

# The Everlasting Son



*Norman L. McNulty, M.D.*

*GYC December 30, 2018*

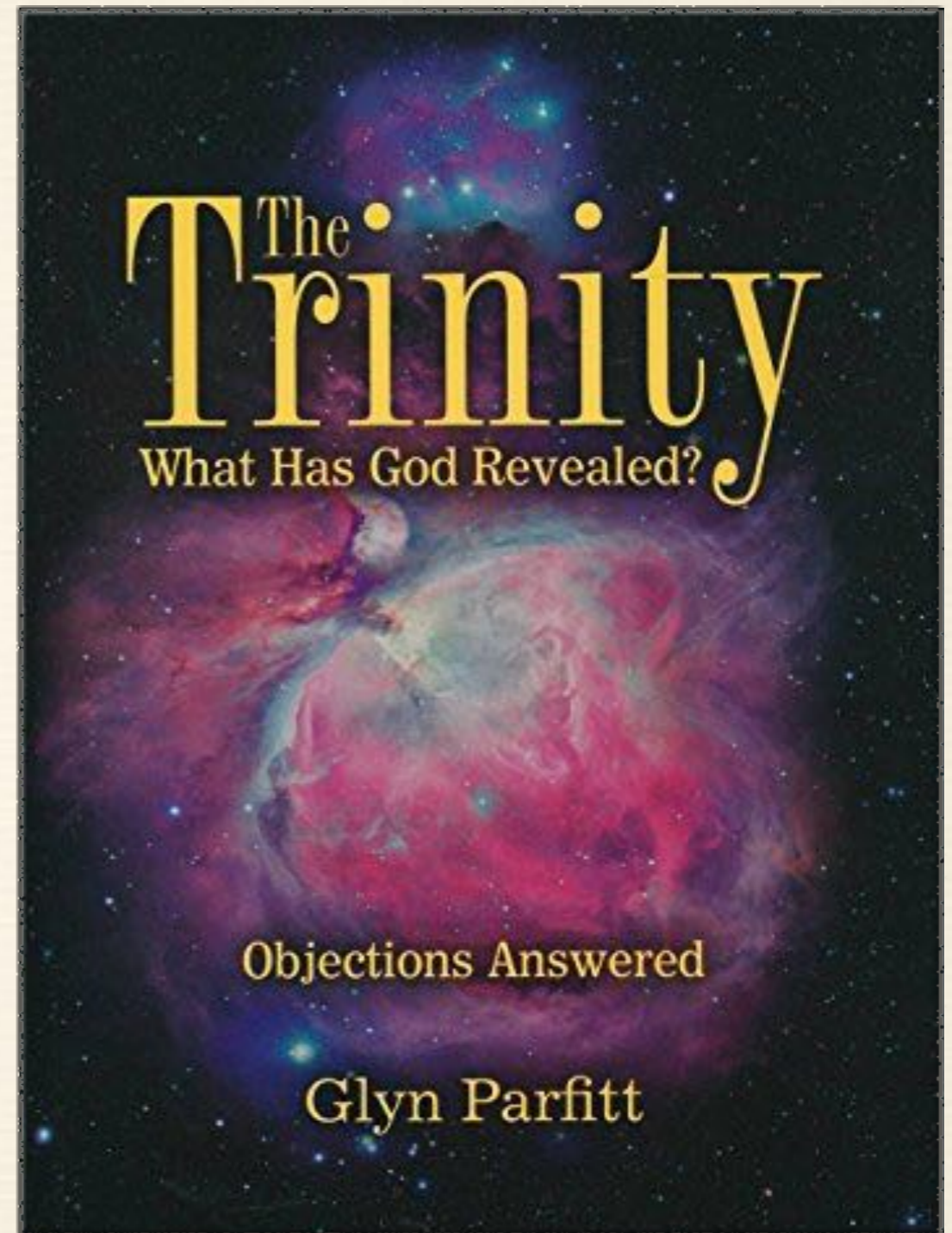


The Trinity  
What Has God  
Revealed?



