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Notes

1012 This study was compiled by Dan Augsburg of Path2Prayer
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1014 Some Background on Dan Augsburg

1015 Dan has been reading and gathering topical information from the
1016 writings of Ellen G. White for many years. He also did the research
1017 for the transformation section of *The Ellen G. White Encyclopedia*.

1018 Prior work has included full-time pastoral ministry, chaplaincy,
1019 healthcare administration, small business owner and lecturer on
1020 practical church history at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological
1021 Seminary over the course of ten years. He and his wife Rose reside
1022 in Berrien Springs, Michigan, USA.

1023 Information About The Research

1024 Dan mainly uses the egwwritings.org website in gathering quotes
1025 from the writings of Ellen White. In studying the Godhead, Dan has
1026 already gathered more than 1,500 pages of quotes on the Three Per-
1027 sons of the Godhead and related subjects. Quotes are carefully gath-
1028 ered in a sortable database, each quote being rated for the quality of
1029 the quote. Without that ability, it would be impossible make
1030 meaningful use of so much material.

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1038 Edition: GCDHPM 2022a

Scriptures and Ellen White Quotes On Christ's Eternal Existence

Compiled By Dan Augsburg

Christ's Eternal Existence

Scriptures and Ellen White Quotes

The Lord has ever existed in perfection from all eternity. He has been ever what He now is, "I am that I am;" "The high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity." [Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 57:15.] This is His title. "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God." Psalm 90:2. "I am the Lord, I change not." Malachi 3:6. With Him is no variableness or shadow of turning. {Ms180-1897.2}—Ellen White, Manuscript 180, 1897.2

Introduction

There are many Scriptures and quotations of Ellen White that strongly affirm the eternal existence of Christ. You will find many of them on this page. I believe the evidence for His eternal existence is compelling.

This eternal existence precludes Christ being birthed at any time in the far distant past! If He has always existed, when could a birth have taken place?

All of the quotations come from the writings of Ellen White.

Some of the quotes will seem to be repeated. This is due to their being published in various denominational periodicals and books, at different times, and sometimes with slight variations. Including them allows you to see continuing confirmation of Christ's eternal existence throughout the writings of Ellen White.

At the bottom of the page I list possible words and phrases on the topic in quotations marks to allow you to study the subject for yourself if you so wish.—Dan

Bible Study On Christ's Eternal Existence

Has Christ existed eternally?

Yes! There are many Scriptures that establish his eternal existence, a life that stretches back to all eternity, and has no ending in the future. Christ is truly from "everlasting to everlasting"! There are many

1001 "Has Been Ever"

1002 I say in the name of the Lord, Give your attention to this Word. The
1003 Lord has ever existed in perfection from all eternity. He has been
1004 ever what He now is, "I am that I am;" "The high and lofty One that
1005 inhabiteth eternity." [Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 57:15.] This is His title.
1006 "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed
1007 the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art
1008 God." Psalm 90:2. "I am the Lord, I change not." Malachi 3:6. With
1009 Him is no variableness or shadow of turning. Manuscript 180,
1010 1897.2.

963 was made. With his human arm Jesus encircles the race, while with
964 his divine arm he grasps the throne of the Infinite, thus uniting finite
965 man with the infinite God and connecting earth with heaven. How
966 can we neglect so great salvation? It is natural for man to cling to
967 life. Some live through years of intense suffering, and still desire to
968 have their lives prolonged. But when Jesus offers us life, immortal
969 life in the mansions he has prepared for us, why do we turn from it
970 and devote our time and energy to securing earthly treasures? *The*
971 *Review and Herald*, December 1, 1885, par. 10.

972 “The Eternal Dignitaries”

973 The Lord Jesus described the difficulties they [would] meet. Having
974 called their minds to rise to an eminence, He bids them look and be-
975 hold the vast confederacy of evil arrayed against God, against Christ,
976 against all who unite with these holy powers. Christ tells them they
977 were to fight in fellowship with all the children of light; that satanic
978 agencies would combine their forces to extinguish the light of the
979 life of Christ out of their ranks. But they were not left to fight the
980 battles in their own human strength; that the angelic host coming as
981 ministers of God would be in that battle, and also there would be the
982 eternal heavenly dignitaries—God, and Christ, and the Holy Spirit—
983 arming them with more than mortal energy, and [who] would ad-
984 vance with them to the work, and convince the world of sin. Manu-
985 script 130, 1901.52.

986 “Uncreated Lord”

987 He is the faithful and true Witness, “the beginning of the creation of
988 God,” whose throne is of old, from everlasting. [Revelation 3:14.]
989 Behold Him, the mighty, uncreated Lord, the all-glorious Redeemer.
990 Behold Him! waiting for your answer! Will you let Him in? Father,
991 mother, children, God calls for your whole family. He wants you all.
992 He cannot spare one of you. Will you listen to His pleading voice?
993 He asks you, “Will you give me your hearts?” “Ye are not your own.
994 For ye are bought with a price.” [1 Corinthians 6:19, 20.] And what a
995 price! “He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for
996 our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him, and
997 with his stripes we are healed.” [Isaiah 53:5.] Will you open the door
998 and let Jesus in? He wants the heart, the soul, the service of father,
999 mother, children united. “See that ye refuse not him that speaketh.”
1000 [Hebrews 12:25.] Letter 185, 1901.9.

33 quotations of Ellen White that concur.

34 This Bible Study first looks at the relevant Scriptures. After that an
35 exhaustive group of Ellen White quotes on the eternal existence of
36 Christ are listed.

37 What does the Bible say about Christ's eternal 38 existence?

39 John 1:1-2 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with
40 God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with
41 God.”

42 John 8:58 “Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Be-
43 fore Abraham was, I am.”

44 1 John 1:1 “That which was from the beginning, which we have
45 heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked
46 upon, and our hands have handled, of the word of life (for the life
47 was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show
48 unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was mani-
49 fested unto us); that which we have seen and heard declare we unto
50 you, that ye also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellow-
51 ship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these
52 things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.”

53 Psalms 90:1-2 “Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all gener-
54 ations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst
55 formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting,
56 thou art God.”

57 Isaiah 9:6 “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the
58 government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called
59 Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The
60 Prince of Peace.”

61 Isaiah 44:6 “Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer
62 the Lord of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me
63 there is no God.”

64 Micah 5:2 “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little
65 among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth
66 unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been
67 from of old, from everlasting.”

68 Colossians 1:17 “And he is before all things, and by him all things
69 consist.”

70 Hebrews 7:1-3 “For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the
71 most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of

72 the kings, and blessed him; 2 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth
73 part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and af-
74 ter that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace; 3 Without fa-
75 ther, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of
76 days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a
77 priest continually.”

78 Hebrews 7:15-16 “And it is yet far more evident: for that after the
79 similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, 16 Who is
80 made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the pow-
81 er of an endless life.”

