Upon This Rock
The Church

• From the beginning, faithful souls have constituted the church on earth. {AA 11}
The Church

• God has a church. It is not the great cathedral, neither is it the national establishment, neither is it the various denominations; it is the people who love God and keep His commandments. "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt. 18:20). Where Christ is even among the humble few, this is Christ's church, for the presence of the High and Holy One who inhabiteth eternity can alone constitute a church. {UL 315.5}
The Church

- 1Tim 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.
Who is Christ?

Matthew 16:13

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, 
Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?
Who is Christ?

Mat 16:14
And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.
Who is Christ?

Matthew 16:15
He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?
Who did Peter say that Christ was?

Matthew 16:16

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Who revealed to Peter that Jesus was the Son of the Living God?

Matt 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for **flesh and blood hath not revealed** it unto thee, **but my Father** which is in heaven.
"A plan of salvation was encompassed in the covenant made by the Three Persons of the Godhead, who possessed the attributes of Deity equally. In order to eradicate sin and rebellion from the universe and to restore harmony and peace, one of the divine Beings accepted, and entered into the role of the Father, another the role of the Son...."

- **Adventist Review**, October 31, 1996,
- p.12 - Gordon Jenson
“The Father–Son relationship in the Godhead should be understood in a metaphorical sense, not in a literal sense”.

“Jesus became the Son of God at His human birth...” Pg 34 (Max Hatton, Understanding the Trinity, p. 97)
Fallen angels lied to Jensen and Hatton, and they believed the lie!

- This fact the [fallen] angels would obscure, that Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and they came to consider that they were not to consult Christ. {TDG 128.1}
“The Scriptures clearly indicate the relation between God and Christ, and they bring to view as clearly the personality and individuality of each. [Hebrews 1:1-5 quoted] **God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God.** To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son.”
Upon this rock will I build my church

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
What is the rock Christ said He would build His Church upon?

Luke 20:17 And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The **stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner**?

Luke 20:18 Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

Luke 20:19 And the chief **priests** and the scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable **against them**.
What claim of Christ were the priests rejecting?

- John 19:7 The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.
The Confession that Jesus is the Son of God is the Rock upon which the Church is built

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Matt 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
Who Did Jesus Say that He was?

John 10:36

Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?
Who Knows Christ Best?

Matthew 11:27

All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.
Who did the Father Say Christ Was?

Baptism:

Matthew 3:17

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, **This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased.
Transfiguration:

Matthew 17:5

While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, **This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased; **hear ye him**.
What Did the Disciples Say About Christ

John the Baptist

John 1:34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

Nathaniel

John 1:49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.
What Did the Disciples Say About Christ

Martha

John 11:27 She [Martha] saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.
What Did the Disciples Say About Christ?

Saul

Acts 9:20

And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.
The Reason the Gospel of John was Written

John 20:31

But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.
Did the devils know Christ?

Luke 8:28

When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.
How did Satan Challenge Christ?

Luke 4:3
And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.
HOW IS CHRIST THE SON OF GOD?
Adam and Angels are sons of God by Creation:

Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God. Luke 3:38

Job 38:7

When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?
Sinners are sons of God by Adoption:

John 1:12  But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the **sons of God**, even to them that believe on his name:

Romans 8:15  For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of **adoption**, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.
Christ is the only begotten Son

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
Christ is the only begotten Son of God

God.” The Signs of the Times, Aug. 2, 1905 13“...
“God so loved the world, that he gave his only-
begotten Son,”-- not a son by creation, as were
the angels, nor a son by adoption, as is the
forgiven sinner, (see Rom 8:15) but a Son
begotten in the express image of the Father’s
person, and in all the brightness of his majesty
and glory, one equal with God in authority, dignity,
and divine perfection.” Signs of The Times, May
30, 1895 p. 3
Christ is the only begotten Son of God

The whole nation of the Jews called God their Father, therefore they would not have been so enraged if Christ had represented Himself as standing in the same relation to God. But they accused Him of blasphemy, showing that they understood Him as making this claim in the highest sense. {DA 207.4}
Eve was Made from the Substance of Adam

... Adam regretted that Eve had left his side; ... He reasoned that Eve was a part of himself; and if she must die, he would die with her; for he could not bear the thought of separation from her... {1SP 39.2}
The Son of God came from the substance of the Father

Though sin had produced a gulf between man and his God, divine benevolence provided a plan to bridge that gulf and what material did he use? A part of himself, the brightness of the Father's glory came to a world all seared and marred with the curse, and in his own divine character, in his own divine body, bridged the gulf, and opened a channel of communication between God and man. ...{1888 711.3}
Who Begat Christ?

John 1:14

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.
When was Christ begotten of the Father?

“In His incarnation He gained in a new sense the title of the Son of God.” The Signs of the Times, Aug. 2, 1905
When was Christ begotten of His Father?

