Whatever the Father Does the Son Does Likewise – pt 3

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"But Jesus answered them, '<u>My Father works until now, and I am working</u>.' Therefore the Jews (their rulers) sought even more to kill Him, because He not only had broken the sabbath, but He also said that God was His Father, <u>making Himself equal with God</u>. Then answered Jesus and said unto them, '<u>Truly, truly</u>, I say unto you, <u>The Son can do nothing of Himself; but</u> what He sees the Father doing; for whatever things He (the Father) does, these also the <u>Son does likewise</u>. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him everything that He does; and He will show Him greater works than these, so that you may marvel.' " (John 5:17-23)

Word Studies: please see "Whatever the Father Does the Son Does Likewise - Pt 1"

This attribute of Christ Jesus is clearly <u>an action oriented attribute</u> related to the shared vision and high calling of the Father and Son, in regards to the Salvation of all people who believe and embrace the Good News of Jesus the Messiah. This is a past, present, and future oriented plan of salvation. Also, whatever things the Father does, and the Son likewise does - this has very much to do with our own eternal salvation. Just <u>some</u> of the '<u>many</u>' shared things and actions that the Father and Son <u>likewise does</u> are as follows:

They each 'gave' believers Love, Peace, and Joy. They each 'gave' us Grace, Mercy, and Forgiveness. They each 'gave' us, Salvation, and Life Everlasting. They each 'gave' us Kindness, Rest, and Righteousness. <u>They each Shepherd us and Judge us, and give us an Eternal Inheritance in the Kingdom of God.</u> They each teach us all things that we need for life and holiness. They each will give us riches and glory. They also have given us the Holy Spirit of Promise. They each performed numerous Signs, and Wonders, and Miracles!

The Father Shepherds us - and so does Jesus!

Shepherds: the action of caring for, safely guiding and protecting, feeding, and attending to all the needs of a flock of sheep. <u>The One</u> who shepherds the sheep is caller **a Shepherd**:

"<u>The LORD is my Shepherd</u>; I shall not want. He makes <u>me</u> to lie down in green pastures. He leads <u>me</u> beside the still waters. He restores <u>my</u> soul. He leads <u>me</u> in the paths of righteousness for <u>His name's sake</u>. Yes, even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for <u>You are with me</u>. Your rod and You staff they comfort <u>me</u>. You have prepared a table before <u>me</u> in the presence of my enemies. You have anointed <u>my</u> head with oil; <u>my</u> cup runs over. <u>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of</u> <u>my life</u>: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever." (Psalms 23:1-6)

"But (He – the Father) **made His own people to go forth like** <u>sheep</u>, <u>and guided them in the</u> <u>wilderness like a flock</u>. And **He** led them on safely, **so that they feared not**; but the sea overwhelmed their enemies." (Psalm 78:52-53)

"Behold, the Lord GOD (the Father) will come with a strong hand, and <u>His Arm (speaking of Jesus) shall rule for Him</u>. Behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. <u>He</u> shall feed His flock like a Shepherd. He shall gather the lambs with His Arm, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." (Isaiah 40:10-11)

"And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 'Son of man, <u>prophesy against the</u> <u>shepherds of Israel</u>, prophesy, and say unto them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; '<u>Woe to the shepherds of Israel that feed themselves</u>! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? You eat the fat, and you clothe yourselves with the wool, you kill those who are fat (well-fed); but you feed not the flock.' Therefore <u>I will save My flock</u> And <u>I will</u> <u>set up One Shepherd</u> (speaking of the Messiah Jesus) over them, <u>and He shall feed them</u>, even My <u>Servant David</u> (again speaking of the Messiah Jesus); <u>He shall feed them</u>, and He <u>shall be their Shepherd</u>. And <u>I the LORD</u> will be their God, and <u>My Servant David (will be)</u> a Prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it." (please read in context Ezekiel 34:1-24)

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"And Jesus, when He came out, saw many people, and He was moved <u>with compassion</u> toward them, <u>because they were as sheep not having a Shepherd</u>; and <u>He began to teach</u> (feed) them many things." (Mark 6:34)