82 1 John 1:2 “For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and
83 bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the
84 Father, and was manifested unto us;”

85 Revelation 1:8 “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end-
86 ing, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come,
87 the Almighty.”

88 Revelation 21:6-7 “And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and
89 Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst
90 of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7 He that overcometh shall
91 inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.”

92 Revelation 22:12-13 “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward
93 is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 13 I
94 am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the
95 last.”

96 Ellen White On Christ's Eternal Existence?

97 “From Eternity”

98 From eternity Christ has been man’s Redeemer. Ever since the Fall
99 there has come to those uniting with Him in His great work the
100 word: “Be not weary in well-doing.” 2 Thessalonians 3:13. “Be ye
101 steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.” 1
102 Corinthians 15:58. *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 9, 220.2.

103 But because men did not like to be told of their sins; because they
104 did not wish to be reproved or corrected, they determined to resist
105 Him. Jesus saw that which those who were blinded by the enemy
106 could not see. He tried to convince them that everything opposed to
107 the principles He was teaching was a delusion and a falsehood.
108 “Every one that is of the truth,” He said, “heareth My voice.” He was
109 the embodiment of truth and holiness. He who had stood in the coun-

922 them Me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of
923 My Father’s hand. I and My Father are one.” “All things that the Fa-
924 ther hath are Mine.” With the familiarity and ease of eternal habi-
925 tude, Jesus lays His hand on the throne of God. *The Bible Echo*,
926 April 30, 1894, par. 3.

927 In this age, as then, there are lost sheep to be sought and saved.
928 There are many who need personal labor. No prophet, like John the
929 Baptist, has cried out the message of warning to them. No one has
930 pointed them to “the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the
931 world.” But this is not because the Lord has no interest in these souls
932 who are ready to perish, represented as lost sheep. But the Lord is
933 not chargeable with any neglect on his part. Look to Calvary and an-
934 swer decidedly, No, no. The Lord has made every provision to save
935 men in giving his Son. Jesus thought it not robbery to be equal with
936 God, for in him dwelleth all the fullness of the godhead bodily.
937 When he claimed the highest prerogatives, he did not make an empty
938 boast. Yet when he was among men, he did not call together a con-
939 course of people, and sound a trumpet before him, and command at-
940 tention. The great Teacher came in simplicity, though he was the
941 light of the world. He taught the people in plain, simple words,
942 which all could understand. He said, “As the Father knoweth me,
943 even so know I the Father.... My sheep hear my voice, and I know
944 them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life, and they
945 shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.
946 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is
947 able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand. I and my Father are
948 one.” “All things that the Father hath are mine.” With the familiarity
949 and ease of eternal habitude, Jesus lays his hand on the throne of
950 God. *The Signs of the Times*, January 1, 1894, par. 3.

951 “Eternal Throne”

952 Jesus has made an infinite sacrifice in behalf of the race. He stepped
953 down from the eternal throne, laid aside his robes of royalty, clothed
954 his divinity with humanity, and came to a world all seared and
955 marred by the curse, that the lost race might one day be restored to
956 their glorious Eden home. He has become the representative and
957 surety for the race. He has brought the treasures of heaven within our
958 reach, and it remains for us to say whether or not we will avail our-
959 selves of them. It is only by the light reflected from the cross of Cal-
960 vary that we can know the value of the human soul, or the depth of
961 degradation from which man was rescued. It was to restore man to
962 the perfection in which he was first created that this great sacrifice

886 par. 3. Also Manuscript 44, 1895.3.

887 “Who From The Beginning Was Equal With The
888 Father”

889 The divine mind and hand have preserved through the ages the
890 record of creation in its purity. It is the word of God alone that gives
891 to us an authentic account of the creation of our world. This word is
892 to be the chief study in our schools. In it we may learn what our re-
893 demption has cost Him who from the beginning was equal with the
894 Father, and who sacrificed His life that a people might stand before
895 Him redeemed from everything earthly, renewed in the image of
896 God. *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, 13.2.

897 “Never-Ending”

898 “What is your life? It is even vapor, that appeareth for a little time,
899 and then vanisheth away.” But Christ’s life is not a vapor; it is never-
900 ending, a life existing before the worlds were made. *The Signs of the*
901 *Times*, June 17, 1897, par. 3.

902 “Ease Of Eternal Habitude”

903 In this age, as then, there are lost sheep to be sought and saved.
904 There are many who need personal labour. No prophet, like John the
905 Baptist, has cried out the message of warning to them. No one has
906 pointed them to “the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the
907 world.” But this is not because the Lord has no interest in these souls
908 who are ready to perish, represented as lost sheep. The Lord is not
909 chargeable with neglect. Look to Calvary and answer decidedly, No,
910 no. The Lord has made every provision to save men in giving His
911 Son. Jesus thought it not robbery to be equal with God, for in Him
912 dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. When He claimed the
913 highest prerogatives, He did not make an empty boast. Yet when He
914 was among men, He did not call together a concourse of people, and
915 sound a trumpet before Him, and command attention. The great
916 Teacher came in simplicity, though He was the light of the world. He
917 taught the people in plain, simple words, which all could understand.
918 He said, “As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father....
919 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and
920 I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish, neither
921 shall any man pluck them out of My hand. My Father, which gave

110 cils of God; He who had dwelt in the innermost sanctuary of the
111 eternal, was speaking that whereof He knew. He was presenting to
112 them truth of the highest order, revealing to men the mind of the In-
113 finite. But the men who claimed to stand high in knowledge and
114 spiritual understanding, failed to comprehend His meaning; and that
115 which had been evolved from eternity by the Father and the Son,
116 they in their ignorance stood as critics to condemn. *The Bible Echo*,
117 February 20, 1899, par. 9.

118 “We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery,” the apostle Paul de-
119 clared. It is beyond the power of human wisdom to discover the
120 things of God, but to those who keep the way of the Lord there are
121 revealed hidden treasures of wisdom. Christ longs to bestow upon
122 his chosen people in this world a foretaste of the glory in which his
123 faithful ones are to share. From eternity it has been his purpose to
124 imbue with wisdom believers in his Word, that they may be raised to
125 sit with him in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Wonderful is the light
126 that opens to those who in faith press on, ever on, heeding not hin-
127 drance nor difficulty, but keeping the eyes fixed on the glory that
128 Christ reveals. *Sabbath-School Worker*, June 1, 1909, par. 2.