Objections Answered

Glyn Parfitt



# Every Wind of Doctrine

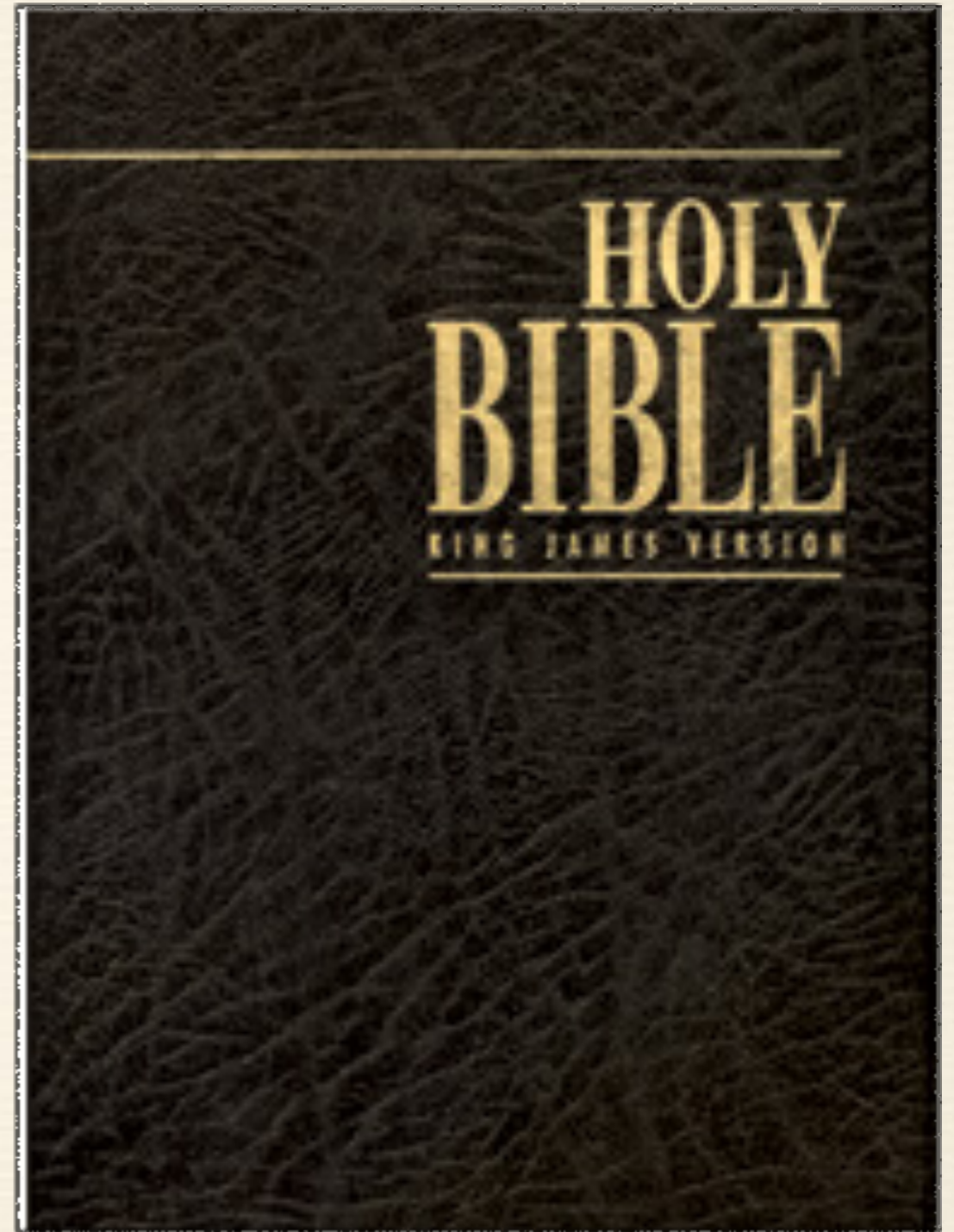
God will arouse His people; if other means fail, heresies will come in among them, which will sift them, separating the chaff from the wheat. The Lord calls upon all who believe His word to awake out of sleep. Precious light has come, appropriate for this time. It is Bible truth, showing the perils that are right upon us. This light should lead us to a diligent study of the Scriptures, and a most critical examination of the positions which we hold. 5T 707



# Heresy as Defined in the Bible



Galatians 5:19-21 - heresies defined as a work of the flesh; those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God

