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Is Christ a Created Being?

by Bill Lockwood

Some suppose Christ is a created being but the Bible expressly says of Christ that he is “the image of the invisible God... for in him were all things created” (Colossians 1:15, 16). John informs us that he was in the beginning with God and “without him was not anything made that has been made” (John 1:3). Isaiah describes Christ as “Everlasting Father” (Isaiah 9:6).

The perversion that Christ was a “created being” is an ancient one. Arius of the fourth century, a presbyter at Alexandria, proposed the notion that Christ was created “before time began.” The same views were brought into Poland during the Reformation Era, in 1551, by Lelio Sozzini. Lelio’s nephew Fausto Sozzini developed these views which became the central pillar of the “Unitarian” doctrine. The Sozzini doctrine, or Arian doctrine, centered in Racow, Poland and the followers of Sozzini became known as “Socinians” or “Polish Brethren.”

On American soil, Charles Taze Russell, the founder of the Watchtower organization of the Witnesses declare Christ to be a “created being.” In their “translation” of the Scriptures, the New World Translation, the Witnesses advocate that Jesus is only “a god” (John 1:1).

The Bible abundantly affirms however, that Christ is **not** a created individual. He has existed eternally with the Father. As a matter of fact, it was *this claim* that enraged the Jews so that they crucified him. Would the Witnesses have us believe that Christ was “merely human” and never intended to convey anything else with his “Son of God” claims? The idea is absurd.

Jesus is referred to as “the great God and Savior” in 2 Peter 1:1. Paul declares he was “God manifested in the flesh” (1 Timothy 3:16).

But someone may ask, “what of Colossians 1:15 where Christ is referred to as the ‘firstborn of all creation’?” Does this mean “first-made creature?” Absolutely not. First, Paul gives in the next phrase the explanation of “first-born.” The reason he assigns is that Christ is Creator of all! “For in him were all things created.” All things created by Christ does not prove him to be the first created being. Second, the definition of the title “first-born” means he is the **author** of all creation. The Jews applied the same title to God the Father to teach that he was the *prime agent* in his creative acts. The title “firstborn,” therefore, teaches agency, not order of creation.

In worshipping let us keep in mind the exalted position of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ—the agent of the Father’s creation.