

## RCMI L-Path Teaching

March 6, 2022

**TITLE:** Jesus' Eternal Existence [Si Hesus ay Walang Hanggan]

**TEXT:** Hebrews 13:8; others as specified

**B.I.:** The preexistence, eternality, and immutability of Jesus Christ are attributes that affirm His deity. Ang 'pre-existence', panghabang-panahon, at ang hindi pagbabago ang mga katangian ni Hesus na nagpapatunay ng kanyang pagka Diyos.

**INTRO:**

- "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else." -C.S. Lewis Naniniwala ako sa Kristiyanismo kagaya ng paniniwala ko sa pagsikat ng araw. Hindi lang dahil kita ko ito kundi dahil dito, kita ko na rin ang iba pang bagay. -CS Lewis
- Our theme for March: **Fully God** [Evidence of Jesus' Divinity] Lubos ang Pagka Diyos
  - Big Idea: Jesus didn't simply come a wise man, but He is both fully God and fully man. How we respond to this truth will affect how seriously we take our Christian faith. Si Hesus ay hindi lamang naparito bilang isang marunong na tao, Siya ay parehong Diyos at tao. Kung paano tayo tutugon sa katotohanang ito ay makakaapekto sa ating pananampalataya.
- In the 13th chapter of Hebrews, the Author is rounding out his epistle to the Jewish Christians of the first century (probably 65-66 A.D.) by summarizing what has been said thus far, and the critical summary verse comes in... Sa ika-13 kabanata ng libro ng Hebreo, ang sumulat nito ay nangusap sa mga Hudyong Kristiyano ng unang siglo at ang buod ng kanyang mensahe ay ito...
- **Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."** Kung sino si Jesu-Cristo noon ay siya rin ngayon at magpakailanman.

**BODY: Jesus' Eternal Existence**

**Three important theological terms flow from this profound verse:** Christ is Preexistent. Christ is Eternal. Christ is Immutable. 3 mahalagang kataga ng teologika ang makikita sa bersikulong ito: Si Kristo ay buhay na sa simula pa man, si Kristo ay walang hanggan, Si Kristo ay hindi nagbabago.

**I. Jesus' Preexistence [Si Hesus ay Buhay Na Sa Simula Pa Man]**

- Pre-existence is defined as "existence in a former state or previous to something else." In the case of Jesus Christ, His pre-existence means that, before He became a man and walked upon the earth, He was already in existence as the second Person of the triune God. Ang ibig sabihin ng katagang ito ay nabuhay sa isang anyo bago pa man ang kasalukuyang anyo. Si Hesus ay Diyos at ang pangalawang persona ng Trinity bago pa man siya naging tao dito sa mundo.

- “And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began” [John 17:5]. This passage alone is sufficient to show that the Scripture supports Jesus’ pre-existence. **Ang bersikulong ito ay nagpapatunay na ang Banal na Kasulatan ay sumusuporta sa katotohanang si Hesus ay buhay na noon pa man.**
- Probably the most powerful evidence for the pre-existence of Christ was the very behavior of Jesus Himself. He was often doing and saying things that only the God of Israel had the right or power to do. **Marahil, ang pinaka matinding patunay nito ay ang pag-uugali ni Hesus. Siya ay kadalasang gumagawa at nagsasalita ng mga bagay na tanging ang Diyos ng Israel lamang ang may kapangyarihang gumawa.**
- **Why does the pre-existence of Christ matter?** It matters because a proper understanding of the person of Jesus is essential in knowing Him and the mission for which He was sent. **Bakit mahalaga ang ‘pre-existence’ ni Hesus? Ito ay sa dahilang ang isang tamang pagkaunawa dito ang kinakailangan para lalo nating makilala pa si Hesus at malaman ang mission Niya kung bakit sya naparito sa lupa.**
- Jesus Christ is the incarnation of the preexistent Son of God; Christianity will stand alone as the only true religion founded by God. **Si Hesus ang nagkatawang taong Anak ng Diyos. Ang Kristiyanismo ang tanging tunay na relihiyon na itinatag ng Diyos.**
- The pre-existence prevents us from transforming Christianity into another world religion. The world’s Creator became one of us to demonstrate his love, taking on all humanity’s sins as only the God-man Jesus could do. The pre-existence is the demonstration of Jesus’ complete deity and full humanity. **Ang pre-existence ni Hesus ang dahilan kung bakit ang Kristiyanismo ay hindi katulad pa ng ibang relihiyon lamang. Ang lumikha ng mundo ay naging tulad natin upang ipakita ang kanyang pagmamahal, pinasan ang ating mga kasalanan na tanging ang isang tunay na Diyos/Tao lamang ang may kakayanang gumawa.**