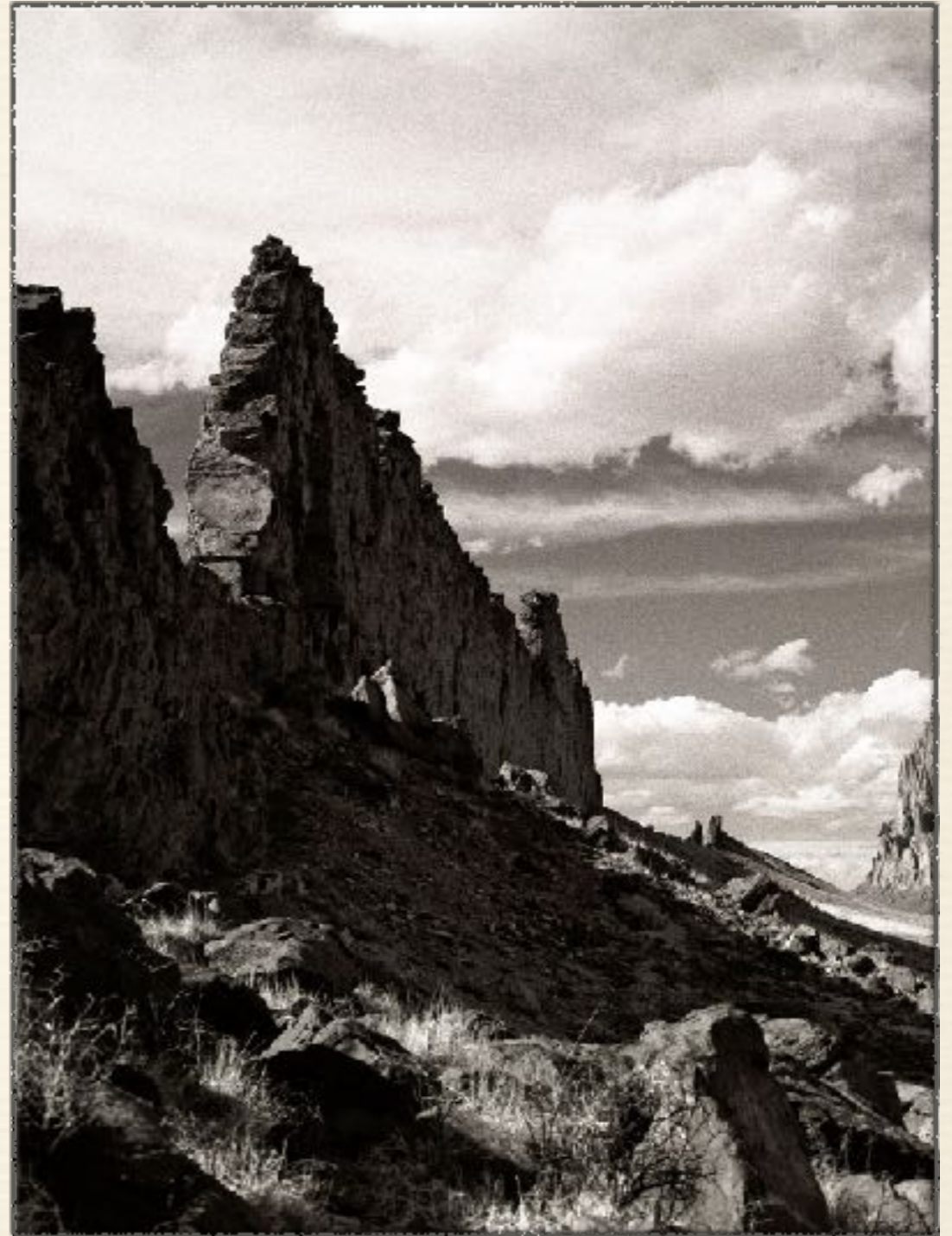




# Truth vs. Error



Those who promote  
error make plain  
statements complicated.



# Seventh-day Adventist Belief on the Trinity

## Fundamental Belief #2

There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons. God is immortal, all-powerful, all-knowing, above all, and ever present. He is infinite and beyond human comprehension, yet known through His self-revelation. God, who is love, is forever worthy of worship, adoration, and service by the whole creation. (Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4; Isa. 6:8; Matt. 28:19; John 3:16 2 Cor. 1:21, 22; 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Peter 1:2.)



# Seventh-day Adventist Belief on the Father Fundamental Belief #3

God the eternal Father is the Creator, Source, Sustainer, and Sovereign of all creation. He is just and holy, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. The qualities and powers exhibited in the Son and the Holy Spirit are also those of the Father. (Gen. 1:1; Deut. 4:35; Ps. 110:1, 4; John 3:16; 14:9; 1 Cor. 15:28; 1 Tim. 1:17; 1 John 4:8; Rev. 4:11.)

# Seventh-day Adventist Belief on Jesus as God

## Fundamental Belief #4

God the eternal Son became incarnate in Jesus Christ. Through Him all things were created, the character of God is revealed, the salvation of humanity is accomplished, and the world is judged. Forever truly God, He became also truly human, Jesus the Christ. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived and experienced temptation as a human being, but perfectly exemplified the righteousness and love of God.



# Seventh-day Adventist Belief on Jesus as God

## Fundamental Belief #4

His miracles He manifested God's power and was attested as God's promised Messiah. He suffered and died voluntarily on the cross for our sins and in our place, was raised from the dead, and ascended to heaven to minister in the heavenly sanctuary in our behalf. He will come again in glory for the final deliverance of His people and the restoration of all things. (Isa. 53:4-6; Dan. 9:25-27; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-3, 14; 5:22; 10:30; 14:1-3, 9, 13; Rom. 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17-19; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-19; Heb. 2:9-18; 8:1, 2.)



# Viewpoint of Anti-Trinitarians

Jesus is referred to as God in Hebrews 1:8 and John 1:1. Also all things were created by Him. John 1:3.

This absolutely establishes His Divinity and His pre-existence but the terms God and Son of God establishes the relationship between two beings.

The best way to understand the usage of the term God is by the name Adam. When taken in the strictest sense, Adam is the name of a single individual. The term Adam (man) can also refer to mankind (a race of beings) or to both Adam and Eve. Scripture that is in "the image of God". (2 Cor 4:4 "Christ, who is the image of God"). So it is the father speaking to the Son.



# Viewpoint of Anti-Trinitarians

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." Gen 1:27

Many read into Gen 1:26-27 a trinity but there is only being in all the Scripture that is in "the image of God". (2 Cor 4:4 "Christ, who is the image of God"). So it is the Father speaking to the Son.



Notice that Sister White backs this interpretation unequivocally.

But when God said to His Son, "Let us make man in our image," Satan was jealous of Jesus.  
EW 145

What is significant is that there were not three beings that were created but only two beings. We believe that this is because God was illustrating, in the creation of man, the relationship between the father and the son.

Adam was first and then Eve was brought forth from his substance (a rib). In the same way the Father is God in that He was first. The Son is not God in the strictest sense of personality but is God in substance and nature, even though His personality had a beginning in eternity.

Jesus is God in nature (Divine) but God is a reference primarily to the Father.



# Errors of Anti-Trinitarians

- ❖ 1. The Father is the One True God (One True God Movement) — John 17:3
- ❖ 2. We have one Lord, Jesus Christ, His Son (Divine Being - Son of God but not God) — John 3:16
- ❖ 3. Jesus was begotten or “brought forth” from the bosom of the Father in the distant past
- ❖ 4. The Holy Spirit is not a distinct being

# Errors of Anti-Trinitarians

- ❖ Current SDA teaching is the omega of apostasy
- ❖ Cannot experience righteousness by faith or receive the latter rain unless you see this “truth”
- ❖ Worshipping Jesus or the Holy Spirit as God is violation of First Commandment (Thou shalt have no other gods before me - Exodus 20:3)
- ❖ SDAs are worshipping a false god

