

# God Had a Son before Mary Did

## Chapter 6: “All Wisdom and Knowledge”, Part One

### BOTH GOOD AND EVIL

- The truth the Son reveals is the knowledge of both good *and* evil, and we must see them both as God sees them in order to see either of them rightly.
- Ancient Israelites could not know if any particular deed was good or evil because no deed is either always good or always evil.
- Because Jesus gave his life for us, we may now have God’s kind of life within us as an internal gauge to let us know what is good or evil in any given situation.
- Humans without God’s Spirit guiding them are routinely deceived by appearances; indeed, to be deceived is the normal course of human life.
- The final test for God’s children will be the appearance of an evil which will seem to be so good that, if it were possible, it would deceive even the very elect of God.
- Maturing in Christ is learning to trust the feelings and thoughts implanted in our hearts when we receive God’s kind of life.
- Only those who continue in humble obedience after receiving the Spirit come to the true knowledge of God.

### THE WHEAT AND THE TARES

- With the revelation of the Son came the knowledge that until Satan and his angels were cast out of heaven, both good and evil were there.
- Nothing but goodness exists in heaven now, but as long as the Son remained hidden, evil was allowed in God’s presence.
- As long as evil existed in heaven, God used it to try the hearts of heaven’s creatures, just He tries the hearts of believers on earth now by the evils around them.
- With his parable of the Wheat and the Tares, Jesus was revealing how the Father dealt with good and evil in heaven.

### *Terrifying Patience*

- God is still patiently tolerating ungodliness, but no longer in heaven, for now, the ungodliness is among His earthly sons.
- God’s patience is terrifying because when God is silent in the face of wickedness, His patience can be mistaken for His approval.
- When God does not give immediate vent to His wrath against sin, the foolish among God’s children always assume there is no wrath to fear.
- False prophets in Israel taught the people that God would never condemn them, even if they sinned against Him.
- In every generation, God’s people have to deal with ministers who teach that God will never condemn them because they belong to Him, regardless of how disobedient they are.

- God warned Israel the day He made a covenant with them that He would condemn anyone who entered His covenant and then was unfaithful

### *Cursed Children*

- The goodness of God, which includes His patience, creates a testing ground for the heart.
- The wise are motivated by God's goodness to fear Him and to grow in grace, but the foolish, misinterpreting God's goodness, continue in their own ways.
- God's cursed children go astray, but they do not go away; they still drink of the Spirit with all His children.
- The foolish in the house of God have too much love for the world to completely depart from the world, and too much love for God to completely depart from Him.
- God does not allow His ministers to remove the foolish from the congregation because He is using them to try and to train the upright in heart.

### *Sons and Bastards*

- The Father's chastisement may sting for a while, but receiving it leads to great benefits.
- To stubbornly refuse God's repeated correction is a fearful thing, for it may eventually lead to an irreversible judgment.
- Even though Israel did not adhere to the rites and rules of God's law, they never stopped worshipping God.
- There was never a rejection of worship in Israel; there was just a rejection of worship according to the will of God.
- Except for atheists, there has never been a rejection of worship anywhere on earth.
- God accepts no worship except the worship of His people, and among them, only the worship of those who receive His correction and order their lives according to His will.
- The kingdom of God has had within it many bastards. The great difference between our time and the time before the revelation of the Son is that now, none of those bastards are in heaven.

### TARES IN HEAVEN: *Satan and His Angels*

- It was only after receiving God's Spirit that the apostles began to speak with knowledge about the Satan and "the angels who sinned".
- Before Pentecost, it was known that evil spirits existed, but Satan was never said to be one of them. Nor was it known that those evil spirits were the angels who had sinned.
- It is hard to see how heavenly beings could have erred who had seen God face to face, but the answer is that even though they were heavenly beings, they did not know God.
- God's demeanor never changed when Satan and his angels were present; He never made a public display of animosity toward them and never openly condemned them.

### *Light-bringer*

- Satan's name is not found in any literature before Jesus' time.
- Satan was created "full of wisdom and perfect in beauty", but he became proud and considered himself worthy of the sacred place that God was reserving for His hidden Son.

*Impossibly High*

- One Christian myth holds that Satan tried to overthrow God, but that is silly. Only humans are so ignorant as to think that God can be challenged. Satan certainly never thought that.
- Satan expected to reign with God, not replace Him.
- Pride was Satan's fatal flaw, not thinking that God could be overthrown.
- With perfect patience, God kept everyone in the dark, whether good or evil, for without anyone realizing it, He was using them all to fulfill His purpose.
- God had determined that only through His Son would anyone come to know Him.