

The Pre-existence of the Son

Christ is the Cure.org



Synthesis of Scriptural Testimony

CHRIST IS THE CURE.ORG

John 1:2-3	John 1:10	Colossians 1:16-17	Hebrews 1:2-3	1 Corinthians 8:6
He [the Word] was in the Beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.	He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.	For by him [the beloved Son, v. 13] all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.	In these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power...	There is one God the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

“The world was made through him”

Synthesis of Scriptural Testimony

CHRIST IS THE CURE.ORG

John 8:58	John 16:28	Hebrews 1:10
Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was [lit. Came into existence/was born], I am”	I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.” (cf. John 8:14; 13:1; 3)	(v. 8) Of the Son he says..you, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning and the heavens are the work of your hands.

Philippians 2:7-8a

Though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped

but

Emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself...

The form of a servant = being born in the likeness of men

“Being found in human form, he humbled himself (was a servant)”

Who took the form of a servant? Who was found in human form?

Synthesis of Historical Testimony

CHRIST IS THE CURE.ORG

Ignatius (2nd century)	Epi. Barnabas (2nd century)	Justin Martyr (2nd century)	Irenaeus (2-3rd century)	Tertullian (2-3rd century)
<p>“Await him [Christ] that is above every season, the Eternal, the invisible, who became visible for our sake, the impalpable, the impassible, who suffered for our sake.”</p> <p>(Letter to Polycarp 3.2 also letter to Eph. 7.2, Mag. 8)</p>	<p>“[Jesus is] the Lord of the entire world, the one to whom God dsaid at the foundation of the world, Let us make a human according to our image and likeness.”</p> <p>(5.5, cf. 5.10-11)</p>	<p>“This is he who existed before all, who is the eternal priest of God, and king, and Christ.”</p> <p>(Dialogue, 96)</p>	<p>“That which is begotten of God is God... ‘all things were made by him and without him was nothing made’ for the Word was the author of form and beginning to all the Aeons that came into existence after him.”</p> <p>(Against Heresies 1.8)</p>	<p>“Although God had not yet sent out his Word, he still had him within himself... God was not alone, since he had within himself both reason and inherent in reason, his Word”</p> <p>(Against Praxeas, 6)</p>

Also Tatian (2nd century), Athenagoras of Athens (2nd century), Theophilus of Antioch (2nd century), Aristides (2nd century), Melito of Sardis (2nd century), Origen (2-3rd century). The Shepherd of Hermas (2nd century) in parable 5 also with an emphasis on the Holy Spirit.

The Church Universal would continue to uphold the doctrine of the Son’s preexistence through Nicaea, Constantinople, Chalcedon, etc.

Resources:

God the Son Incarnate by Stephen Wellum

Jesus the Eternal Son by Michael Bird

A Definitive Look at Oneness Theology by Edward Dalcour

The Holy Trinity by Robert Letham

Trinitarian Dogmatics by Glenn Butner

The 'Through Nicaea' Series on the Christ is the Cure Podcast

Download these Slides at [CHRIST IS THE CURE.ORG/PDFS](https://christisthecure.org/pdfs)