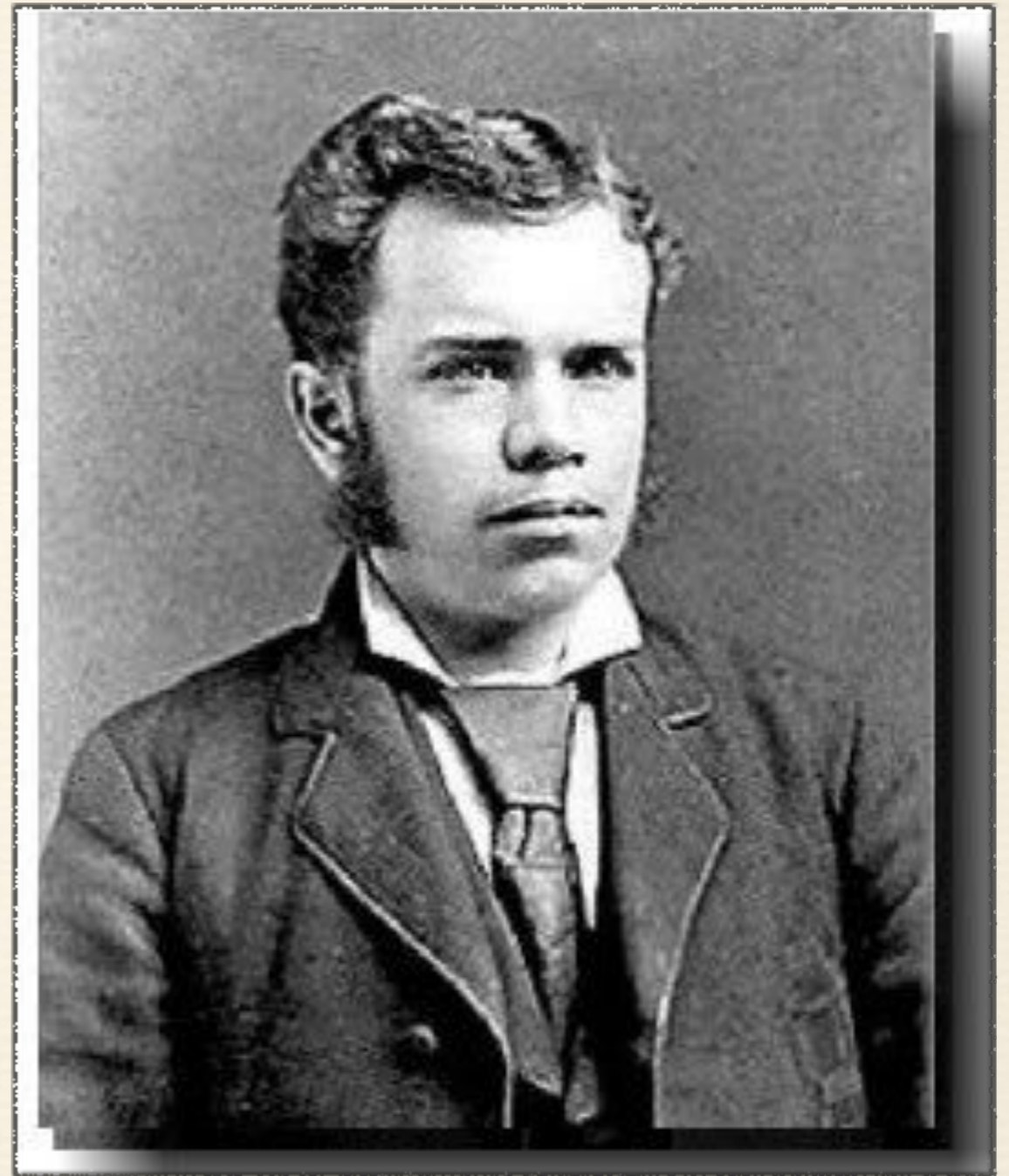


# Errors on the Son of God

- ❖ Arianism teaches that there was a time in the past that Jesus was not.
- ❖ Semi-arianism teaches that Jesus proceeded from the substance or body of the Father and was “begotten” and is a literal Son (who is His Mother?).
- ❖ Semi-arianism thus teaches that the “substance” of Jesus always existed in the substance of the Father.

# EJ Waggoner on Christ

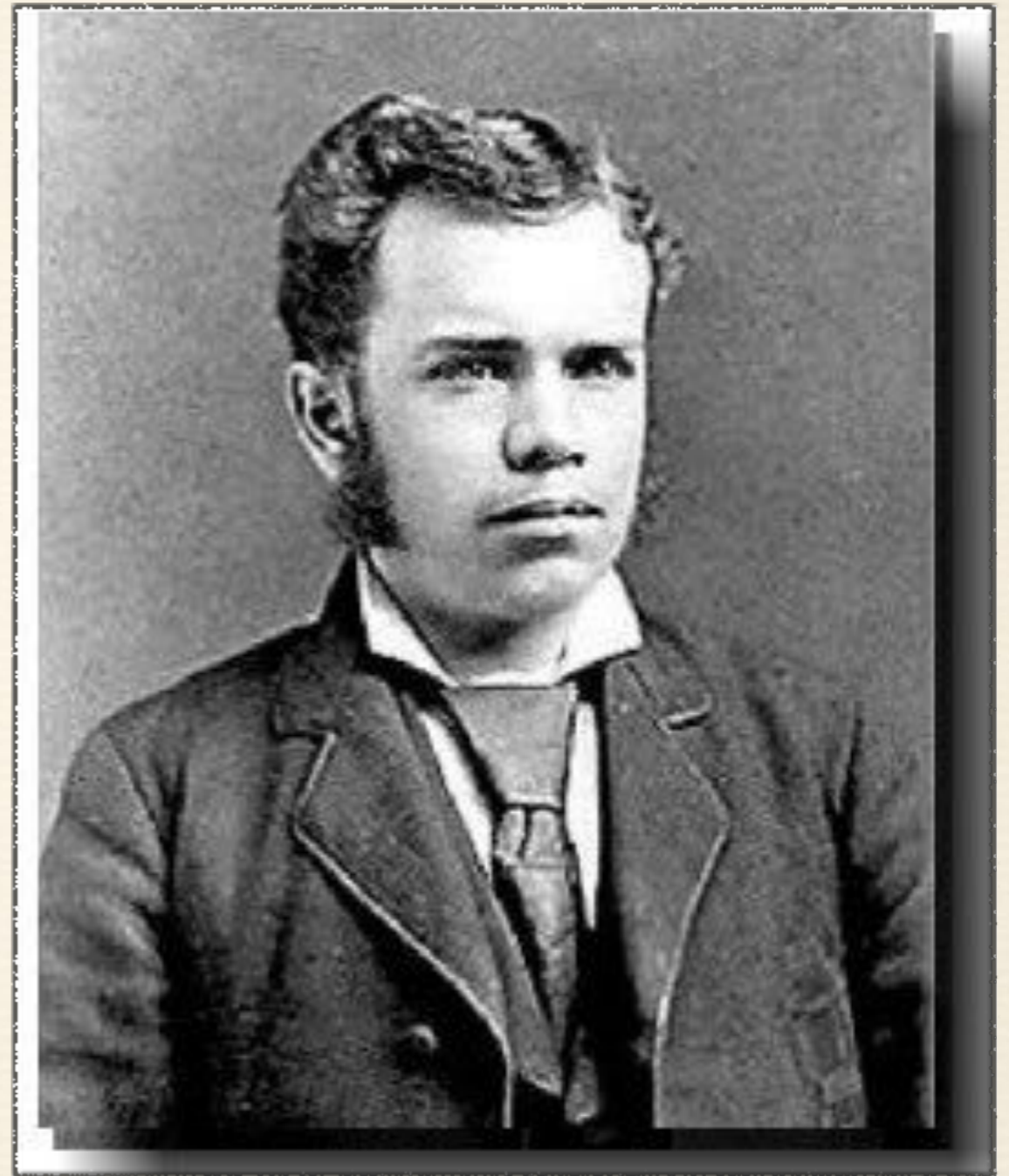
“The Scriptures declare that Christ is ‘the only begotten son of God.’ He is begotten, not created. As to when He was begotten, it is not for us to inquire, nor could our minds grasp it if we were told. The prophet Micah tells us all that we can know about it in these words,”





