

John 6:62

"What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?"

Problem:

It is argued that if the Son of man could ascend up to where he was before, then clearly he must have pre-existed before his "incarnation" on earth.

Solution:

1. This passage proves too much. It is argued that "God the Son" pre-existed as a spirit creature in heaven prior to his "incarnation", but the passage in John reads, "What and if ye shall see the Son of *man* ascend up where he was before?" Did the Son of *man* literally come down from heaven?

2. The context indicates that verse 62 is part of a discourse in which Jesus compares himself to the manna which God provided for Israel. The fact that this manna was referred to as "bread from heaven" (vs. 31) did not mean that it actually descended from heaven through the great expanse of space to the earth, but rather that it had its *origin* in heaven. Similarly, Christ was of divine origin - "from heaven", since the Holy Spirit was sent from heaven to effect his conception in the womb of Mary. (Luke 1:35). He later ascended to heaven. (Acts 1:10, 11).

3. This passage may be an allusion to Jesus' resurrection from the dead. "Ascend up" comes from the Greek "anabaino", and is the same word used to describe Jesus as he came up out of the waters of baptism in the Jordan River. And as we all know, baptism is a symbol of death and RESURRECTION. In John 6, Jesus could have been posing a rhetorical question, "If people stumble over me now, what will they do when I rise from the dead?"

From [Wrestedscriptures](#)