IS JESUS THE CREATOR GOD OR THE FIRST CREATURE GOD CREATED?

(Excerpt from my book, "The Book of Revelation Decoded", pages 136-140)

In Revelation 3:14, we read:

"And to the angel of the church of Laodicea write, These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Author of the creation of God;" (AT)

Explanation of verse 14

In this verse, the Lord Jesus introduces Himself to the church of Laodicea as:

- a) "The Amen",
- b) "The Faithful and True Witness", and
- c) "The Author of the creation of God"!

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Let us examine the title, *"The Author of the creation of God"*:

Why did Jesus introduce Himself with the above title?

Before I answer this question, we must consider the following:

If you read Revelation 3:14 from your favorite English translation and you notice that instead of the word *"Au-thor"* the translators have used the word *"beginning"*, do not be confused! Please allow me to explain:

The book of Revelation was first written in Greek. In Revelation 3:14^d, the Greek text appears as:

η αρχή της κτίσεως του Θεού the Author of the creation of God

The second Greek word above, " $\alpha \rho \chi \dot{\eta}$ " (ar-hee), has more than one meaning:

1. When it refers to the place or to the time of the starting of an event, it means "beginning".

2. When it refers to a person, it means "Author", "Authority", "Leader", "Government", "Power", "Cause", "First Cause" and "Fountain". For example, in Luke 20:20 we read:

"... so as to deliver Him (Jesus) to the power ("αρχή" [arhee]) and to the authority of the governor."

In the above verse, the word " $\alpha \rho \chi \dot{\eta}$ " (ar-hee) means "*pow-er*". In this sentence, the word "**beginning**" would not have made any sense!

In Revelation 3:14, the word " $a\rho\chi\eta''$ (ar-hee) refers to the Person "Amen", in other words, to the Lord Jesus. Therefore, as it does not refer to **time or place** but to **a person**, it means "Power", "Leader", "Author", "Government", "First Cause", and "Source"! The Bible translations such as the KJV which, in Revelation 3:14, have translated the Greek word " $a\rho\chi\eta''$ (ar-hee) as "beginning" instead of "Author" or "Power" or "The First Cause", have done so in error. Those who read from such versions and teach that the words, "*These things saith the Amen ... the beginning of the creation of God*" mean that the "*Amen*", the Lord Jesus Christ, is the first creature which God created, **are making a terrible mistake.** In their ignorance, they lower the uncreated God the Word who became flesh (John 1:1, 14) and they present Him as a created being.

If the apostle John, the writer of the book of Revelation, would have wanted to say that Jesus, the "*Amen*", is the first creature which God created, he would have used the Greek word " $\alpha \pi \alpha \rho \chi \dot{\eta}$ " (apar-hee) --- not the word " $\alpha \rho \chi \dot{\eta}$ " (ar-hee)!

The Greek word " $\alpha \pi \alpha \rho \chi \dot{\eta}$ " (apar-hee) means: "The first and the best out of a group of people or things". In the English Bible translations, the word " $\alpha \pi \alpha \rho \chi \dot{\eta}$ " (apar-hee) has been translated as "Firstfruit". In this case, if John would wish to express the thought that Jesus was the first creature that God created, he would have written that the "Amen" is:

"η aπaρχή της κτίσεως του Θεού" the firstfruit of the creation of God

but such is not the case!

About the word " $\alpha \pi \alpha \rho \chi \eta$ /Firstfruit", please read the following verses: 1 Corinthians 15:20,23; 16:15; James 1:18; Romans 8:23; Revelation 14:4.

From the above study, we realize that Revelation 3:14 does not say that Jesus is the first created being which God created. On the contrary, it says that the Lord Jesus is **the** **First Cause, the Author or the Power which brought all God's creation into being!** In other words, Revelation 3: 14 reveals that Jesus, the *"Amen"*, is the Creator God!

*Please compare with Colossians 1:16,17. There, we read about Jesus the following:

"¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him (Greek text: "by him" [δι' αυτού]) and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together." (ESV)