129 The love of God was Christ’s theme when speaking of his mission
130 and his work. “Therefore doth my Father love me,” he says, “be-
131 cause I lay down my life, that I might take it again.” My Father loves
132 you with a love so unbounded that he loves me the more because I
133 have given my life to redeem you. He loves you, and he loves me
134 more because I love you, and give my life for you. “A new com-
135 mandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved
136 you.” Well did the disciples understand this love as they saw their
137 Saviour enduring shame, reproach, doubt, and betrayal, as they saw
138 his agony in the garden, and his death on Calvary’s cross. This is a
139 love the depth of which no sounding can ever fathom. As the disci-
140 ples comprehended it, as their perception took hold of God’s divine
141 compassion, they realized that there is a sense in which the suffer-
142 ings of the Son were the sufferings of the Father. From eternity there
143 was a complete unity between the Father and the Son. They were
144 two, yet little short of being identical; two in individuality, yet one in
145 spirit, and heart, and character. *The Youth’s Instructor*, December 16,
146 1897, par. 5.

147 But because men did not like to be told of their sins, because they
148 did not wish to be reproved or corrected, they determined to resist
149 him. Jesus saw that which those who were blinded by the enemy
150 could not see. He tried to convince them that everything opposed to
151 the principles he was teaching was a delusion and a falsehood.
152 “Every one that is of the truth,” he said, “heareth my voice.” He was

153 the embodiment of truth and holiness. He who had stood in the coun-
154 cils of God, who had dwelt in the innermost sanctuary of the Eternal,
155 was speaking that whereof he knew. He was presenting truth of the
156 highest order, revealing to men the mind of the Infinite. But the men
157 who claimed to stand high in knowledge and spiritual understanding
158 failed to comprehend his meaning; and that which had been evolved
159 from eternity by the Father and Son, they in their ignorance stood as
160 critics to condemn. *The Youth's Instructor*, September 22, 1898, par.
161 9.

162 That which in the councils of heaven the Father and the Son deemed
163 essential for the salvation of man was defined from eternity by infi-
164 nite truths which finite beings cannot fail to comprehend. Revela-
165 tions have been made for their instruction in righteousness, that the
166 man of God may glorify his own life and the lives of his fellow men,
167 not only by the possession of truth, but by communicating it. "All
168 Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doc-
169 trine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that
170 the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good
171 works. I charge you therefore before the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall
172 judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom,
173 preach the word; be instant in season and out of season; reprove, re-
174 buke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will
175 come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own
176 lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers having itching ears." [2
177 Timothy 3:16-4:3.] Manuscript 8, 1896.10.

178 When man's redemption was to be worked out, God gave the com-
179 mandment that the sword should awake against His only begotten
180 Son, who had been one with Him from eternity. "He was wounded
181 for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chas-
182 tisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are
183 healed." [Isaiah 53:5.] Think of the Father subjecting Himself to sor-
184 row, sparing not His own Son, but freely delivering Him up for us
185 all. God had to do a strange work; for He says, Fury is not in Me. O
186 that we had a better understanding of His love! Manuscript 76,
187 1903.25.

188 From eternity Christ has been man's Redeemer. Ever since the fall
189 there has come to those uniting with Him in His great work the
190 word, "Be not weary in well doing." [2 Thessalonians 3:13.] "Be
191 steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." [1
192 Corinthians 15:58.] Manuscript 77, 1903.22.

193 From eternity Christ has been man's Redeemer. Ever since the fall,
194 there has come to those uniting with Him in His great work the
195 word, "Be not weary in well doing." "Be steadfast, immovable, al-

848 Christ, "hast thou prepared me." But he did not come in human form
849 until the fulness of time had expired. Then he came to our world, a
850 babe in Bethlehem. *The Review and Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 13.

851 "A Life Unreckoned By Human Computation"

852 Here Christ shows them that, altho they might reckon His life to be
853 less than fifty years, yet His divine life could not be reckoned by
854 human computation. The existence of Christ before His incarnation
855 is not measured by figures. *The Signs of the Times*, May 3, 1899, par.
856 4.

857 "In The Presence Of The Father From The Beginning"

858 Taking humanity upon Him, Christ came to be one with humanity,
859 and at the same time to reveal our heavenly Father to sinful human
860 beings. He who had been in the presence of the Father from the be-
861 ginning, He who was the express image of the invisible God, was
862 alone able to reveal the character of the Deity to mankind. He was in
863 all things made like unto His brethren. He became flesh even as we
864 are. He was hungry and thirsty and weary. He was sustained by food
865 and refreshed by sleep. He shared the lot of men; yet He was the
866 blameless Son of God. He was a stranger and sojourner on the
867 earth—in the world, but not of the world; tempted and tried as men
868 and women today are tempted and tried, yet living a life free from
869 sin. Tender, compassionate, sympathetic, ever considerate of others,
870 He represented the character of God, and was constantly engaged in
871 service for God and man. *The Ministry of Healing*, 422.2.

872 Christ alone was able to represent the Deity. He who had been in the
873 presence of the Father from the beginning, he who was the express
874 image of the invisible God, was alone sufficient to accomplish this
875 work. No verbal description could reveal God to the world. Through
876 a life of purity, a life of perfect trust and submission to the will of
877 God, a life of humiliation such as even the highest seraph in heaven
878 would have shrunk from, God himself must be revealed to humanity.
879 In order to do this, our Saviour clothed his divinity with humanity.
880 He employed the human faculties, for only adopting these could he
881 be comprehended by humanity. Only humanity could reach humani-
882 ty. He lived out the character of God through the human body which
883 God had prepared for him. He blessed the world by living out in
884 human flesh the life of God, thus showing that he had the power to
885 unite humanity to divinity. *The Review and Herald*, June 25, 1895,

809 of the earth, then was I with Him, as one brought up with Him; and I
810 was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.' [Proverbs 8:22,
811 23, 29, 30.] Letter 256, 1906.8.

812 "From Everlasting To Everlasting"

813 There are light and glory in the truth that Christ was one with the Fa-
814 ther before the foundation of the world was laid. This is the light
815 shining in a dark place, making it resplendent with divine, original
816 glory. This truth, infinitely mysterious in itself, explains other myste-
817 rious and otherwise unexplainable truths, while it is enshrined in
818 light, unapproachable and incomprehensible. *The Review and Her-*
819 *ald*, April 5, 1906, par. 8. "Before the mountains were brought forth,
820 or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from ever-
821 lasting to everlasting, thou art God." "The people which sat in dark-
822 ness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow
823 of death light is sprung up." Here the pre-existence of Christ and the
824 purpose of his manifestation to our world are presented as living
825 beams of light from the eternal throne. "Now gather thyself in
826 troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall
827 smite the Judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek. But thou, Beth-
828 lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah,
829 yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Is-
830 rael; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."
831 "We preach Christ crucified," declares Paul, "unto the Jews a stum-
832 bling-block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which
833 are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the
834 wisdom of God." *The Review and Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 9.
835 Christ is from everlasting to everlasting, a present help to all who
836 seek Him diligently. And those who seek Him diligently will find
837 Him. I am so thankful that the Lord is ours. I want to serve Him and
838 glorify Him. *Sermons and Talks*, Vol. 2, 339.1. Also in Manuscript
839 20, 1913.10.