# EJ Waggoner on Christ

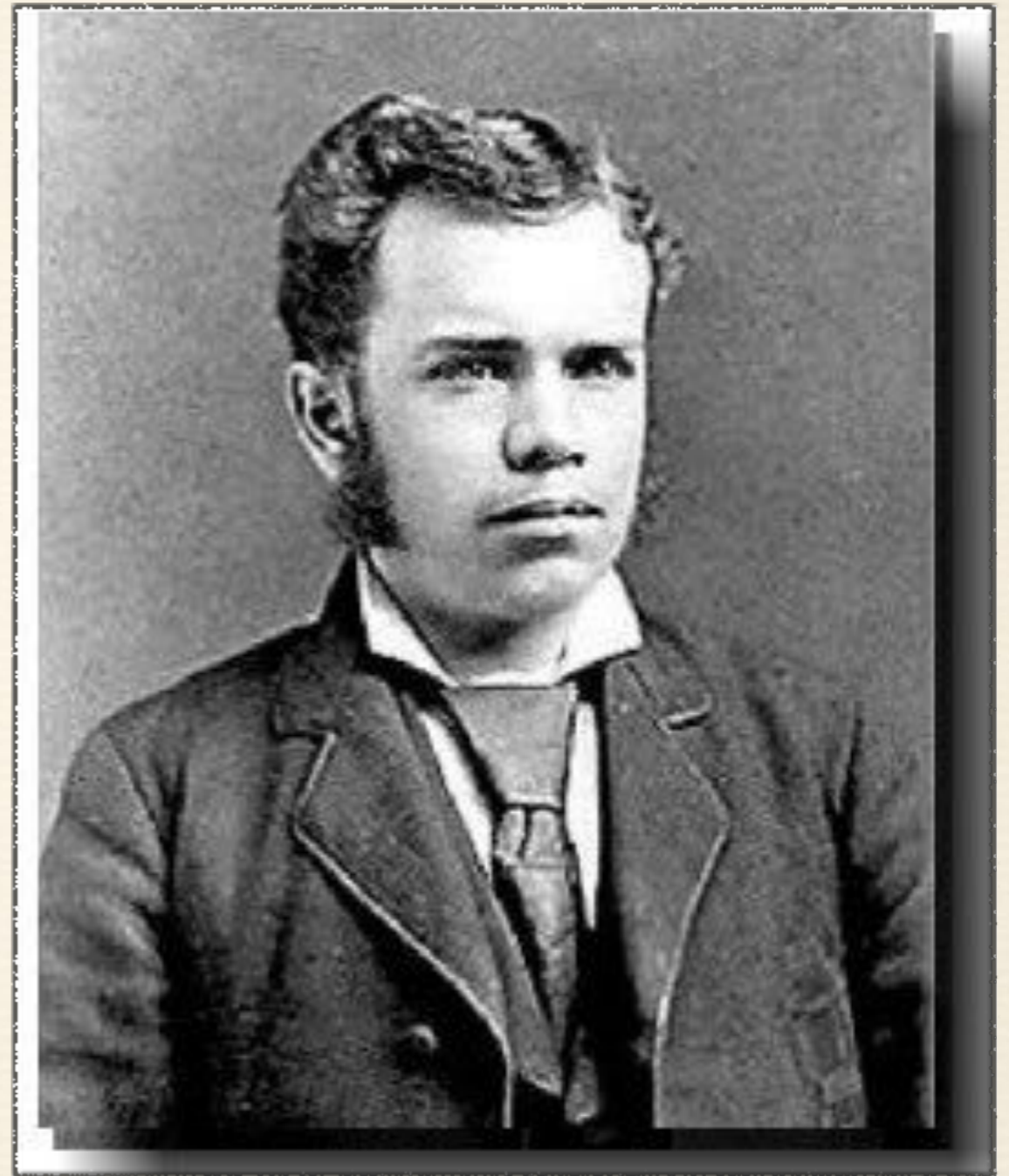
“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity.” Micah 5:2, margin.