Micah 5:2

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity. [margin]
Micah 5:2

... whose goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity. [margin]
When was Christ Begotten?

- And the Son of God declares concerning Himself: ... Proverbs 8:22-30.  {PP 34.1}

- Prov 8:22  The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.

- Prov 8:24  When [there were] no depths, I was brought forth; when [there were] no fountains abounding with water.

- 8:25  Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:
Isa 51:2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah [that] bare you...

54:1 Sing, O barren, thou [that] didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou [that] didst not travail with child...

Job 39:1 ...canst thou mark when the hinds do calve?

**brought forth**

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•  יָלָ֣ה • chûl  chıı̂yl  bear, (make to) bring forth, (make to) calve, shapen, travail (with pain).
Did Christ teach that He came forth from the Father?

- John 16:27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

- John 16:28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.

- John 16:30 ...we believe that thou camest forth from God.
Did Christ teach that He came forth from the Father?

• John 17:8  For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received [them], and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.
Jesus says He proceeded forth and came from God.

- John 8:41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, [even] God.

- 8:42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.
Did the angels in heaven know that God had a Son?

“Then joy, inexpressible joy, filled heaven, and the heavenly choir sang a song of praise and adoration. They touched their harps and sang a note higher than they had done before, because of the great mercy and condescension of God in yielding up His dearly Beloved to die for a race of rebels. {Early Writings p 126, 127}
Did the angels in heaven know that God had a Son?

“Said the angel, “Think ye that the Father yielded up His **dearly beloved Son** without a struggle? No, no.” It was even a struggle with the God of heaven, whether to let guilty man perish, or to give His **darling Son** to die for them.” {Early Writings p 126, 127}
Did the people in the Old Testament know that God had a Son?
Did People in the Old Testament know that God had a Son?

Isaiah 9:6

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.
Did people in the Old Testament know that God had a Son?

Nebuchadnezzar recognized the Son of God

Daniel 3:25  He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.
Did People in the Old Testament know that God had a Son?

Psalm 2:12

*Kiss the Son*, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.
Did People in the Old Testament know that God had a Son?

Prov 30:4 Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what [is] his name, and what [is] his son's name, if thou canst tell?
Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.
Matthew 26:63-65

And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said ... Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.
Matthew 27:39-43

And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. *If thou be the Son of God*, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said... He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: *for he said, I am the Son of God.*
When Christ died, what was the conclusion of the Roman Centurian?

- Matt 27:54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, **Truly this was the Son of God.**
If Christ proceeded from the Father, what did he Inherit?

Hebrews 1:3, 4

Who being **the brightness of his glory**, and the **express image of his person**, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath **by inheritance** obtained **a more excellent name** than they.
Upon This Rock

What else did He receive from the Father?

John 5:26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

Colossians 2:9; 1:19 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;
Who Created all things?
Who Created all Things?

- Heb 1:2  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;

- Eph 3:9  And to make all [men] see what [is] the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

- 1 Cor 8:6  But to us [there is but] one God, the Father, of whom [are] all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom [are] all things, and we by him.
Does Christ have a God?
Does Christ have a God?

The apostles answer

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...

Eph 1:3 Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 Cor 11:31 The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Does Christ have a God?

Jesus own answer

John 20:17 ...I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and [to] my God, and your God.

Rev 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God...and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, [which is] new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God...
• Isaiah 49:4 ...surely my judgment [is] with the LORD, and my work with my God.

• 49:5 ...yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my strength.
Does Christ have a God?

The Father's answer

Heb 1:8 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

1:10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

1:9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore, hath God, [even] thy God anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.
What was Christ's position in heaven to all created beings?

Philippians 2:6

Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.
What was Christ's position in heaven to all created beings?

The Son of God was **next in authority to the great Lawgiver**. He knew that his life alone could be sufficient to ransom fallen man. He was of as much more value than man as his noble, spotless character, and exalted office as commander of all the heavenly host, were above the work of man. He was in the express image of his Father, not in features alone, but in perfection of character. {RH, December 17, 1872 par. 1}
Should we honor Christ less than the Father?

John 5:23

That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.
Is it dishonoring Christ to acknowledge Him as the Son of God?

John 5:23

That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.
Is it important to believe that Jesus really is the only begotten Son of God?

1 John 4:15

Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.
Is it important to believe that Jesus really is the only begotten Son of God?

John 3:36

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.
Is it important to believe that Jesus really is the only begotten Son of God?

1 John 5:10, 11

He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
Is it important to believe that Jesus really is the only begotten Son of God?

1 John 2:22, 23

Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.
John 14:1
Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
Conclusion – Christ’s Church is that which is built on the Confession that Christ is the Son of God

Jesus Christ is the Only Begotten Son of God!

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.