

- **John 14:28**—“Ye have heard that I have said unto you, I go away and I am coming to you. If ye loved me ye would rejoice that I go to the Father, for **my Father is greater than I.**”

“[T]he last clause of John 14:28 [is not] a question of the Son's *Deity* . . . the text speaks of *His place of earthly subjection.*” (WK)

“The Lord is speaking here in accordance with the station He took when He took the form of a servant. He had been in the form of God; as such, one in essence with the Father and the Spirit—and, of course, that oneness in essence was never broken. That could not cease, though He took the form of a servant.” (RAH)

“Nevertheless the Son had taken the place of being the sent One, the place of subordination in the earth, in which He would say, ‘My Father is greater than I.’ And He did accept that place thoroughly, and in all its consequences. But let them beware how they perverted it.” (WK)

“Where would be the sense of any other man (and man He surely was and is) saying, ‘My Father is greater than I’? A strange piece of information in the mouth (I will not say of a Socrates or a Bacon merely, but) of a Moses or a Daniel, a Peter or a Paul; but in Him, how suitable and even needful, yet only so because He was truly God and equal with the Father, as He was man, the sent One, and so the Father was greater than He!” (WK)

As perfect man Christ has a human will, held in inscrutable union with His divine will. His human will was, and always will be, in absolute and perfect submission to the Father. “For I am come down from heaven, not that I should do My will, but the will of Him that has sent Me.” “Lo, I am come (in the book-roll it is written of Me) to do Thy will, O God.” *“Though being Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.”* “For let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus; who, subsisting in the form of God, did not esteem it an object of rapine {as something to be snatched at or seized to His own advantage or enrichment} to be on an equality with God; but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondman, taking His place in the likeness of men; and having been found in figure as a man, humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and that the death of the cross.” It is in this connection that we may appropriately, and reverently, speak of subordination, of higher and lower ranks. “My Father is greater than I.” (Cf. also 1 Cor. 11:3, “the Christ is the head of every man, but woman's head is the man, *and the Christ's head God.*”) *As Son in manhood* He took a subordinate, dependent place, taking the form of a servant, subject to the Father's will—though being, as ever, “God over all, blessed forever” (Rom. 9:5).