

## The Begotten

Abdiel L. Baxter, 2008

**N**o man alive today can accurately say that he was created. God created Adam; forming him from the dust of the earth; breathed in him life (*Gen 2:7*), and then he created Eve from a part of Adam's body (*Gen. 2:21, 22*). Thereafter, all were begotten or were born into life through successive generations. However, because we were begotten of our "created" fore parents, we are classified as creatures; created beings. The same is true for Jesus. In the same way accurately speaking, it can not be said of Jesus, the only begotten of the Eternal God and Father, that he was created by or of the Father. He was begotten or born of his Father. Having been born, not of a created Father, he is therefore classified as his Father is; eternal and everlasting. Even as we are classified as creatures by the merits of our created parents, so is Jesus Christ classified as everlasting, by the merits of his Everlasting Father. In fact, he is even called the Everlasting Father. ***"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."*** (*Isa 9:6*)  
\*(Note that he is called the Prince of Peace. A prince is the son of a king or of a high ranking royalty. So even though he is called "The Mighty God, the everlasting Father, in the same breath of the prophet he is finally called "The Prince...")

We are told, in the bible, that in him (Jesus) it is given to bear the name of his Father. ***"Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him."*** (*Exo 23:20, 21*) This was not any of the created angels; this was an angel who is capable of forgiving transgressions. The word angel means messenger. There is no other messenger under heaven who can bring about our pardon but the only begotten Son of God; Jesus Christ. In him is found complete the name of God his Father. Yet in my search of the whole bible, I have not found any references of other people who it was said that in them the name of God is or was. You will find many who have borne the name and many who are called by His name; even inanimate things such as a place; a house; an alter, or even a city. (*2 Chron 7:14, Isa 43:7 Isa 65:1*) Why is this so?

It seems, the practise of naming the Son after the Father was early understood by mankind.

***"One shall say, I am the Lord's; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD, and surname himself by the name of Israel."*** (*Isa 44:5*).

***"Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place."*** (*2 Sam 18:18*)

\*Note: surnames were previously given as entitlement for various reasons including worship

This practice was quite popular by the time Jesus walked this earth as a man. It seems to me that it was necessary for Jesus himself to surname a few of his disciples. In Mark 3: 14-18, we find the record where Jesus surnamed Simon, James and John. Simon was surnamed Peter, and James and John were surnamed Boanerges; (The sons of thunder).

Interestingly Simon, who was already known as Barjona, (son of Jona) was now, surnamed Peter. So although there was much duplicity of names in Jesus' circle, it appears that the main reason for renaming by surnames had more to do with character than simply to avoid the confusion in identity. Throughout the Bible we find that when God touches the lives of people He renames them; usually with a name which is either representing their character or what they should become. For example: Abram and Jacob were renamed by God.

Old Name	New Name	Meaning of New Name	Reference
Abram	Abraham	Father of a multitude	(Gen 17:5)
Jacob	Israel	He will rule as God	(Gen 32:28)

*“Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.” (Gen 17:5)*

*“And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.” (Gen 32:28)*

*“And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel. For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.” (Isa 45:3, 4)*

But to be called “Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace” is a way of naming which not matter how mankind try to simulate, can not be compared. One of my sons is named the same as me, and that is as close as I can make him to be like me; all the rest was done naturally at conception. He will grow up; have a mind of his own, like different things and may even look different. We may even have a lot of similarities; mannerism, vocal tones etc, but the fact remains, that he will be different.

Being born again in Christ naturally entitles us to be surnamed after him. Not only by words, as many are called Christians, but also by his character.

*“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.” (1 John 3:1)*

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