840 "Set Up From Everlasting"

841 God and Christ knew from the beginning, of the apostasy of Satan
842 and of the fall of Adam through the deceptive power of the apostate.
843 The plan of salvation was designed to redeem the fallen race, to give
844 them another trial. Christ was appointed to the office of Mediator
845 from the creation of God, set up from everlasting to be our substitute
846 and surety. Before the world was made, it was arranged that the div-
847 inity of Christ should be enshrouded in humanity. "A body," said

196 ways abounding in the work of the Lord." [2 Thessalonians 3:13; 1
197 Corinthians 15:58.] Manuscript 107, 1908.39.

198 "Eternal Existence"

199 "Who can estimate the value of a soul? Go to Gethsemane, and there
200 watch with Jesus through those long hours of anguish when he sweat
201 as it were great drops of blood; look upon the Saviour uplifted on the
202 cross; hear that despairing cry, "My God, My God, why hast thou
203 forsaken me?" Look upon that wounded head, the pierced side, the
204 marred feet. Remember that Christ risked all; "tempted like as we
205 are," he staked even his own eternal existence upon the issue of the
206 conflict. Heaven itself was imperiled for our redemption. At the foot
207 of the cross, remembering that for one sinner Jesus would have
208 yielded up his life, we may estimate the value of a soul." *General*
209 *Conference Bulletin*, December 1, 1895, Art. B, par. 23.

210 "From All Eternity"

211 These are probably the strongest statements that speak of Christ's
212 eternal existence.

213 Christ's ascension to heaven was the signal that His followers were
214 to receive the promised blessing. For this they were to wait before
215 they entered upon their work. When Christ passed within the heav-
216 enly gates, He was enthroned amidst the adoration of the angels. As
217 soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended
218 upon the disciples in rich currents, and Christ was indeed glorified,
219 even with the glory which He had with the Father from all eternity.
220 The Pentecostal outpouring was Heaven's communication that the
221 Redeemer's inauguration was accomplished. According to His
222 promise He had sent the Holy Spirit from heaven to His followers as
223 a token that He had, as priest and king, received all authority in
224 heaven and on earth, and was the Anointed One over His people. *The*
225 *Acts of the Apostles*, 38.3.

226 From all eternity Christ was united with the Father, and when He
227 took upon Himself human nature, He was still one with God. He is
228 the link that unites God with humanity. "Forasmuch then as the chil-
229 dren are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took
230 part of the same" (Hebrews 2:14). Only through Him can we become
231 children of God. To all who believe on Him, He gives power to be-
232 come the sons of God. Thus the heart becomes the temple of the
233 living God. It is because Christ took human nature that men and

234 women become partakers of the divine nature. He brings life and im-
 235 mortality to light through the gospel. *Selected Messages*, Vol. 1,
 236 228.4.

237 The world was made by him, “and without him was not anything
 238 made that was made.” If Christ made all things, he existed before all
 239 things. The words spoken in regard to this are so decisive that no one
 240 need be left in doubt. Christ was God essentially, and in the highest
 241 sense. He was with God from all eternity, God over all, blessed
 242 forevermore. *The Review and Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 6.

243 The terms of this oneness between God and man in the great
 244 covenant of redemption were arranged with Christ from all eternity.
 245 The covenant of grace was revealed to the patriarchs. The covenant
 246 made with Abraham four hundred and thirty years before the law
 247 was spoken on Sinai was a covenant confirmed by God in Christ, the
 248 very same gospel which is preached to us. “The Scripture, foreseeing
 249 that God would justify the heathen through faith preached before the
 250 gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So
 251 then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.” The
 252 covenant of grace is not a new truth, for it existed in the mind of God
 253 from all eternity. This is why it is called the everlasting covenant.
 254 The plan of redemption was not conceived after the fall of man to
 255 cure the dreadful evil; the apostle Paul speaks of the gospel, the
 256 preaching of Jesus Christ, as “the revelation of the mystery, which
 257 hath been kept in silence through times eternal, but now is manifest-
 258 ed, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the command-
 259 ment of the eternal God, is made known unto all the nations unto
 260 obedience of faith.” (Revised Version.) *The Signs of the Times*, Au-
 261 gust 24, 1891, par. 10.

262 When Christ entered within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned,
 263 amid the songs of millions of angels. As soon as this ceremony was
 264 completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon His followers in rich cur-
 265 rents according to Christ’s promise, and they were no more orphans.
 266 How quickly Christ fulfilled His promise, and sent from the heaven-
 267 ly courts the guarantee of His love! After His inauguration, the Spirit
 268 came and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He
 269 had from all eternity with the Father. During His humiliation upon
 270 this earth, the Spirit had not descended with all its efficacy; and
 271 Christ declared that if He went not away, it would not come, but that
 272 if He went away, He would send it. It was a representation of Him-
 273 self, and after He was glorified it was manifest. *The Signs of the*
 274 *Times*, May 17, 1899, par. 3.

275 From all eternity Christ was united with the Father, and when He
 276 took upon Himself human nature, He was still one with God. He is

766 Jews and Gentiles, if they accepted him, were to be blessed. “The
 767 Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Before men or angels
 768 were created, the Word was with God, and was God. *The Review and*
 769 *Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 5.

770 God and Christ knew from the beginning, of the apostasy of Satan
 771 and of the fall of Adam through the deceptive power of the apostate.
 772 The plan of salvation was designed to redeem the fallen race, to give
 773 them another trial. Christ was appointed to the office of Mediator
 774 from the creation of God, set up from everlasting to be our substitute
 775 and surety. Before the world was made, it was arranged that the div-
 776 inity of Christ should be enshrouded in humanity. “A body,” said
 777 Christ, “hast thou prepared me.” But he did not come in human form
 778 until the fulness of time had expired. Then he came to our world, a
 779 babe in Bethlehem. *The Review and Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 13.

780 Through Solomon Christ declared: “The Lord possessed Me in the
 781 beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from
 782 everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there
 783 were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains
 784 abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the
 785 hills was I brought forth.... When He gave to the sea His decree, that
 786 the waters should not pass His commandment; when He appointed
 787 the foundations of the earth; then I was by Him, as one brought up
 788 with Him; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.”
 789 *The Signs of the Times*, August 29, 1900, par. 14. In speaking of His
 790 pre-existence, Christ carries the mind back through dateless ages. He
 791 assures us that there never was a time when He was not in close fel-
 792 lowship with the eternal God. He to whose voice the Jews were then
 793 listening had been with God as one brought up with Him. *The Signs*
 794 *of the Times*, August 29, 1900, par. 15.

