Son of the Blessed

Pg 1

"And the chief priests and the whole Council sought for <u>testimony</u> against <u>Jesus</u> to put Him to death; and found none; for many bore <u>false testimony</u> against <u>Him</u>, but their <u>testimony</u> did not agree together. And there arose some <u>who bore false testimony</u> against <u>Him</u>, saying, 'We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this Temple <u>that is made with hands</u>, and within three days I will build another made without hands.' But neither did their <u>testimony</u> agree together. And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, saying, 'Answer you nothing to what is it which these <u>testify</u> against you?' But He (Jesus) held His peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, 'Are you the Christ, <u>the Son of the Blessed</u>?' <u>And Jesus said</u>, <u>I am</u>; and all of you shall see the <u>Son of Man</u> sitting on the Right Hand of Power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.' " (Mark 14:55-<u>61</u>-62)

Jesus affirms the high priest's question, and claims both titles by saying, "i am" - as in: 'Yes He is God's promised Messiah, the Christ' - and 'Yes He is the Son of the Blessed' God Himself!!

Son: from the Greek word *huios* meaning: a son (by birth or adoption), a male descendent, a male offspring, who **shares the same nature as his Father**.

Blessed: from the Greek word *Eulog tou* meaning: <u>one-well-spoken-of</u>, (used only in reference towards God); from *eulogéto*s meaning blessed by "speaking well of"; to celebrate by praising. (the root of the English terms, "eulogize, eulogy," (from *eulogé*p = to speak well of, to praise; – properly: to speak that which confers benefit; hence, verbally bless. (from $e\acute{u}$, "well, good" and lógos, meaning "*word*, or *reason*" = 'a good-word'). (not the same as *Makarioi* which means: blessed in the sense of being fortunate, well off, or happy; or endowed with divine favor),

To help understand this title of Jesus, Consider these uses of "Blessed' (*eulogéto*s) as used in praise towards the Father:

"And his (John the Baptist') father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying, 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a Horn of Salvation (Jesus) for us in the house of His servant David; as he spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, which have been since the world began.' " (Luke 2:67-70)

"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all Comfort; who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto Salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (I Peter 1:3-5)

Like Paul, and Peter, and Zacharias, this form of blessing or praising God was very much a part of the culture of the people of God in ancient times. Consider these verses from the Book of Psalms:

"Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen." (Psalms 41:13)

"Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only does wondrous things." (Psalms 72:18)

"Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen. Praise you the LORD." (Psalms 106:48)

Son of the Blessed

Pg 2

"Blessed be the Name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore" (Psalms 113:2)

"Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, who dwells at Jerusalem. Praise all of you the LORD." (Psalms 135:21)

"Blessed be the LORD" for evermore. Amen, and Amen." (Psalms 89:52)

Please read also these passages: (Genesis 9:26), (Exodus 18:10), (Ruth 4:14), (I Kings 1:47-48), (I Kings 8:56), (Job 1:21), (Daniel 2:20), (Ezra 7:27), (I Chronicles 16:36), (I Chronicles 29:10).

Blessed: from the Hebrew word *baruk* which means: to kneel, or to bless. Used of God in these verses in the same sense as the Greek word *Eulog tos*: to speak well of.

In context, the use of such terms as "**Blessed be...**" implies great reverence, and praise worthiness, and worshipful adoration towards the One and only Most High God of all creation, who performs abundant mercies towards His people! Thus the importance of the title '**Blessed**' towards the Father, and its use within the title 'the Son of the Blessed'

So then, when the high priest, (who was no friend of Jesus), asked Jesus, 'Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed,' he, the high priest, was using a title of supreme reverence for God that was well rooted in Jewish Messianic belief and culture. And the title the Son of the Blessed, was clearly being used, by the high priest, as a reverent title of the Christ: the promised Jewish Messiah!

But, the high priest, in his hatred towards Jesus, fell into the trap of Jesus silence, when after considerable amount of false contradictory accusations, he, perhaps in frustration, finally himself asked Jesus the most important question of all:

'Answer you nothing? What is it **which these testify** against you?' But He (Jesus) held His peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, 'Are you the Christ (the promised Messiah), **the Son of the Blessed**?'

The high priest's question is not unlike the very important question that Jesus, Himself, asked of His own disciples:

"When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I the Son of Man am?" And they said, "Some say that You are John the Baptist; and some say Elijah; and others say Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." And He said unto them, "But who do you say that I am?" And Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered and said unto him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona; for flesh and blood has not revealed it unto you, but My Father who is in heaven.?"" (Matthew 16:13-17)

These titles of Jesus, Peter affirmed by faith in Jesus, and by revelation from the Father in heaven. However, concerning the same titles, the high priest asked them of Jesus in complete unbelief. But it is, in similar importance, the most important question to be answered in the presence of the high priest, and the whole Counsel (Sanhedrin) of Israel!

In the presence of the Father Jesus bears true witness of Himself; and in the presence of the Sanhedrin Jesus bears true witness <u>against</u> Himself when He says of Himself:

"I am !!"

As in: 'Yes <u>He is</u> God's promised Messiah, <u>the Christ</u>' !! and as in: 'Yes <u>He is</u> the Son of the Blessed' the One and Only God !!

Son of the Blessed

Pg3

In <u>the mindset</u> of the high priest, and the Council, the claim of Jesus to being the Christ was false testimony. But even worst was the affirmation of Jesus that He was the **the Son of the Blessed**, <u>the Most High God Himself</u>! To the unbelieving Council members this claim of Jesus was blasphemy. Their reaction against the **Son of the Blessed** was swift and cruel:

"Then the high priest tore his clothes, and said, 'What need do we have of any further witnesses? All of you have heard the blasphemy. What do you all think?' And they all condemned Him to be guilty of death. And some began to spit on Him, and to cover his face, and to buffet Him, and to say unto Him, 'Prophesy;' and the servants did strike Him with the palms of their hands." (Mark 14:63-65)

It was as it was said by John the apostle of Jesus (John 1:10-11):

"He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world knew Him not! He came unto His own (the Nation of Israel), and His own received Him not!"

Jesus's own Nation: the chief priests, the Sanhedrin Council, and many of the scribes, pharisees, and common people 'knew Him not' and 'received Him not' because of unbelief. And they did not know who Jesus truly was because they did not truly know **the One** whom they called the **Blessed-One**, even **God the Father Himself**!!

But, John the apostle of **Jesus the Christ**, **the Son of the Blessed**, continued by saying:

<u>But</u> as many (people) as received **Him (Jesus)**, <u>to them</u> He gave power to become the sons of God, <u>even to those who believe on His Name</u>; who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, <u>but of God</u>." <u>The Blessed</u>!! (John 1:12-13)

Finally, consider this wonderful passage of promise:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ; according as He has chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, so that we should be holy and without blame before Hm in love; having predestined us to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will; to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He has made us accepted in **the Beloved**; in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace! (Ephesians 1:3-7)

JESUS IS ...

"the Son of the Blessed"

The Son of the Most High God!
The Son of the God of all Creation!
The Messiah – The Christ!

The Son of the One and Only God worthy of all praise and blessing from the hearts of His faithful children who have received Him in spirit and in truth!!

Lord Jesus Christ we praise you for all the spiritual blessings that we have in and through You!

Heavenly Father we praise You for the many 'Wonders' that You have blessed us with in and through Your beloved Son Jesus the Christ our Lord!

Father, Blessed be Your Name from this time forth and forevermore! Jesus, thank You for testifying, against Yourself, the truth of who You are:

You are THE CHRIST – THE SON OF THE BLESSED – GOD HIMSELF – Amen !!