

- 1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus,
called as an apostle,
set apart for the gospel of God,
- 2 which He promised beforehand
through His prophets
in the holy Scriptures,
- 3 **concerning** His Son,

This preposition sets up a genitive of relationship between God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

- Vs 3 His humanity
- Vs 4 His deity
- First His humanity: **who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh**
- **Why is this important?**
- Prophecies declared that He had to be a son of David.
- Jesus Christ fulfills all these prophecies, not Mohammad or Smith or anyone else.

- Who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh
- His mother, according to the flesh was Mary, who descended from /line of David through Nathan, establishing the physical line.
- His father according to flesh, was Joseph, who descended from the line of Solomon, establishing the Legal line.
- Therefore Jesus Christ according to humanity is a Jew in line of David & qualified to fulfill Davidic Covenant. 2 Chron. 21; 2 Sam. 7 & Psa. 89

- **Vs 3 According to the flesh**
- Why does the Holy Spirit put this in?
- Jesus Christ has two natures: vs 3 speaks of His **human nature**, now vs 4 of **his Deity**
- **Vs 4 Who was declared the Son of God**
- This introduces the teaching of the Hypostatic Union of Jesus Christ.
- The phrase **Hypostatic union** comes from the Greek **υποστασις** and refers to two distinct natures in one person.
- **Deity & humanity**

- **Hypostatic Union of Jesus Christ**
- 1. In the person of Jesus Christ are two distinct natures, inseparably united without mixture or loss of either nature.
- 2. Jesus Christ is true humanity, having a human body, soul & human spirit. Born of flesh in line of David born of virgin birth (virgin pregnancy), therefore Jesus Christ was born into human race minus Sin Nature which is passed down through the male.

- 3. now we come to mystery that is difficult for so many to believe about Jesus Christ;
- Jesus Christ is true Deity!
- He is Son of God, Jesus Christ is God, co-equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He possesses the same essence.
- 4. Two distinct natures inseparably united in one person, without the loss of either nature, or without minimizing either nature.

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- This is one of the great mysteries in all universe.
- unfortunately people cannot understand this mystery
- & therefore they reject it;
- people reject what they cannot understand
- “what they are not up on, they are down on”
- When people reject the truth, they accept a lie
- Many do not understand Hypostatic Union so they reject it

- 5. Hypostatic Union of Jesus Christ is grasped by Faith! not by intellect! It is revealed by Holy Spirit.
- 6. Everything that Jesus Christ did – came from one of these natures...
- & if from His human nature...it was by power of Holy Spirit
- Things said of Him reveal His Deity; like 'before Abraham, I existed'
- Then things of His humanity: thirsty & hungry.

- 7. Question: Why did He have to become humanity?
- To be our Savior— as God He could not die
- Heb. 2:14 Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil;
- 15 and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

- Phil. 2:7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.
- 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- To be our mediator: equal to both God & man
- Job 9:32 "For He is not a man as I am that I may answer Him, That we may go to court together.
- 33 "There is no umpire between us, Who may lay his hand upon us both.

- 1 Tim. 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,
- 6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony borne at the proper time.
- Jesus Christ had to be both perfect deity & perfect humanity!
- According to the flesh...humanity
- Son of God deity in one person

- Final statement on Deity of Jesus Christ
- This truth like so many others, cannot be proven they are known by faith! You believe them or not, you believe that Jesus Christ is God, Deity or not! No one can prove it to you!
But for the eye that will see:
- Micah 5:2 "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity."
Jesus Christ is Deity, He is God

- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.
- John 5:58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."



- Rom. 9:5 whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever.
Amen.
- Titus 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;

- Heb. 1:8 But of the Son He says, "THY THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.
- 9 "THOU HAST LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, THY GOD, HATH ANOINTED THEE WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE THY COMPANIONS."
- 10 And, "THOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING DIDST LAY THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORKS OF THY HANDS;

- We now come to **verses 4**, which is extremely important and diversely translated and interpreted.
- Which brings us to a very important point on interpretation of Scripture.
- False doctrines come from wrongful interpretation of Scripture.
- But you can have two different interpretations of a verse where neither interpretation is wrong, where neither interpretation leads to false teaching.
- **Ex. Rev. 3:20** 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.
- & such is the case with vs 4

- Rom. 1:3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh,
- 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,
- NASV, KJ, & NIV each translate this verse differently

- **NASV 4** who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,
- **KJ 4** And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:
- **NIV 4** and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Except for the omission of the phrase: Jesus Christ our Lord, the King James is closes to original ms of the Greek.

- We are going to examine this verse in the order of the Greek text, which is close to the KJ and NIV.
- Declared Son of God
 - in, with or by power
 - according to spirit of holiness
 - by, in resurrection
 - of deaths or dead persons
 - Jesus Christ our Lord
- Note: no definite article before Son of God or spirit or resurrection or deaths.

- **Who was declared the Son of God**
- First thing to note right off is parallel of this verb in vs 3:
- vs 3 **humanity of Jesus Christ &**
- vs 4 **deity of Jesus Christ**
- Vs 3 **was born**
- Vs 4 **was declared**
- **Was born** Aor.Mid.Ptc. **γίνομαι** **To become**
- **Was declared** Aor.Passive Ptc. **ορίζω** **Declare**
 from the root, to mark off, to set boundaries;
 Eng. *horizon* ; our word means to mark out
 definitely; appoint, constitute.