## II. Jesus’ Eternality [Kawalang-hanggan Ni Hesus]

### A. The Eternality of Christ

- The word *eternal* means "everlasting, having no beginning and no end." - Psalm 90:2 tells us about God’s eternality: “Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.” **Ibig sabihin ng ‘eternal’ ay buhay magpawalang hanggan, walang umpisa at katapusang. Ang Psalmo 90:2 ay nagsasabi ng tungkol sa kawalang hanggan ng Diyos.**
- From duration stretching backward without limit to time stretching forward without limitation, God was forever from eternal ages to eternal ages. **Pabalik at pasulong sa kawalang hanggan, ang Diyos ay panghabang panahon.**

### B. The Greatness of Christ [John 1:1-3]

The Eternality of Christ points to **His greatness**. Apostle John consistently pointed out that Jesus is not a mere man, but He is God. John 1 says...

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him, nothing was made that has been made." -John 1:1-3

**Ang kawalang hanggan ng Diyos ay nagtuturo sa kanyang kadakilaan. Ito ang sinabi ni Juan - si Hesus ay hindi lamang tao ngunit isang tunay na Diyos.**

- **Jesus is Eternally Preexistent.** "In the beginning was the Word." There never was a time when Christ did not exist because the word "was" is in the Greek imperfect tense, which means "was continuing." **Walang panahon na hindi buhay si Hesus dahil ang salitang 'was' sa salitang Griyego ay nasa 'imperfect tense'.** Na ang ibig sabihin ay nagpapatuloy pa rin ang paggawa nito.
- **Jesus is Eternally in Relationship.** "And the Word was with God." The Father and the Son were continually face to face. The preposition "**with**" bears the idea of nearness, along with a sense of movement toward God. The most profound equality and intimacy in the Holy Trinity have always existed. **Ang Ama at ang Anak ay palaging magkaharap. Ang salitang 'with' ay nagpapakita ng ideya na Sila ay magkalapit. Sila ay magkapantay at magkalapit.**
- **Jesus is Eternally God.** "And the Word was God." The exact meaning is that the Word was God in essence and character. He was God in every way, though He was a separate person from God the Father. **Ang ibig sabihin ng katagang ito ay ang Salita ay Diyos sa kakanyahan at karakter. Siya ay Diyos sa lahat ng aspeto, kahit na Siya ay ibang persona kumpara sa Diyos Ama.**
- Jesus was always existing from all eternity as God, in perfect fellowship with God the Father and (though not mentioned) the Holy Spirit. **Si Hesus ay Diyos na simula pa noon, kasama ng Diyos Ama at ng Banal na Espiritu.**

