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INTRODUCTION: JOKE - A CARNIVAL TRAINER

WAS TOURING THE COUNTRY OFFERING ANYONE \$1000.00 IF THEY COULD MAKE HIS ELEPHANT STAND ON HIS HIND LEGS IF THEY PAID \$5.00 FOR THE CHANCE. A FARMER CAME UP AND STUCK HIM WITH A PITCH FORK IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE AND HE WON. THE CARNIVAL TRAINER THEN SWITCHED TO CHALLENGING ANYONE TO MAKE THE ELEPHANT SHAKE HIS HEAD UP AND DOWN AND THEN SIDE TO SIDE. WHEN HE CAME BACK TO THE TOWN THE FARMER CAME BACK WITH HIS PITCH FORK AND PAID THE \$5.00 AND ASKED THE ELEPHANT DO YOU REMEMBER ME? DO YOU WANT THIS AGAIN? NODDED NO!

I. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS IDENTIFIED AS THE WORD OF GOD. VV.1, 2, 14

--Mark takes us to the banks of Jordan; Matthew to Abraham; Luke to creation and Adam; John beyond creation to eternity.

A. UNDERSTANDING WHY HE IS CALLED THE WORD V. 1

1. WORD USAGE:

- a. Logos from *leyw* = I say, speak
- b. Heraclitus used = principle which governed universe
- c. Stoic Philosophers = represented soul of the world
- d. Marcus Aurelius = Germinative principle in nature
- e. Philo = to the abstract conception that lies behind everything concrete - to the ideal - perhaps we call wisdom

2. THE ANALOGY OF FAITH PRINCIPLE:

1 John 1:1 (KJV) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

1 John 5:7 (KJV) For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

Rev 19:13 (KJV) And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

3. VERB = IMPERFECT TENSE = CONTINUED ACTION IN PAST TIME = ALWAYS WAS THE WORD IN ETERNITY = TIMELESS EXISTENCE

B. JESUS IS EQUALLY GOD = "ALWAYS WAS WITH GOD"

1. PREP "PROS"

a. past custom - two guests of equal rank - *pros ho theos* = face to face with God = equal & intimacy; seated on an equal basis shorter given pillows so one could look at the taller face to face; must never look down upon or up to - saw eye to eye.

ILLUSTRATION: TRIUNE UNIVERSE = SPACE, MATTER & TIME
TRIUNE SPACE = LENGHT, BREATH, & HEIGHT
TRIUNE MATTER = ENERGY, MOTION & PHENOMENON
TRIUNE TIME = PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

II. THE PREINCARNATE WORK OF CHRIST VV. 3-5

A. HE CREATED ALL THINGS

COMPARE:

Col 1:16-17 (KJV) For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: *17* And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Heb 1:2 (KJV) Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

COMPARE OT.:

Gen 1:3 (KJV) And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Gen 1:6 (KJV) And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

Gen 1:9 (KJV) And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry *land* appear: and it was so.

Gen 1:11 (KJV) And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, *and* the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed *is* in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

Gen 1:14 (KJV) And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

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III. SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATIONS OF THE DEITY OF CHRIST:

A. SCRIPTURAL CLAIMS

1. PROPHECY

Isa 9:6 (KJV) 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.

2. JESUS ACKNOWLEDGED HIS DIETY

John 20:28-29 (KJV) And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. *29* Jesus saith unto him, **Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and *yet* have believed.**

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2JOHN 1:1-18 JESUS IS GOD

3. APOSTLES CLAIMED JESUS WAS GOD

Rom 9:5 (KJV) Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Heb 1:8 (KJV) But unto the Son *he saith*, Thy throne, O God, *is* for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness *is* the sceptre of thy kingdom.

4. HERE IN THIS TEXT THE CLAIM IS MADE:

John 1:1 (KJV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 (KJV) And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1:18 (KJV) No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.

B. ATTRIBUTES OF DIETY:

1. OMNIPOTENT

Mat 28:18 (KJV) And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

2. OMNISCIENCE

Col 2:3 (KJV) In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

3. OMNIPRESENT

Mat 18:20 (KJV) **For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.**

4. ETERNAL = ALWAYS WAS

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§November 18, 1992§¹²³John 1:1-2 (KJV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God.

John 1:15 (KJV) John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

1JOHN 1:1-18 JESUS IS GOD