Jesus said, **"I am the Good Shepherd**; <u>the Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep</u>. But he who is a hireling, and not the shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and flees: and the wolf catches them, and scatters the sheep. ... **I am the Good Shepherd**, and <u>I know My sheep</u>, and am known by Mine (His sheep). And I have other sheep, who are not of <u>this fold</u>; I must bring those also, and they shall hear My voice; <u>and there shall be one fold, and one Shepherd (even Jesus)</u>." (see John 10:1-18)

"Now <u>the God</u> of peace, who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, **that Great Shepherd** of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, <u>make</u> you perfect in every good work to do <u>His</u> will, <u>working in you</u> that which is well pleasing in <u>His</u> sight, <u>through Jesus</u> <u>Christ</u>; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-21)

"He (Jesus) Himself bore our sins in <u>His own body</u> on the tree, so that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; through whose stripes you were healed. For you were as sheep going astray; but have now been returned unto the <u>Shepherd and Overseer</u> of your souls." (I Peter 2:24-25)

"Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13:) It is as Jesus said. And for us **He** is that Man, and we are the friends in <u>His fold</u>!

The Father Judges us, and so does Jesus!

Judges: to sit in judgment on something or someone; so as to decide on a ruling or verdict:

"But the LORD shall endure for ever: **He has prepared His throne <u>for judgment</u>**. **And He shall judge the world in righteousness**; **He** shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness." (Psalm 50:7-8)

"God stands in the congregation of the mighty; <u>He judges among the gods</u>. How long will you judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah. <u>Defend the poor and fatherless</u>; **do justice** for the afflicted and needy. <u>Deliver the poor and needy</u>; <u>free them out of the hand of the wicked</u>. They do not know, nor will they understand; they walk on in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are out of course. I have said, 'You are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.' But you shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes. <u>Arise, O God, and judge the earth</u>; for You shall inherit all nations." (Psalms 82:1-8)

"I say, you know that <u>word</u> which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John (the Baptist) preached; <u>how God anointed Jesus of</u> <u>Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power</u>; and who went about <u>doing good</u>, and <u>healing all who were oppressed of the devil</u>; for God was with Him. And we are witnesses of all the things which He did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they killed by hanging Him on a tree. And God raised Him up on the third day, and showed Him openly; not to all the people, but unto witnesses were chosen beforehand by God, even to us, who did eat and drink with Him after He rose from the dead. And He commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify <u>that it is He who was ordained by God to be the Judge of the living</u> <u>and the dead</u>. To Him (Jesus) all the prophets gave witness, that through His name whoever believes in Him shall receive remission of sins." (Acts 10:37-43) (from when Peter first shared the the good news of Jesus with non Jewish gentiles)

The apostle Paul wrote: "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with **the Lord**. Therefore we labor, so that, whether present or absent, we may be acceptable to **Him**. For <u>we must all appear before **the Judgment seat of Christ**; so that every one may receive the things done in his body, <u>according to what he has</u> done (his deeds), whether it be good or bad." (2 Corinthians 5:8-10)</u>

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Under the old Covenant the Father Judged the people and nations; under the New Covenant the Father has given all judgment to His Son Jesus, as Jesus Himself said:

"For as the Father raises up the dead, and gives Life to them; even so the Son gives Life to whom He will. For the Father judges no man, but has committed all Judgment to the Son; so that all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who has sent Him. Truly, truly, I say unto you, <u>he who</u> hears My word, and believes on Him who sent Me, has everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but has passed from death unto life. Truly, truly, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they who hear shall live. For as the Father has Life in Himself; so has He given to the Son to have Life in Himself; and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in the which all who are in the graves shall hear His voice, And shall come forth; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those that have done evil, to the resurrection of judgement. I can of My own self do nothing; as I hear, I judge: and My judgment is just; because I seek not My own will, but the will of the Father who has sent Me. (John 5:21-30) (see also Dan. 12:2)

The apostle Paul also wrote to Timothy:

"I charge you therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, <u>who shall judge the living</u> <u>and the dead at His appearing and His Kingdom</u>; preach the word; be ready in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all patience and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts they shall heap unto themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." (2 Timothy 4:1-4)