- In vs 3 Jesus Christ is said to **have become** –flesh, of the seed of David while
 - In vs 4 He is **declared to be Son of God**
- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • | vs 3 | vs 4 |
| • | born; become | declared |
| • | Aorist Mid. Ptc. | Aorist Pass. Ptc. |
| □ | γίνομαι –to become | ορίζω declare |
| • | He became a member
of human race | He is declared
to be God |

- Question: Who marked out Jesus Christ?
- Aorist tense: no relationship to time; He was marked out, declare in Eternity Past in the decrees by God.
- Passive voice: Jesus Christ received the action of the verb. He received being marked out by decrees in eternity past.
- Same verb as in vs 1 where Paul was called and set apart; & we saw that each of you who have believed in Jesus Christ have been called and set apart; well, Jesus Christ in eternity past was marked out by God.

- Who was marked out Son of God
- We have dealt with this genitive phrase; Jesus Christ as second member of Godhead submitted Himself to authority of God the Father...therefore, He is called Son of God.

- Now we come to the next phrase in vs 4
- **With power** Prepositional phrase
- **εν** plus **δυναμις** power; 'dynamite'
- And you can see in margin of NASV that we begin with some of the problems in this verse: *in an act of power*
- Question: Does **with or in power** modify **declared: declared in power?**
- Or does it modify **Son of God – declared the Son of God with power?**



- Every phrase in this verse is going to present problems of translation and therefore interpretation.
- **Solution is not going to be in the original Greek.** So before we go any further, what we have to do to guide us in translation, is going to be **context**; what are these two verses saying?

If we get this down, it will help guide in translation.

- Verses 3 & 4 are declaring the two natures of Jesus Christ.
- Vs 3 His humanity vs 4 His deity
- So with this in mind we have our first problem:
- Declared Son of God with or in power
- Since Jesus Christ is going to depend on the power of the Holy Spirit, as an example to us, what we have here is that He is Powerfully declared Son of God

- Where does this occur?
- John 1:3 All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.
- John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,
- Luke 1:35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God.
- Note the descriptive: holy offspring where in Rom. 1:4 we have spirit of holiness

- Luke 2:11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Note here the reference to fact of Christ the Lord; Rom. 1:4 ends with Jesus Christ our Lord.
- And the next reference are words directly from God the Father, no more powerful declaration could be made than by the Father Himself
- Mark 3:17 and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

- And the last reference of powerful declaration is right here in **Rom. 1:20**
For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

- The next phrase in Rom. 1:4
- **According to the spirit of holiness**
- Question: Does this refer to the Holy Spirit or to the spirit of holiness of Jesus Christ?
- First: This is only reference by Paul, or any where in N.T. where we have the phrase: **spirit of holiness**. In every reference by Paul of the third member of the Godhead, Paul refers to Him as Holy Spirit!
- So what is going on in this phrase, here in Rom. 1:4?

- Once again we stay in context: vss 3 & 4. And this time we have another strong incite into what Paul is saying.
- Concerning His Son
- Became seed of David kata according to the flesh
- Declared Son of God kata according to spirit of holiness
- The Greek preposition **κατα** sets up a comparison between what is being said in this sentence in these two verses.
- Translation of this preposition **according to** fits in both phrases.

- And paying attention to this comparison in this context, guides in how we will translate: **spirit of holiness**.
- The question is this: does this refer to the Holy Spirit or to spirit of Jesus Christ?
- **Neither would be false doctrine!** But our objective is to note what is Paul saying?
- Is Paul speaking of Jesus Christ and His relationship with the Holy Spirit? Or is Paul speaking of **nature** of Jesus Christ?
- Lets look at context:

- became seed of David according to flesh
- Declared Son of God according to ?
- Which flows with what Paul is trying to reveal to us concerning this Jesus?
- Holy Spirit or spirit of holiness?
- What is the nature that compares with the nature of the flesh? Which nature is of man & which nature is of God?

- Man is flesh, therefore according to flesh.
- Now lets look at
- John 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." Greek word for **spirit** is πνευμα and this is the exact same word we have in Rom. 1:4
- The nature of **God is spirit.** πνευμα
- The nature of **man is flesh.** σαρξ
- These are the two natures that Paul is comparing in vss 3-4. In vs 4 he is declaring that Jesus Christ is flesh, member of human race, while in vs 5 he is declaring that He is spirit, therefore Deity.

- These two natures are in contrast, & they are in part what separates creature from creator.
- **God is spirit** that is God is invisible and immaterial and impalpable

Man is flesh that is man is visible and material.

This is what Paul is contrasting and declaring about Jesus Christ.

That He, Jesus Christ is both flesh and spirit.

Both man and God in one person!

Therefore:

- Concerning His Son
- Born of seed of David according to flesh
- Declared Son of God according to spirit of holiness.
- We have noted **spirit**, but what about **holiness**?
- **Ἁγιωσύνη** noun from **ἅγιος** *hagios* *holy, holiness, sanctify*. This word refers to the holiness of God. The self existence of God is that He is holy!

- The phrase here in 1:4 **spirit of holiness** is not *pneuma hagion – Holy Spirit* but *pneuma hagosunes – spirit of holiness or spirit of sanctity.*

This does not refer to something that Christ became, like becoming seed of David, or something that Christ achieved.

This refers to what Christ is in Himself

Christ is holy, therefore God and this is vital to our Redemption, our Salvation.

- In his flesh, born of seed of David, He did not receive holiness, nor did He achieve holiness in His life.
- Jesus Christ is and always was and always will be holy!

- As referring to nature of God, this becomes vital in contrasting the two natures of God.
- But there is something else just as vital as comparing the two natures of Jesus Christ
- This is fundamental & pervading the whole scheme of redemption of man.
- Do you remember one of the questions in Job that the entire plan of redemption of man answers?
- Can a man be pure before his maker?

- Jesus Christ is the solution to this problem in part due to fact that He is holy and His work on the cross.

- Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?
- Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and provided the way back to harmony with God by His work on the cross and subsequent resurrection?
- If you do, then you are saved for all eternity.