# EJ Waggoner on Christ

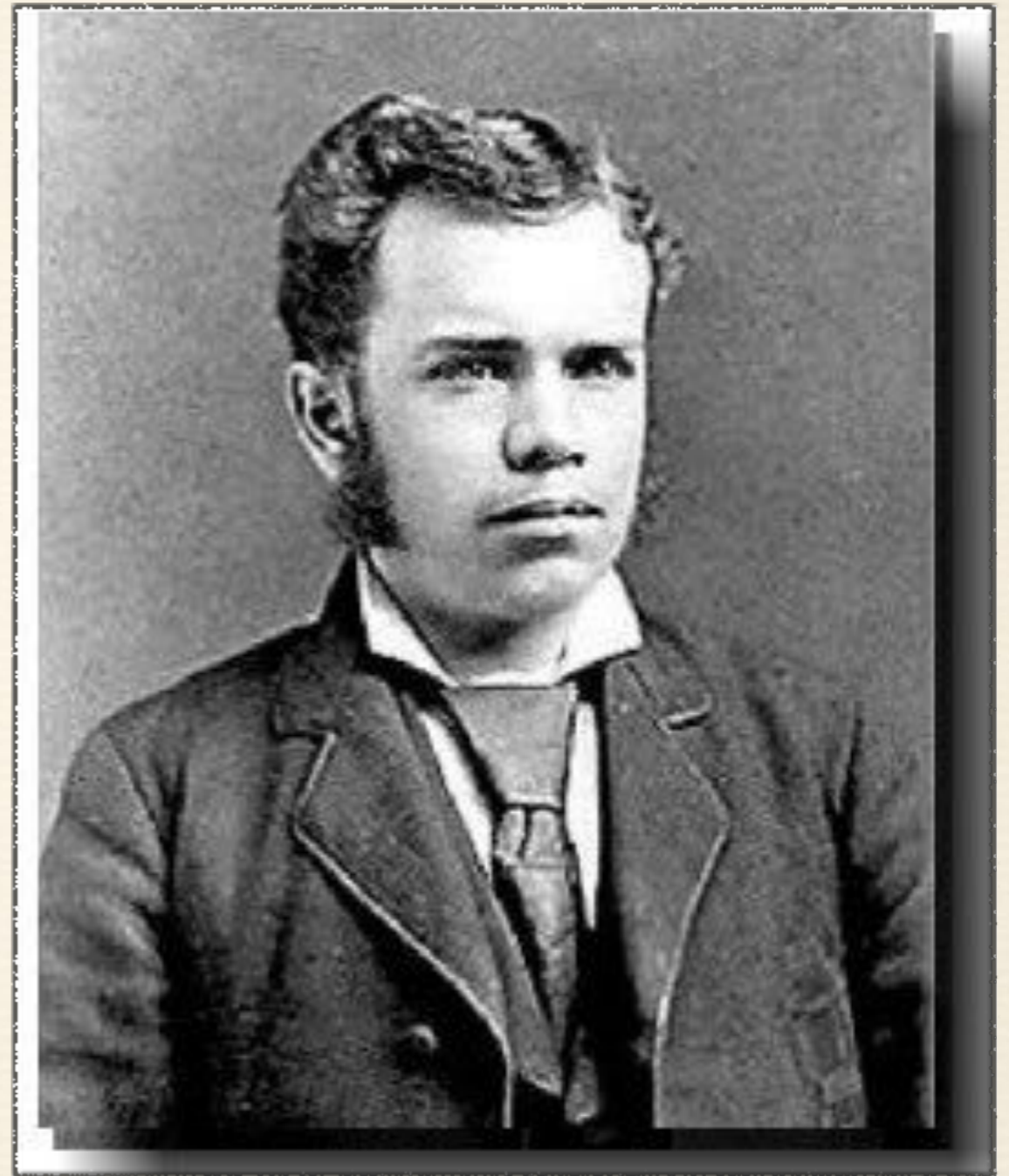
“There was a time when Christ proceeded forth and came from God, from the bosom of the Father (John 8:42; 1:18), but that time was so far back in the days of eternity that to finite comprehension it is practically without beginning.”





