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God's Son in the Old Testament

*"I will declare the decree:
The LORD has said to Me, You are My Son, Today I have begotten You."*

Psalm 2:7

There are many today – especially Muslims, Jews, and Christian liberals – who are monotheists, believing in one supreme God but rejecting the deity of Christ. They argue that the doctrine that Jesus was the unique Son of God was invented by the early Christians and that the God of the Old Testament had no Son. Orthodox Jews in particular emphasize Deuteronomy 6:4: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!"

The fact is, however, that there are a number of Old Testament verses that do speak of God's only begotten Son. Note the following brief summary. First, there is God's great promise to David: "I will set up your seed after you, . . . I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. . . . Your throne shall be established forever" (2 Sam. 7:12, 14, 16).

Consider also the rhetorical questions of Agur: "Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know?" (Prov. 30:4).

Then there are the two famous prophecies of Isaiah, quoted so frequently at Christmas time. "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel (meaning 'God with us')" (Isa. 7:14). "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given . . . and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6).

Perhaps the most explicit verse in this connection is our text: "The LORD has said to Me, You are my Son" (Ps. 2:7). Then this marvelous Messianic psalm concludes with this exhortation: "Kiss the Son, . . . Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him" (Ps. 2:12).