795 The Sovereign of the universe was not alone in His work of benefi-
 796 cence. He had an associate—a co-worker who could appreciate His
 797 purposes, and could share His joy in giving happiness to created be-
 798 ings. ‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
 799 and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.’
 800 [John 1:1, 2.] Christ, the Word, the only begotten of God, was one
 801 with the eternal Father—one in nature, in character, in purpose, the
 802 only being that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of
 803 God. ‘His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty
 804 God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace.’ [Isaiah 9:6.] His
 805 ‘goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.’ [Micah 5:2.]
 806 And the Son of God declares concerning Himself: ‘The Lord pos-
 807 sessed Me in the beginning of His way, before the works of old. I
 808 was set up from everlasting. ... When He appointed the foundations

725 blessing as He trod, the anthem of praise floated not around Him, but
726 the air was often freighted with curses and blasphemy. It was poverty
727 that, as He passed to and fro among the subjects He came to save,
728 scarcely a solitary voice called Him blessed. Scarcely a solitary hand
729 was stretched out in friendship, and scarcely a solitary roof proffered
730 Him shelter. Then look beneath the disguise, and whom do we
731 see?—Divinity, the eternal Son of God, just as mighty, just as infi-
732 nitely gifted with all the resources of power, and He was found in
733 fashion as a man. Letter 37, 1887.22.

734 That the transgressor might have another trial, that man might be
735 brought into favor with the Father, the eternal Son of God interposed
736 Himself to bear the Father's punishment of transgression. But in the
737 place of the great Sacrifice abating one jot or one tittle of the Fa-
738 ther's law, this very fact exalts the law, elevates it, and proclaims to
739 the worlds unfallen and to the fallen race that God's law, the
740 transcript of His character, is changeless, and that He will maintain
741 His authority and sustain His law. It is Satan, the first great rebel,
742 who has accomplished this work of deception. Manuscript 58,
743 1897.5.

744 What a truth is presented as we gaze upon Jesus in connection with
745 the cross of Calvary, as we see this Wonderful, Counsellor, this mys-
746 terious victim, stooping beneath the amazing burden of our race!
747 That the transgressor might have another trial, that men might be
748 brought into favor with God the Father, the eternal Son of God inter-
749 posed Himself to bear the punishment of transgression. One clothed
750 with humanity, yet one with the Deity, was our ransom. The very
751 earth shook and reeled at the spectacle of God's dear Son suffering
752 the wrath of God for man's transgression. The heavens were clothed
753 in sackcloth to hide the sight of the divine sufferer. Manuscript 99,
754 1897.2.

755 "From Everlasting"

756 Even the birthplace of the Messiah was foretold: "Thou, Bethlehem
757 Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet
758 out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be Ruler in Israel;
759 whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah
760 5:2. *Acts of the Apostles*, 223.4.

761 But while God's Word speaks of the humanity of Christ when upon
762 this earth, it also speaks decidedly regarding his pre-existence. The
763 Word existed as a divine being, even as the eternal Son of God, in
764 union and oneness with his Father. From everlasting he was the Me-
765 diator of the covenant, the one in whom all nations of the earth, both

277 the link that unites God with humanity. "Forasmuch then as the chil-
278 dren are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took
279 part of the same." Only through Him can we become children of
280 God. To all who believe on Him, He gives power to become the sons
281 of God. Thus the heart becomes the temple of the living God. It is
282 because Christ took human nature that men and women become par-
283 takers of the divine nature. He brings life and immortality to light
284 through the Gospel. *The Signs of the Times*, August 2, 1905, par. 10.

285 Christ is declared in the Scriptures to be the Son of God. From all
286 eternity He has sustained this relation to Jehovah. Before the founda-
287 tions of the world were laid, He, the only begotten Son of God,
288 pledged Himself to become the Redeemer of the human race should
289 men sin. Adam fell, and He, who was partaker of the Father's glory
290 before the world was, laid aside His royal robe and kingly crown and
291 stepped down from His high authority to become a babe in Bethle-
292 hem, that He might redeem fallen human beings by passing over the
293 ground where Adam stumbled and fell. He subjected Himself to the
294 temptations that Satan brings against men and women, and not all
295 the assaults of the enemy could make Him swerve from His loyalty
296 to the Father. By a sinless life, He testified that every son and daugh-
297 ter of Adam can resist the temptations of the one who first brought
298 sin into the world. Manuscript 22, 1905.4.

299 From all eternity Christ was united with the Father, and when He
300 took upon Himself human nature, He was still one with God. He is
301 the link that unites God with humanity. "Forasmuch then as the chil-
302 dren are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took
303 part of the same." [Hebrews 2:14.] Only through Him can we be-
304 come children of God. To all who believe on Him, He gives power to
305 become the sons of God. Thus, in a scripture sense, the heart be-
306 comes the temple of the living God. It is because Christ took human
307 nature that men and women can become partakers of the divine na-
308 ture. In Him all our hopes of eternal life are centered. Manuscript 22,
309 1905.13.

310 I say in the name of the Lord, Give your attention to this Word. The
311 Lord has ever existed in perfection from all eternity. He has been
312 ever what He now is, "I am that I am;" "The high and lofty One that
313 inhabiteth eternity." [Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 57:15.] This is His title.
314 "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed
315 the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art
316 God." Psalm 90:2. "I am the Lord, I change not." Malachi 3:6. With
317 Him is no variableness or shadow of turning. Manuscript 180,
318 1897.2.

319 “Existed From Eternity”

320 The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity,
321 a distinct person, yet one with the Father. He was the surpassing glo-
322 ry of heaven. He was the commander of the heavenly intelligences,
323 and the adoring homage of the angels was received by him as his
324 right. This was no robbery of God. “The Lord possessed me in the
325 beginning of his way,” he declares, “before his works of old. I was
326 set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.
327 When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no
328 fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled,
329 before the hills was I brought forth; while as yet he had not made the
330 earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.
331 When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass
332 upon the face of the depth.” *The Review and Herald*, April 5, 1906,
333 par. 7.

334 “The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His
335 glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and
336 truth. John bare witness of Him, and cried, saying, This was He of
337 whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me; for
338 He was before me.” [John 1:14, 15.] Yes, He was before John. En-
339 shrouded in the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night,
340 He led the children of Israel through the wilderness. “And of His ful-
341 ness have all we received, and grace for grace.” [Verse 16.] John was
342 a burning and a shining light, but he was not That Light which was
343 to lighten the whole world with the brightness of redeeming love. He
344 was before John; for He existed from eternity with the Father. Manu-
345 script 187, 1903.13.