# EJ Waggoner on Christ

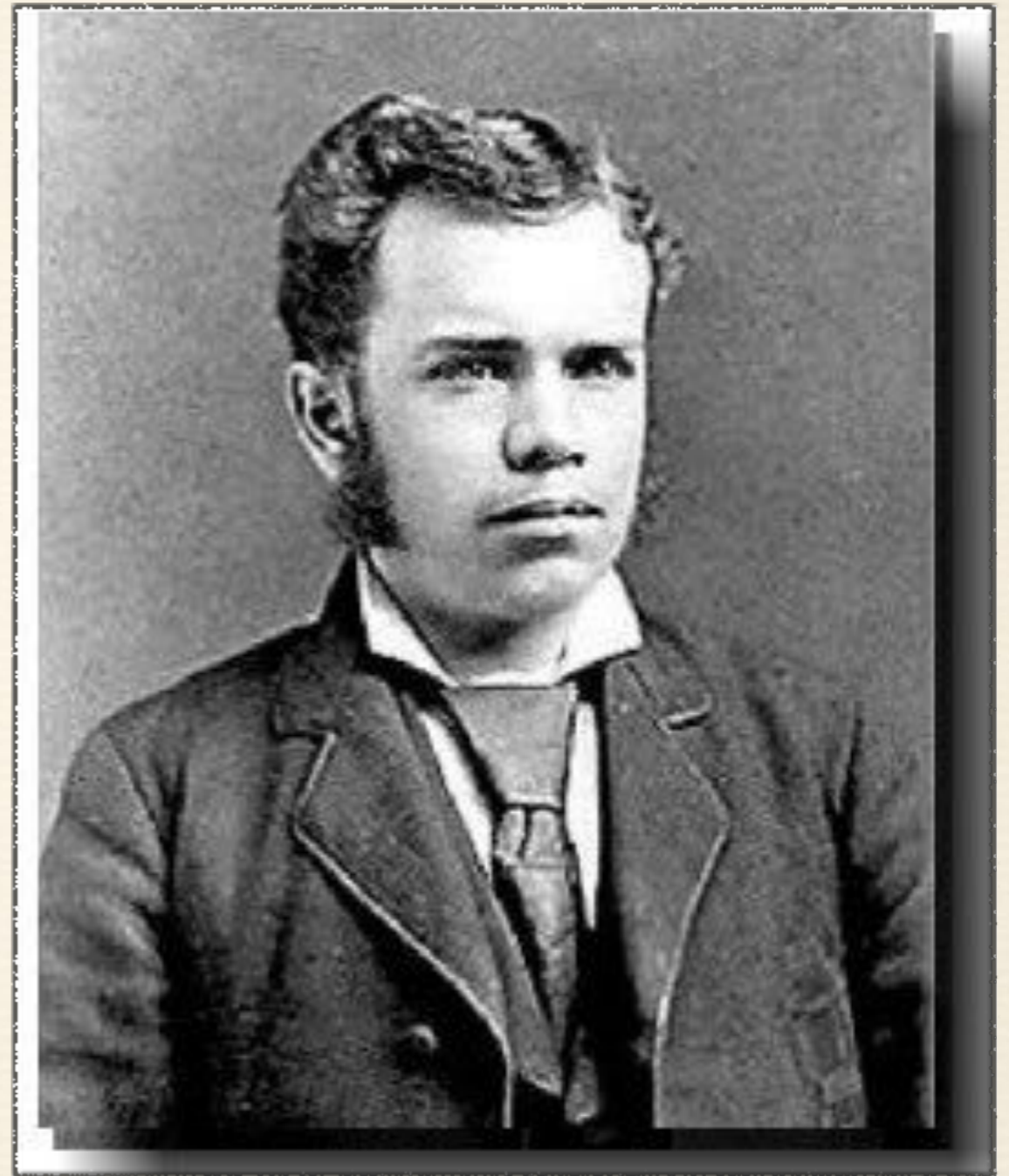
“But the point is that Christ is a begotten Son and not a created subject. He has by inheritance a more excellent name than angels: He is ‘a Son over His own house.’ Hebrews 1:4; 3:6. And since He is the only-begotten son of God, He is of the very substance and nature of God and possesses by birth all the attributes of God,”





# EJ Waggoner on Christ

“for the Father was pleased that the Son should be the express image of His person, the brightness of His glory, and filled with all the fullness of the Godhead. So He has ‘life in Himself.’ He possesses immortality in His own right and can confer immortality upon others.” *Christ and His Righteousness*, pp. 21, 22





# Arguments for “Beginning” of Christ

- ❖ 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 everlasting (the days of eternity - marginal reading).

# Arguments for “Beginning” of Christ

- ❖ “Goings forth” is key phrase used in argument for beginning of Christ
- ❖ Hebrew word “mowtsa’ah”; only other place in Scripture is 2 Kings 10:27
- ❖ 2 Kings 10:27 - draught house in KJV; bath or toilet house set off “mowtsa’ah” from a larger house
- ❖ Christ is set apart or begotten from the Father - “goings forth - mowtsa’ah”



# Arguments for “Beginning” of Christ

- ❖ Proverbs 8:22-30 – Wisdom Personified
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 1:30 – Jesus Christ is made unto us “wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption.”
- ❖ Ellen White applies Proverbs 8 to Christ in *Signs of the Times*, August 29, 1900

- ❖ Proverbs 8:23 - “I was set up from everlasting”
- ❖ Proverbs 8:24 - “I was brought forth”
- ❖ Proverbs 8:25 - “Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth.”
- ❖ Proverbs 8:30 - “Then I was by him, as one brought up with him.”



# Truth About the Son

❖ Micah 5:2

❖ “Goings forth” - *mowtsa'ah* is feminine form of word

❖ *Mowtsa* is masculine form of same word

# Truth About the Son

- ❖ *Mowtsa* is used 27 times in the Old Testament
- ❖ Two times it is used to describe a king going about his business (2 Samuel 3:25 - representative of king David doing his business; Hosea 6:3 - The Lord going forth as the morning in preparation to pour out the early and latter rain)
- ❖ Thus, Micah 5:2 is describing The King going about His business



“‘Before Abraham was, I am.’ **Christ is the pre-existent, self-existent Son of God.**

The message He gave to Moses to give to the children of Israel was, ‘Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.’ The prophet Micah writes of Him, ‘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 everlasting’ (ST August 29, 1900, par. 13).”

# Truth About the Son

- ❖ Proverbs 8 — Jesus is Wisdom Personified
- ❖ But does this passage teach that He had a beginning and was “brought forth”?



“Through Solomon Christ declared: ‘The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth.... When He gave to the sea His decree, that the waters should not pass His commandment; when He appointed the foundations of the earth; then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him’” (ST August 29, 1900, par. 14).

“In speaking of His pre-existence, Christ carries the mind back through dateless ages. He assures us that **there never was a time when He was not in close fellowship with the eternal God.** He to whose voice the Jews were then listening had been with God as one brought up with Him.” (ST August 29, 1900, par. 15)



# What the Bible Says About Jesus

- ❖ 1 Timothy 3:16 - “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.”
- ❖ John 1:1, 2 - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.”