Jesus, the Son of Man, the Son of God, the promised Messiah, has been given the authority ordained by His Father, to sit as Judge of both the living and the dead. Jesus will judge each human being; and His judgment for each person will be just, being based upon what He hears from God His Father. For the righteous: His judgment for them will be Life Eternal. But for those who have done evil, their judgment will be everlasting punishment. Consider these final words of Judgment:

"He who is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he who is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he who is holy, let him be holy still. '<u>And, behold, I</u> <u>am coming quickly; and My reward is with Me</u>, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. Blessed are those who do His commandments, so that they may have the right to the Tree of Life, and may enter in through the gates into the City (the Kingdom of Heaven, the 'Fold' of Christ Jesus).' " (see Revelation 22:11-14)

The Father gives us an inheritance, and so does Jesus!

Inheritance: the legacy, heritage, provision, and blessings that we will receive from God:

"And I saw <u>a new heaven and a new earth</u>. ... And I John saw <u>the Holy City, New</u> <u>Jerusalem</u>, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, 'Behold, the <u>tabernacle of God is</u> <u>with men</u>, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be <u>His people</u>, <u>and God Himself shall</u> <u>be with them, and be their God</u>. And God <u>shall wipe away all tears from their eyes</u>; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.' And <u>He</u> who sat upon the throne said, '<u>Behold, I</u> <u>make all things new</u>.' And He said unto me, 'Write: for these words are true and faithful.' And He said unto me, 'It is done. I am <u>Alpha and Omega</u>, the <u>Beginning and the End</u>. I will give unto him who is thirsty of the fountain of the water of life freely. He who overcomes <u>shall</u> <u>inherit all (these) things</u>; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son." (Revelation 21:1-7)

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It is as Jesus says:

"Then shall the King (Jesus) say unto them on His right hand, Come, you blessed of My Father, <u>inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world</u>." (see in context: Matthew 25:34)

"Every one who has forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My name's sake, **shall receive a hundred-times, and <u>shall inherit</u> Everlasting Life**." (Matthew 19:29)

Consider also these written statements of Paul the apostle:

"I Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; that <u>the God of our</u> <u>Lord Jesus Christ</u>, <u>the Father of Glory</u>, <u>may give unto you</u> the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him</u>; so the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; so that you may <u>know what is the hope of His calling</u>, and <u>what are the riches of the glory of His</u> <u>inheritance in the saints</u>, And what is the exceeding greatness of <u>His</u> (the Father's) power towards us who believe, according to the working of <u>His</u> mighty power, which <u>He</u> wrought in Christ, when <u>He</u> raised <u>Him</u> (Jesus) from the dead, and set <u>Him</u> at <u>His</u> own Right Hand in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 1:16-20)

I give "thanks unto the Father, who has made us qualified **to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in Light**; and who has delivered us from the power of darkness, **and has** <u>translated</u> us into the Kingdom of His dear Son; In whom we <u>have redemption through His</u> <u>blood, even the forgiveness of sins</u>." (Colossians 1:12-14)

"And whatever you do, do it heartily, <u>as unto the Lord</u>, and not unto men; knowing that <u>from</u> <u>the Lord you shall receive the reward of the inheritance</u>; for you serve the Lord Christ.." (Colossians 3:23-24)

"And now, brethren, I commend you <u>to God</u>, and to the **Word of His Grace**, which is able to build you up, <u>and to give you **an inheritance**</u> among all those who are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)

Finally consider also these words of Peter the apostle:

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

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They each Shepherd <u>us</u> – leading <u>us</u> safely to green pastures, still waters, and in paths of righteousness for their Name's sake!

They each Judge with justice and in uprightness – both of the living and the dead! And we shall receive all things of <u>our</u> Eternal Inheritance in their Kingdom!

Thank You Lord Jesus for being <u>our</u> Great Compassionate Shepherd! Thank You Lord Jesus for carrying <u>us</u> like lambs within the bosom of Your arms!

Thank You Father for the exceeding greatness of Your power towards <u>us</u> who have believed in Your Servant Jesus, <u>our</u> one and only Shepherd!

Always and always! Forever and ever! Truly and truly!