346 “From Eternal Ages”

347 Christ should be uplifted as the first Great Teacher, the only begotten
348 Son of God, who was with the Father from eternal ages. The Son of
349 God was the Great Teacher sent into the world as the Light of the
350 world. “The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.” [John
351 1:14.] The Father was represented in Christ, and the attention in edu-
352 cation must be of that character that they will look to Him and be-
353 lieve in Him as the likeness of God. He had a most wonderful mis-
354 sion to our world, and his work was not in a line to give a full
355 relation of His personal claims to deity, but His humiliation was a
356 concealment of His claims. This is why the Jewish nation did not ac-
357 knowledge Christ as the Prince of life, because He did not come with

682 That the transgressor might have another trial, that men might be
683 brought into favor with God the Father, the eternal Son of God inter-
684 posed himself to bear the punishment of transgression. One clothed
685 with humanity, who was yet one with the Deity, was our ransom. The
686 very earth shook and reeled at the spectacle of God’s dear Son suf-
687 fering the wrath of God for man’s transgression. The heavens were
688 clothed in sackcloth to hide the sight of the divine sufferer. *The Re-
689 view and Herald*, February 8, 1898, par. 2.

690 But while God’s Word speaks of the humanity of Christ when upon
691 this earth, it also speaks decidedly regarding his pre-existence. The
692 Word existed as a divine being, even as the eternal Son of God, in
693 union and oneness with his Father. From everlasting he was the Me-
694 diator of the covenant, the one in whom all nations of the earth, both
695 Jews and Gentiles, if they accepted him, were to be blessed. “The
696 Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Before men or angels
697 were created, the Word was with God, and was God. *The Review and
698 Herald*, April 5, 1906, par. 5.

699 This injunction is from the eternal Son of God. Neglect of the study
700 of God’s word leads many to neglect the great salvation, and proves
701 the ruin of thousands. When this command was given, reference was
702 had to the Old-Testament Scriptures only, but we now have the New-
703 Testament Scriptures besides. If God has done for us the utmost that
704 Deity could do; if all the divine attributes, unlimited as they are,
705 have combined and even exhausted themselves in the great plan of
706 redemption, then every child and youth should make the Scriptures
707 their study, that they may not be ignorant of this wonderful scheme.
708 You should open the Scriptures with a solemn interest to hear what
709 the voice of God bids you do and be in order to be saved. *The Youth’s
710 Instructor*, August 31, 1887, par. 1.

711 We must make it true as it is in Jesus. We exalt the cross to the view
712 of all. We entreat you to go to Mount Calvary and see upon the cruel
713 cross Him who thought it not robbery to be equal with God. Look
714 upon the Victim hanging there in humiliation as a criminal. Intense
715 must have been the work of execution, done so thoroughly, showing
716 that when God takes in His hand the sword of justice, He makes
717 thorough work. His hatred of sin is so great that before the transgres-
718 sor could be received into favor, the eternal Son of God interposed
719 Himself and bore the bolts of the Father’s wrath deserved by the
720 sinner. Letter 6, 1880.64.

721 Oh, it was poverty indeed apportioned to the Son of God that He
722 should be moving upon a province of His own empire and yet not to
723 be recognized or confessed by the nation He came to bless and to
724 save. It was poverty that when He walked among men, scattering

ing Father.” And He says, “I know Mine own, and Mine own know Me, even as the Father knoweth Me, and I know the Father.” John 10:14, 15, R. V. What a statement is this!—the only-begotten Son, He who is in the bosom of the Father, He whom God has declared to be “the Man that is My fellow” (Zechariah 13:7),—the communion between Him and the eternal God is taken to represent the communion between Christ and His children on the earth! *Desire of Ages*, 483.2.

The Sovereign of the universe was not alone in His work of beneficence. He had an associate—a co-worker who could appreciate His purposes, and could share His joy in giving happiness to created beings. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.” John 1:1, 2. Christ, the Word, the only begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father—one in nature, in character, in purpose—the only being that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God. “His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6. His “goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.” Micah 5:2. And the Son of God declares concerning Himself: “The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting.... When He appointed the foundations of the earth: then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.” Proverbs 8:22-30. *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 34.1.

“Eternal Son Of God”

The ministers of Christ, who bear the message of truth to men, will never become self-sufficient or self-exalted if they have correct views of the character and work of Christ, the author of man’s salvation. The unworthiness, weakness, and inefficiency of their own efforts in contrast with those of the eternal Son of God, will render them humble, distrustful of self, and will lead them to rely upon Christ for strength and efficiency in their work. Habitually dwelling upon Christ, his exalted character, and the all-sufficient merits of his sacrifice, increases the faith, sharpens the imaginative power, strengthens the longing desire to be like him, and creates holy earnestness in prayer, that makes it efficacious. *The Review and Herald*, August 8, 1878, Art. A, par. 4.

What a truth is presented as we gaze upon Jesus in connection with the cross of Calvary, as we see this Wonderful, this Counselor, this mysterious victim, stooping beneath the amazing burden of our race!

display in outward appearance, for He hid under the garb of humanity His glorious character. Letter 67, 1895.4.

“The Eternal Rock”

Debating ministers are the most unreliable among us, because they cannot be depended upon when the work goes hard. Bring them into a place where there is but little interest, and they manifest a want of courage, zeal, and real interest. They depend as much upon being enlivened and invigorated by the excitement created by debate or opposition, as does the inebriate upon his dram. These ministers need to be converted anew. They need to drink deep of the unceasing streams which proceed from the eternal Rock. *Gospel Workers*, (1892 edition), 186.1.

When men who have indulged in wrong habits and sinful practices yield to the power of divine truth, the application of that truth to the heart revives the moral powers, which had seemed to be paralyzed. The receiver possesses stronger, clearer understanding than before he riveted his soul to the eternal Rock. Even his physical health improves by the realization of his security in Christ. The special blessing of God resting upon the receiver is of itself health and strength. *Christian Temperance* (EGW) and *Bible Hygiene* (James White), 13.4.

Upon this living stone, Jews and Gentiles alike may build. This is the only foundation upon which we may securely build. It is broad enough for all, and strong enough to sustain the weight and burden of the whole world. And by connection with Christ, the living stone, all who build upon this foundation become living stones. Many persons are by their own endeavors hewn, polished, and beautified; but they cannot become “living stones,” because they are not connected with Christ. Without this connection, no man can be saved. Without the life of Christ in us, we cannot withstand the storms of temptation. Our eternal safety depends upon our building upon the sure foundation. Multitudes are today building upon foundations that have not been tested. When the rain falls, and the tempest rages, and the floods come, their house will fall, because it is not founded upon the eternal Rock, the chief cornerstone Christ Jesus. *Desire of Ages*, 599.4.

My dear children: God knows all about you. He will hear your prayers. He will regard your repentant cries to Him. Take hold of God, both of you, and rest not till you have the evidence that God is yours and you are His. I beg of you, my children, to rivet your souls to the Eternal Rock, Christ Jesus. Let your past life of folly suffice,

399 and now live a new life. Live to God, not self. Letter, 66, 1874.23.

