

This term, Son of Man, is one which eventually becomes of interest not so much occurrences in the book of Daniel. You notice there are four there, and one of them is where Gabriel addresses Daniel as son of man. The one of the others is where it says he saw one like a son of man coming with clouds of heaven. It comes as interest to us not so much because of these occurrences in Daniel, but because of its use in connection with the NT.

We find in the NT, that in the Gospels Jesus refers to Himself as the Son of Man in 80 different verses in the Gospels. Some of these verses are parallels in one Gospel to another. But there are at least 40, and probably more of them, distinct situations in which the Bible represents Jesus as speaking of Himself as the Son of Man. The Son of Man does this, this happens to the Son of Man, etc. He says it repeatedly. He never once in the Gospels does the wrote of the Gospel say the Son of Man did this. Never once in the Gospels does anybody else address Him or speak of Him as the Son of Man.

There are at least 40 distinct incidents, at least 80 vv., some of them the same thing told three times, some of them twice, a great many of them only once and after you have many of them in the three so called synoptic Gospels, you have 12 new instances in the book of John. In fact some would say there are 13. But the 13th is where after one of Jesus' statements we read that the people said, "Who is this Son of Man?" So I don't count that one. But we have 12. They are there of course quoting His words. But there are 12 where there is no question but it is quoting His words.

For the modernist interpreter of the Bible the Son of Man in the Gospels constitutes a tremendous problem. For the Christian anything that occurs as much as that, naturally constitutes something that is of great interest, of great importance truly for us to understand.

Since the 2nd century, or I should say, the first (century) we find all these uses of the term in the Gospels. And you turn to the book of Acts, you find the words once. You find the words once as it was said by Stephen when he was dying: "I see the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." The only time in the book of AActs. All the preachings of the Apostles never used the term Son of Man! You look at the epistles of Paul and you never find the term in the epistles that are always agreed among Christians to have been written by Paul. You never find (it) in the epistles of Peter. You never find it in the writings of Jude or the epistles of John. They never used the term though 80 times Jesus is represented in the Gospels as having called himself the Son of Man.

That is a very peculiar thing. A very interesting fact that we have here, as you try to explain exactly what it means. After the AApostles (Epistles) where written there is in the Apocryphal book called the Epistle of Barnabas, there is one who uses the term Son of Man--a fairly early writing. En Eusebius' History it tells about James, the brother of the Lord, that when they ddecided to kill him that he climbed up on a high building and he was up there on the roof of the building and they went up there and tried to get hold of