

has opportunity and is invited to become a Son of God, by endeavouring to fulfil the divine ideal. *

There is evidently, however, another and quite distinct sense in which the expression is sometimes used with (apparently) exclusive application to Jesus Christ. The definition of this exclusive sense is most distinctly conveyed in the expression Son of God, begotten before all worlds, or, before the Creation of the world. Now the meaning of that sense in which the expression is here used may be apprehended by careful comparison and consideration of several other authorized expressions or statements which are necessarily nearly related to that one of which the sense has to be determined—bearing in mind, at the same time (1) the distinct and unquestionable revelation by God of Himself, as the one personal God (I AM), and not forgetting (2) the infinite character of His attributes.

Some of these expressions are the following :—The ‘Spirit of Truth’ used as equivalent to the ‘Spirit of God.’ That.. ‘The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son.’ ‘The Holy Ghost spake by the prophets.’ ‘Being full of the Holy Ghost.’ ‘In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God and the word was God.’ ‘All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made.’ ‘In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.’ ‘The light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not’ The following statements made by Jesus Christ as recorded in Chap. vi, of St. John’s gospel :—‘Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life.’ ‘He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.’ ‘As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.’ ‘He that believeth in me hath everlasting life.’ ‘Every man that hath heard and hath learned of the Father

* The persistent endeavour, *be it particularly noted*, constituting, in itself a very considerable and important part of that divine ideal.