400 “From The Beginning”

401 The plan for our redemption was not an afterthought, a plan formu-
402 lated after the fall of Adam. It was a revelation of “the mystery
403 which hath been kept in silence through times eternal.” Romans
404 16:25, R. V. It was an unfolding of the principles that from eternal
405 ages have been the foundation of God’s throne. From the beginning,
406 God and Christ knew of the apostasy of Satan, and of the fall of man
407 through the deceptive power of the apostate. God did not ordain that
408 sin should exist, but He foresaw its existence, and made provision to
409 meet the terrible emergency. So great was His love for the world,
410 that He covenanted to give His only-begotten Son, “that whosoever
411 believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John
412 3:16. *Desire of Ages*, 22.2.

413 “And God said, Let us make man in our own image, after our like-
414 ness.” Whom did He address?—The Lord Jesus Christ, who declares
415 Himself to have been with the Father from the beginning. “So God
416 created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him;
417 male and female created He them. ... And God saw everything that
418 He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and
419 the morning were the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were
420 finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended
421 His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day
422 from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh
423 day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His
424 work which God created and made.” [Genesis 1:26, 27, 31; 2:1-3.]
425 Manuscript 43, 1906.6.

426 Now, just now, is our day for repentance; now is our time to put
427 away sin. He who was with the Father from the beginning, the only
428 begotten Son of God, has paid the redemption price for the ransom
429 of a sinful world. The value that Christ places on the human soul is
430 unlimited. His infinite love embraces the whole human family. If
431 they will receive Him, and practice the virtues of His character, men
432 and women may become the sons and daughters of God. If they
433 refuse to receive Christ, instead of becoming God’s heritage, they
434 become Satan’s heritage. Letter 38, 1907.14.

600 led to the apostasy in heaven is in unceasing activity in all parts of
601 the world. Satan flatters his subjects with the assurance that their
602 forces will be sure to conquer. Before the first coming of Christ, it
603 seemed as if the world were wholly given into the control of the ene-
604 my. “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His
605 Son, ... to redeem them which were under the law, that they might re-
606 ceive the adoption of sons.” [Galatians 4:4, 5.] All heaven was inter-
607 ested in this great event. At the appointed time the Instructor ap-
608 peared. Who was He? The Son of God Himself, the eternal Word. He
609 came to give the world an evidence of the love of God by dying for
610 the fallen race. He gathered to His own pure, sinless soul the penalty
611 resting upon the sinful race and offered Himself as a sacrifice. Man-
612 uscript 96, 1904.5.

613 “Everlasting Father”

614 By His life and His death, Christ has achieved even more than
615 recovery from the ruin wrought through sin. It was Satan’s purpose
616 to bring about an eternal separation between God and man; but in
617 Christ we become more closely united to God than if we had never
618 fallen. In taking our nature, the Saviour has bound Himself to hu-
619 manity by a tie that is never to be broken. Through the eternal ages
620 He is linked with us. “God so loved the world, that He gave His
621 only-begotten Son.” John 3:16. He gave Him not only to bear our
622 sins, and to die as our sacrifice; He gave Him to the fallen race. To
623 assure us of His immutable counsel of peace, God gave His only-be-
624 gotten Son to become one of the human family, forever to retain His
625 human nature. This is the pledge that God will fulfill His word.
626 “Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government
627 shall be upon His shoulder.” God has adopted human nature in the
628 person of His Son, and has carried the same into the highest heaven.
629 It is the “Son of man” who shares the throne of the universe. It is the
630 “Son of man” whose name shall be called, “Wonderful, Counselor,
631 The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isai-
632 ah 9:6. The I AM is the Daysman between God and humanity, laying
633 His hand upon both. He who is “holy, harmless, undefiled, separate
634 from sinners,” is not ashamed to call us brethren. Hebrews 7:26;
635 2:11. In Christ the family of earth and the family of heaven are
636 bound together. Christ glorified is our brother. Heaven is enshrined
637 in humanity, and humanity is enfolded in the bosom of Infinite Love.
638 *Desire of Ages*, 25.3.

639 However much a shepherd may love his sheep, he loves his sons and
640 daughters more. Jesus is not only our shepherd; He is our “everlast-

557 of His Spirit will be seen in our lives; and tho there may be many
 558 branches, each branch will bear the fruit of the True Vine. *The Signs*
 559 *of the Times*, March 3, 1898, par. 11.

560 What humility was this! It amazed angels. The tongue can never de-
 561 scribe it; the imagination cannot take it in. The Eternal Word con-
 562 sented to be made flesh. God became man. It was a wonderful hu-
 563 mility. But He stepped still lower. The Man must humble Himself as
 564 a man to bear insult, reproach, shameful accusations, and abuse.
 565 There seemed to be no safe place for Him in His own territory. He
 566 had to flee from place to place for His life. He was betrayed by one
 567 of His disciples. He was denied by one of His most zealous follow-
 568 ers. He was mocked; He was crowned with a crown of thorns; He
 569 was scourged; He was forced to bear the burden of the cross. He was
 570 not insensible to this contempt and ignominy. He submitted; but oh,
 571 He felt its bitterness as no other being could feel it. He was pure,
 572 holy, undefiled, yet arraigned as a criminal. The adorable Redeemer
 573 stepped down from the highest exaltation. Step by step He humbled
 574 Himself to die; but what a death it was!—the most shameful, the
 575 most cruel, the death upon the cross as a malefactor. He did not die
 576 as a hero in the eyes of the world, loaded with honors as men in bat-
 577 tle; but He died as a condemned criminal, suspended between the
 578 heavens and the earth to die a lingering death of shame, exposed to
 579 the tauntings and revilings of a debased, crime-loaded, profligate
 580 multitude. “All they that see Me laugh Me to scorn: They shoot out
 581 the lip, they shake the head.” Psalm 22:7. He was numbered with the
 582 transgressors; He expired amid the derision; and His kinsmen ac-
 583 cording to the flesh disowned Him. His mother beheld His humilia-
 584 tion, and He was forced to see the sword pierce her heart. He en-
 585 dured the cross, despised the shame. He made it of small account, in
 586 consideration of the results that He was working out in behalf of not
 587 only the inhabitants of this speck of a world, but the whole uni-
 588 verse—every world which God had created. Letter 11, 1887.18.

589 He is predicted as the Messenger of the Covenant who was to be re-
 590 vealed, and the Sun of Righteousness, who was to arise and shed
 591 forth His beams throughout the world. “Hear, O heavens, and be as-
 592 tonished, O earth!” When the fulness of the time had come, and the
 593 promised One came to our world, it was no less a personage than the
 594 only begotten Son of God, the Eternal Word. It was a surprise of
 595 grace to all the heavenly host. Mercy and benevolence came to dwell
 596 upon the earth to subdue the stubborn, obdurate heart, and to win the
 597 heart and mind of man by revealing God in human flesh. Manuscript
 598 72, 1896.10.

