

1 Peter 1:20 says of Christ, Who truly was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you. It seems contradictory to say someone is "foreknown" before the foundation of the world if that one is alive, existing, and there with you. How could he preexist if he is said to be foreknown? I would never say "I foreknow my son" if he is sitting next to me. This would seem to go along with the more literal and consistent meaning of the Greek interpretation of Heb 3:2 that says that God the father "made" Christ, which fits with him being begotten in the clear ordinary sense of someone having a beginning. How does this fit with a pre-existent Christ?

He was known by heaven (Is 14:12, Lk 10:18) as the second person of the Trinity (Gen. 1:1–3, 26). He would in time (Ga 4:4) be born of a virgin and be named Emmanuel, which means *God's with us* (Mt 1:23).

The angelic world learned that God would be made lower than them (Ps 8:5).

Regarding 1 Peter 1:20¹ John MacArthur wrote:

foreordained. In eternity past, before Adam and Eve sinned, God planned the redemption of sinners through Jesus Christ (cf. Acts 2:23; 4:27, 28; 2 Tim. 1:9). See note on v. 2. *last times*. The "last times" are the times of the Messiah, from His first coming to His second coming (cf. Acts 2:17; 1 Tim. 4:1; 1 John 2:18).²

It was the Lord's plan from the beginning to call out a people for his namesake (Ac 15:14).

A man would not say that he foreknew his son because his son is a created being (Ge 9:6). He comes into being at the point of fertilization (Jer 1:5). Jesus existed prior to his birth (Matt. 1:18; Luke 1:26–35) in the manger. He is the uncreated creator (Is 40:28).

Regarding Hebrews 3:2³ J. Vernon McGee wrote:

The Lord Jesus "was faithful to him that appointed him." He was faithful as He came down to this earth to represent God to man, and He is faithful as He represents us to God.⁴

Begotten means *to bring into being*.⁵ The Lord Jesus is not just a son. He is the Father's *preeminent Son*.⁶

¹ Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you. The Holy Bible: King James Version. (2009). (Electronic Edition of the 1900 Authorized Version., 1 Pe 1:20). Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

² MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). The MacArthur Study Bible (electronic ed., p. 1941). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

³ Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house. Ibid Heb 3:2.

⁴ McGee, J. V. (1991). Thru the Bible commentary: The Epistles (Hebrews 1-7) (electronic ed., Vol. 51, p. 59). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

⁵ Applied to Christ: predicted (Ps. 2:7; Acts 13:33), prefigured (Heb. 11:17), proclaimed (John 1:14), proffered (John 3:16), professed (Heb. 1:5, 6). Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 90). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

⁶ Preeminence—*being supreme above all*. Of Christ: predicted (Ps. 45:6, 7), proclaimed (Luke 1:31–33), visualized (Matt. 17:4, 5), realized (Col. 1:19), acknowledged (Phil. 2:9, 10). Ibid, p. 502.

Speaking of his eternality the Lord said, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending." Re 1:8a. There has never been a time when the Lord Jesus did not exist. The baby in the manger was 100% God and 100% man.