Our Messiah, Man or Logos?

Summary

Was Yah'shua simply a man, or something more — and if more, what exactly? This article answers both halves of the question, using an unusually memorable analogy along the way.

- Yah'shua's full humanity in the flesh, differing from the rest of mankind only in being begotten of Yahweh's own Spirit rather than a human father.
- The Father-and-Son relationship illustrated through an extended analogy of two snowmen built from the same eternal snow.
- The Greek term "Logos" (John 1:1) explained as Yahweh's own creative, spoken thought and reasoning — later made flesh in Yah'shua, not a reference to the Bible as a book.

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For centuries the Hebrews had been ground under the heel of foreign conquerors - Babylonian, Persian, Greek, and then Roman. In much popular eschatology the Messiah was expected to reverse the situation. The oppressed would rise under his leadership, overthrow pagan rule, and establish Israelite hegemony over the world.

The Biblical concept of Messianism, understood as the collective expression of the historical hope of a people on its way, can become one of the most important sources for a theology of liberation. The idea of the Messiah carried with it the belief in a divinely appointed person who would deliver Israel and bring about the consummation of the divine plan with its corollary of peace, freedom and justice, in reality the belief in progress and hope. The Zealots were expecting a warrior as Messiah; and the school of Shammai a legalist; and the Essenes an ascetic; and the philosophic schools some divine vision.

But Yah'shua reveals to them another King. Yah'shua seems to want to conceal his Messiah ship, even though the confession of Yah'shua as the Messiah is essential to man's salvation. If Yah'shua had publicly announced that He was the Messiah, or allowed his disciples to do so, the Hebrew people would have assumed - wrongly - that he was putting himself forward as a king in the political, nationalistic sense, and the universal outreach of the gospel would have been obscured.

Let's now look at the difference between the "Messiah", Yah'shua the Messiah the "Man" as our Bibles refer to "Him", and to the rest of us as "men". The Messiah was born of the flesh as were each of us. The Messiah grew in stature and in wisdom as [hopefully] do the rest of us. The Messiah was subjected to physical and spiritual temptation and sin just like the rest of us. Strictly referring to being in the flesh, the Messiah was not different than the rest of us.

A first difference between the Messiah and the rest of us, is that the Messiah was able to resist all fear and temptation and to thereby overcome sin in the flesh. A second difference is relative to "why", or more specifically, to "how". The Messiah's capacity to resist temptation came from Yahweh - as all good things do. His ability was directly related to His being "born of the Spirit of Yahweh" while concurrently being born of the flesh "of the virgin Mary". The rest of us are "born of fleshly father and mother". The "Power" or Spirit of Yahweh was the Messiah's Father.

This "Power" or Spirit of Yahweh is eternal as Yahweh is eternal and Yahweh is Spirit. Let's now try to explain the significance of this "eternal" existing Spirit. Purely for demonstration purposes, let's imagine a snow man made of "eternal snow" that will not disappear or diminish in volume. Even if you remove a

handful of it, the total volume somehow remains the same. Now let's pretend we call the snow man, Father, and we remove a handful of snow to build a second snow man from, and we call this second snow man, Son. Remember that the qualities of the snow are eternal, hence they do not change when moved from place to place or from snow man to snow man.

We could say then, that in the beginning, was the Son, and the Son was with the Father, and the Son was [part of the] Father. The Son was in the beginning with the Father. We could also say that the Father snow man knew the qualities and characteristics of the Son snow man before the Son snow man was made, because the snow that He was made from was the Father's. Just like the Spirit that the Messiah was sired from, was the Father's Spirit. Yahweh knows His Spirit - His Will perfectly.

Let's take our pretense back to Spiritual realities. We know that Yahweh is Spirit and that Yahweh is Love, hence we know that the Perfect Spirit of Yahweh is Perfect Love. We also know that Perfect Love casts out all fears or temptations, hence the Perfect Spirit of Yahweh that WAS made into His Messiah by siring Him in the flesh, enabled the Messiah to overcome all fears or temptations. The "knowing" of the Messiah that Yahweh refers to does not refer to knowing Him in the flesh any more than knowing any of the rest of us in the flesh. Yahweh eternally knew the Spirit of His Messiah because the Spirit of His Messiah was a portion of Yahweh's own Spirit, thus He foreknew that His Messiah could and would resist and overcome all fear and temptation.

In this sense Yahweh knew His Messiah before He was formed in the womb of Mary, just like He says He knows each of us and knew each of us before we were formed in the womb. He knows us "Spiritually", not physically as in the flesh. Yahweh knew that He could separate a perfect portion of His own perfect Spirit to sire His Messiah with, such that His Messiah would retain all of the Father's Perfect Spiritual characteristics while living in the flesh.

Yahweh also knows that the "spirit" that is in man - the rest of us, has been seduced and therefore defiled by sin and that although it originated from Yahweh, it no longer retains its perfect characteristics. Our hope of eternal life, is that we may "yet overcome"!

Logos

In the beginning was the spoken word *[logos],* and the words *[logos]* were from Yahweh, and the words *[logos]* were Yahweh's. It *[logos]* was in the beginning from Yahweh. All things were made through Yahweh's word *[logos]*, and without it *[logos]* nothing was made that was made. In Yahweh's word *[logos]* was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. John 1:1-5.

When the apostle John speaks of the Word here, it is the Greek word Logos. The word "Word" in the Bible is translated from two Greek words, Logos and Rhema. Logos is a word denoting collecting or a collection and also used to describe the reason of Yahweh, as expressed in or by the "spoken word". As you collect

your thoughts, you are using the gift of reason that Yahweh has given you, which is part of the divine nature that Yahweh has given to all of us, "created in His image".

The Spoken Word of Yahweh, His "Logos" is His creative tool such that He is able to speak His very own thoughts into the reality we can see and into the reality we cannot see, yet believe in due to His specific words, or "Rhema".

Those that describe the Word of Yahweh as the Bible are only being partially correct. To be more precise, the Bible is a collection of the Words of Yahweh as revealed to men through His written Word, and His prophets and recorded, provided of course, it is a Bible that has maintained the originally inspired Words, not the artificial man-crafted, copy-righted wording.

By the time John was ready to start his gospel, the term Logos was the common way of referring to Yahweh's revelation of Himself. The philosophy of Philo, current at the time, was so compelling that it was getting more attention than the message of Yah'shua. The thinking world was using the term Logos to indicate the revelation of the "unknown God", so he seized it as a terrific opportunity to present the truth of Yahweh. John began his gospel with "in the beginning was the spoken word" *(Logos)*. Without any apology John states bluntly in effect: This Logos people are referring to is a person. He is a specific person, and I am going to identify him for you. He is none other Yahweh, our Creator, who offers us eternal life through Yah'shua, who became His firstborn Son by Yahweh's resurrection of His life from the dead.

There were two meanings of Logos; "reason and speech", plus "thinking and speaking". From the beginning, there has been Yahweh. And always there has been another aspect of His Spirit with Him, who is to Yahweh what a man's word and thought are to a man. It is through this Logos, or Word, that Yahweh acts and how Yahweh expresses Himself to man who has fallen from His grace. It is Yahweh's Logos, or spoken word that causes His creative thoughts to be turned into reality.

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