599 The whole agency of evil is working to oppose God. The spirit that

435 “Never Was A Time”

436 In speaking of His pre-existence, Christ carries the mind back
 437 through dateless ages. He assures us that there never was a time
 438 when He was not in close fellowship with the eternal God. He to
 439 whose voice the Jews were then listening had been with God as one
 440 brought up with Him. *The Signs of the Times*, August 29, 1900, par.
 441 15.

442 “Ever Living”

443 What a Saviour we have! It was He that revealed Himself to John on
 444 the Isle of Patmos, and proclaimed, “I am Alpha and Omega, the be-
 445 ginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and
 446 which is to come, the Almighty.” [Revelation 1:8.] None but just such
 447 an ever living, mighty God, could pay the ransom to save sinners
 448 from going down into the pit of death. Manuscript 64, 1895.5.

449 “Eternal Presence”

450 Silence fell upon the vast assembly. The name of God, given to
 451 Moses to express the idea of the eternal presence, had been claimed
 452 as His own by this Galilean Rabbi. He had announced Himself to be
 453 the self-existent One, He who had been promised to Israel, “whose
 454 goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity.” Mic-
 455 ah 5:2, margin. *Desire of Ages*, 469.5.

456 Christ was using the great name of God that was given to Moses to
 457 express the idea of the eternal presence. Isaiah also saw Christ, and
 458 his words are full of significance. He says, “For unto us a child is
 459 born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His
 460 shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The
 461 Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” *Present*
 462 *Truth* (UK), May 30, 1895, par. 3.

463 Christ was using the great name of God that was given to Moses to
 464 express the idea of the eternal presence. Isaiah also saw Christ, and
 465 his prophetic words are full of significance. He says, “For unto us a
 466 child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be
 467 upon his shoulders: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Coun-
 468 seler, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”
 469 [Isaiah 9:6.] Speaking through him, the Lord says, “I am the Lord
 470 thy God, the Holy One of Israel; thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy
 471 ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee. Since thou wast precious in my
 472 sight, thou hast been honorable, and I have loved thee: Therefore I

473 will give men for thee, and people for thy life. Fear not: for I am
474 with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from
475 the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not
476 back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the
477 earth; even everyone that is called by my name; for I have created
478 him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him. Letter
479 119, 1895.13.

480 “Eternal Word”

481 “When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son.”
482 Man’s terrible necessity demanded help without delay. Who met this
483 necessity?—An illustrious Teacher, the Son of God. The eternal
484 Word came to our world to win the confidence of humanity. The
485 Prophet that had been revealed to Moses, like unto His brethren,
486 whom they should hear in all things, came as man’s Redeemer. Hear,
487 O heavens, and be astonished, O earth; for the appointed Instructor
488 of man was no less a personage than the Son of God! *The Bible*
489 *Echo*, March 8, 1897, par. 4.

490 Wondrous combination of man and God! He might have helped his
491 human nature to withstand the inroads of disease by pouring from
492 his divine nature vitality and undecaying vigor to the human. But he
493 humbled himself to man’s nature. He did this that the Scripture
494 might be fulfilled; and the plan was entered into by the Son of God,
495 knowing all the steps in his humiliation, that he must descend to
496 make an expiation for the sins of a condemned, groaning world.
497 What humility was this! It amazed angels. The tongue can never de-
498 scribe it; the imagination cannot take it in. The eternal Word consent-
499 ed to be made flesh! God became man! It was a wonderful humility!
500 *The Review and Herald*, July 5, 1887, par. 6.

501 To the present time, men insist on being saved in some way by
502 which they may perform some important work. If they see there is
503 no way in which to weave self into the work, they reject the salva-
504 tion provided. They trample under foot the Son of God, and count
505 the blood of the covenant wherewith he was sanctified as an unholy
506 thing. Jesus could give alone security to God; for he was equal with
507 God. He alone could be a mediator between God and man; for he
508 possessed divinity and humanity. Jesus could thus give security to
509 both parties for the fulfillment of the prescribed conditions. As the
510 Son of God he gives security to God in our behalf, and as the eternal
511 Word, as one equal with the Father, he assures us of the Father’s love
512 to usward who believe his pledged word. When God would assure us
513 of his immutable counsel of peace, he gives his only begotten Son to

514 become one of the human family, forever to retain his human nature
515 as a pledge that God will fulfill his word. *The Review and Herald*,
516 April 3, 1894, par. 13.

517 This living witness greatly disturbed those who had rejected Jesus.
518 Kings and rulers could not bear to hear this name; for they deemed
519 Christ a rival. The mention of his name, the incidents of his life, his
520 death, and his resurrection, kindled their furious jealousy. They saw
521 John the aged, honored and beloved, constantly referring to Jesus as
522 the eternal Word, giving to him a power exceeding their power. His
523 testimony was always the word of God and the testimony of Jesus
524 Christ. And notwithstanding his age, his venerable appearance, his
525 white locks, in their envy and jealousy they condemned the faithful
526 apostle to what was then thought to be the most severe of all punish-
527 ments. He was separated from his beloved people, and banished to
528 Patmos. “I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribu-
529 lation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the
530 isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony
531 of Jesus Christ.” *The Review and Herald*, May 16, 1899, par. 8.

532 Wondrous combination of man and God! He might have helped his
533 human nature to withstand the inroads of disease by pouring from
534 his divine nature vitality and undecaying vigor to the human. But he
535 humbled himself to man’s nature. He did this that the Scripture
536 might be fulfilled; and the plan was entered into by the Son of God,
537 knowing all the steps in his humiliation, that he must descend to
538 make an expiation for the sins of a condemned, groaning world.
539 What humility was this! It amazed angels. The tongue can never de-
540 scribe it; the imagination can not take it in. The eternal Word con-
541 sented to be made flesh! God became man! It was a wonderful hu-
542 mility. *The Review and Herald*, September 4, 1900, par. 6.

543 “When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son.”
544 Man’s terrible necessity demanded help without delay. Who met this
545 necessity?—An illustrious teacher, the Son of God. The eternal Word
546 came to our world to win the confidence of humanity. The prophet
547 that had been revealed to Moses, like unto his brethren, whom they
548 should hear in all things, came as man’s Redeemer. Hear, O heavens,
549 and be astonished, O earth; for the appointed instructor of man was
550 no less a personage than the Son of God! *The Signs of the Times*,
551 April 15, 1897, par. 4.

552 It is possible for us to be one with Christ, even as He is one with the
553 Father. If we are grafted into the living vine, if we draw our nourish-
554 ment from Christ, there will be unity in diversity. Those only who
555 derive nourishment from the Eternal Word, the Son of God, are
556 branches of the True Vine. If we are truly united to Christ, the fruits