### **III. Jesus' Immutability [Si Hesus ay Hindi Kailanman Nagbabago]**

- The Greek word for the "same" emphatically states that Jesus Christ is *unchangeable!* Jesus Christ is the one Person we can depend on to be the same, regardless of the time or the spirit of the age. **Ang salitang 'same' ay nagsasabi na si Hesus ay hindi nagbabago. Siya ay isang Persona na pwede nating asahan na hindi magbabago, anuman ang oras o panahon.**
- It is essential to realize that the Christian faith is complete. **Tandaan na ang pananampalataya natin ay lubos na ganap.**
- God does not change—and neither does His truth (Isaiah 40:28). **Ang Diyos ay hindi nagbabago at ganoon din ang Kanyang katotohanan.**
- In its most immediate context, these words are meant to inspire confidence. Throughout the book of Hebrews, the writer has called on Christians to "hold fast" to faith despite hardship and persecution. **Ang mga katagang ito ay nagdudulot ng kumpiyansa. Sa aklat ng Hebreo, sinabihan ng sumulat ang mga Kristiyano na kumapit sa pananampalataya ano man ang mga pinagdadaanang pagsubok.**
- Knowing that God is constant and unchanging is a cornerstone of that trust. **Ang kaalaman na ang Diyos ay hindi nagbabago ang siyang muhon ng pananampalatayang iyon.**
- **The unchanging nature of Christ can give us peace.** God's character will not change. We can trust Him to be who He says He is. Jesus, the Exalted Son, is

not going to stop loving us. In a world where the only constant is change, Jesus Christ remains unchanged. Ang karakter ng Diyos ay hindi kailanman magbabago. Pinagtitiwalaan natin na Siya nga ang sinasabi Nyang Siya. Si Hesus na kataastaasang Anak ay hindi hihinto sa Kanyang pagmamahal sa atin. Sa isang mundo na kung saan ang hindi nagbabago ay ang pagbabago, pinakita ni Hesus na hindi Siya kailanman magbabago.

#### **APPLICATION: How does Jesus' immutability affect you? Pagsasabuhay: Paano ka maaapektuhan ng kawalang pagbabago ni Hesu?**

- Jesus will always be faithful, despite the unfaithfulness we experience with others. **Si Hesus ay palaging tapat kahit na ang ibang tao ay hindi.**
- Jesus will always fulfill His promises, despite our experiences of worldly lies and manipulations. **Palaging tutuparin ni Hesus ang Kanyang pangako kahit na sinungaling ang mundo at mapanlinlang ito.**
- Jesus will never change the truth, despite society's promotion of skepticism and doubt. **Hindi babaguhin ni Hesus ang katotohanan, kahit na ang lipunan ay punong puno ng alinlangan at pagdududa.**
- Jesus will always be with you, despite the seeming chaos you experience. **Lagi kayong sasamahan ni Hesus, kahit na magulo ang inyong mga sitwasyon.**
- Jesus will be your rock in an ocean of turbulence, an ever-present help in times of trouble. **Si Hesus ang iyong matatag na bato sa gitna ng kaguluhan, isang maaasahang tulong sa panahon ng kagipitan.**

#### **CHALLENGE: HAMON**

- Christ's preexistence flows out of His eternity. His preexistence says that He has always been; His eternity says He will always be. In between these two great truths stands the immutability of Christ, which states that He is unchanging. **Ang 'pre-existence' ni Hesus ay galing sa kanyang kawalang hanggan. Siya ay naroon na noon pa man. Sa gitna ng dalawang katotohanang ito ay isa pang katotohanan na nagsasabi na si Hesus ay hindi kailanman.**

#### **DISCUSSION: PAG-USAPAN**

- **What is the significance of Christ's pre-existence?** It matters because a proper understanding of the person of Jesus is essential in knowing Him and the mission for which He was sent. [Share] **Bakit mahalaga ang 'pre-existence' ni Kristo? Ito ay mahalaga dahil ang tamang kaunawaan tungkol dito ay kailangan natin upang lalo nating makilala si Hesus at ang Kanyang misyon dito sa lupa. [Ibahagi]**
- **What is the significance of Christ's eternity?** It proves that Jesus Christ is fully God that has always existed, stretching backward without limit to time stretching forward without limitation. [Share] **Ano ang kahalagahan ng kawalang hanggan ni Hesus? Ito ay nagpapatunay na si Hesus ay tunay na Diyos na nabubuhay ng walang hanggan, simula pa noon hanggang sa dulo ng walang katapanan. [Ibahagi]**

- **What is the significance of Christ's immutability?** Jesus Christ is the one Person we can depend on to be the same, regardless of the time or the spirit of the age. [Share] **Ano ang kahalagahan ng hindi pagbabago ni Hesus? Siya ay ating maaasahan ano man ang oras o panahon.** [Ibahagi]