, which is the Baptism into the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

One God and Father of all, Jesus Christ, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. You will better understand what Paul has told us, as we continue our lessons.

8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, **he led captivity captive**, and gave gifts unto men.

The captivity that Jesus led captive was the captivity of Death.

9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? [This is when Jesus took back the keys of death and of hell]

10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Listen to why he gave to us these men of God

12 For the **perfecting of the saints**, for the **work of the ministry**, for the **edifying of the body of Christ**:

For what purpose did he give these men of God.

13 Till we all come in the **unity of the faith**, and of the **knowledge of the Son of God**, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Why??

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the **sleight of men**, and **cunning craftiness**, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

This verse just explained to us that Jesus is the head of the Body of Christ. This body referring to the members of Christ, the Church.

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

So now we have a better understanding of who Jesus Christ is and why He died on the cross of Calvary for us; and that He took back the keys of death and of hell. We have also learned about the resurrection of the dead or what is more commonly referred to as the rapture.

Now I'd like to take some time explaining who the true seed of Abraham is and what the Everlasting gospel is. Now that we know that God abolished the enmity, between Satan and the woman's seed, through Jesus Christ's death, thereby reconciling both Jew and Gentile unto God in one body, of which Jesus is the head. That by that one body they would have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Rev 14:6-7

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

So what is the everlasting gospel? For this answer we will also be addressing the true seed of Abraham.

Gal 1:6-9

6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 But though we (the Apostles), or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, **let him be accursed.**

9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, **let him be accursed.**

This verse makes it very clear, that we can trust the gospel that was preached to us and that if any man or even an Angel from heaven come and preach something contrary to what is in the Bible, Let him be accursed. So we know that the Angel in Revelation 14 is going to be preaching truth. Since it was prophesied to us.

Let me first start off with explaining that Apostle Paul was not taught the gospel, but that Jesus Christ himself revealed it unto him.

Gal 1:12

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

11 **But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.**

12 **For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but **by the revelation of Jesus Christ.****

Now we know for sure that Apostle Paul is teaching us the Truth. At this time we will begin to address the true seed of Abraham.

Gal 3:7-9

7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

So now we know that by faith in Jesus Christ, that we are the true seed of Abraham.

8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the **gospel unto Abraham,** saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

So now we have learned that the Everlasting Gospel was preached unto Abraham and that what was preached was the faith of the promise to come.

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

12 And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

So the everlasting Gospel that was preached to Abraham was the faith of Jesus Christ that was to come through his seed, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith, and thus inherit eternal life. This was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost In Acts 2:38-39

So To be Christ's you must partake of the plan of salvation.

In comparison: in the Old Testament, the promise of eternal life was obtained through the sacrificing of burnt offerings. But this however, did not give to the people of the Old Testament, power over death and hell. In the New Testament Jesus Christ came as the Lamb of God, to be the ultimate sacrifice, and he obtained they keys of Death and of Hell upon His death at the Cross of Calvary.

Romans 6:15-23

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.

22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

So then this tells us in verse sixteen that even though we are under grace, that our master is who we obey. Whether it be of sin unto death, or obedience unto righteousness. It is very important to understand that even though we are not any longer under the Mosaic Law, if we yield to sin, we go back under the Law of Sin and Death. To better understand the Law of Sin and Death. Refer to the two part lesson on the Law of Sin and death located on our website, www.ensnaredindistractions.com, under the menu “Sermons”, “to the Church”, then select the sermon, “The Law of Sin and Death part one and part two.”

In closing of our First lesson on “Who the Us is of Genesis 1:26”, I’d like you to hear an extremely important verse. And pose to you a question.

I John 3:8

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

If Satan had not sinned and the son of God then not manifested, would you have any reason to believe that there is a Trinity?? Of course not. Why? Because God wouldn’t have had to manifest himself as the Son of God to remove sin from the world.

This concludes the end of lesson 1. In the next Lesson on “Who the Us is of Genesis 1:26”, entitled “Oneness in the Spotlight”, we will be spending a great deal of time further explaining who Jesus Christ is, with many Bible scriptures as well as discussing Melchisedec of the Old Testament, and the importance of water baptism.