# What the Bible Says About Jesus

- ❖ 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.”
- ❖ John 10:30 - “I and my Father are one.”
- ❖ John 14:9 - “He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.”



# What the Bible Says About Jesus

- ❖ Hebrews 1:8 Father says to Jesus “Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever.”
- ❖ Hebrews 7:3 speaking of Melchizedek - “Having **neither beginning of days nor end of life**, but made like unto the Son of God abideth a priest continually.” (Only divinity has no beginning or ending)

# What the Bible Says About Jesus

- ❖ John 8:58 - “Verily, verily I say unto you, Before Abraham was I AM.”
- ❖ Hebrews 13:8 - “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”



# What the Bible Says About Jesus

❖ 1 John 5:20 - And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

# Truth About the Son

- ❖ Jeremiah 10:10 - “But the Lord is the true God, He is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide His indignation.”
- ❖ Thus Jesus Christ is Lord and the True God.



❖ 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.”

❖ The Mighty God

❖ The Everlasting Father

# What the Bible Says About Jesus

- ❖ John 3:16 - only begotten Son
- ❖ Begotten - *monogenes*; mono - unique, only, one; genes - category or kind;
- ❖ One of a kind





What Ellen White Says About Jesus

“The yoke of obligation was not laid upon Him to undertake the work of redemption. Voluntarily He offered Himself, a willing, spotless sacrifice. He was **equal with God**, infinite and omnipotent. He was above all finite requirements. He was Himself the law in character. Of the highest angels it could not be said that they had never borne a yoke. The angels all bear the yoke of dependence, the yoke of obedience. They are the appointed messengers of Him who is Commander of all heaven.” (12MR 395.2)



No one of the angels could become a substitute and surety for the human race, for their life is God's; they could not surrender it. On Christ alone the human family depended for their existence. He is the **eternal, self-existent Son**, on whom no yoke had come. When God asked, "whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Christ alone of the angelic host could reply, "Here am I; send Me." He alone had covenanted before the foundation of the world to become a surety for man. He could say that which not the highest angel could say—"I have power over My own life. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again" [see John 10:18]. (12MR 395.3)

“With solemn dignity Jesus answered, ‘Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM.’” (DA 469.4)

“Silence fell upon the vast assembly. The name of God, given to Moses to express the idea of the eternal presence, had been claimed as His own by this Galilean Rabbi. He had announced Himself to be the **self-existent One**, He who had been promised to Israel, ‘whose goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity.’ Micah 5:2, margin. (DA 469.5)”

“I AM means an **eternal** presence.” *Letter* 119. Feb. 18, 1895.



“These are wonderfully solemn and significant statements. It was the Source of all mercy and pardon, peace and grace, the **self-existent, eternal, unchangeable One**, who visited His exiled servant on the isle that is called Patmos (Manuscript 81, 1900). (7BC 955.11)”

**“God always has been.** He is the great I AM. The psalmist declares, ‘Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.’ He is the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity. “I am the Lord, I change not,” He declares. With Him there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. **He is ‘the same yesterday, and today, and forever.’** He is infinite and omnipresent. No words of ours can describe His greatness and majesty.”

— *Medical Ministry, p. 92.4*



**“In Christ is life, original,  
unborrowed, underived.**

‘He that hath the Son hath life.’

1 John 5:12. The divinity of  
Christ is the believer’s  
assurance of eternal life.”

—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 530

- ❖ While Semi-Arians will argue that this is the life of the Father that is in Christ that is original, unborrowed, and underived, it is obvious that Ellen White did not mean such.
- ❖ She makes no qualifiers in the statement.
- ❖ She was not sending a subliminal message in which the true meaning would be discovered later.
- ❖ The plain reading of the statement is obvious.
- ❖ And He is the “pre-existent, self-existent Son of God.” (ST August 29, 1900)



# ML Andreassen



From Semi-Arian to Trinitarian



“Ellen White’s assertions of Christ’s eternal self-existence came as a shock to the theological leadership of the church. M. L. Andreasen, who had become an Adventist just four years earlier at the age of 18, and who would eventually teach at the church’s North American seminary, said that the new concept was so different from the previous understanding that some prominent leaders doubted whether Ellen White had really written it. After Andreasen entered the ministry in 1902, he made a special trip to Ellen White’s California home to investigate the issue for himself. She welcomed him and ‘gave him access to her manuscripts.’”



“He had brought with him ‘a number of quotations’ that he ‘wanted to see if they were in the original in her own handwriting.’ ‘I was sure Sister White had never written, ‘In Christ is life, original, unborrowed, underived.’ But now I found it in her own handwriting just as it had been published. It was so with other statements. As I checked up, I found they were Sister White’s own expressions’ (Andreasen, ‘Spirit of Prophecy,’ p. 20).” Jerry Moon, The Adventist Trinity Debate Part 1: Historical Overview. <http://www.sdanet.org/atissue/trinity/moon/moon-trinity1.htm>”

# Lucifer and Anti-Trinitarians

- ❖ Lucifer challenged Christ's authority in Heaven
- ❖ Anti-Trinitarians do not believe that Christ is God and have diminished Him to a lesser role than the Father (Son of God and a Divine Being but NOT God)
- ❖ This is just what Satan wants - SDAs who do not accept Jesus as God.
- ❖ Philippians 2:6 shows that Jesus is equal with God



# Closing Thoughts

- ❖ It is alarming that there are some Seventh-day Adventists who do not believe that Jesus is God, and that He has not existed through all eternity.
- ❖ Their views require twisting the plain reading of Inspiration in order to accept their pre-suppositions
- ❖ The claim that we must accept their views in order to receive the latter rain and the seal of God is heresy and a deception

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Objections Answered

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