God the Son in the Old Testament
By Jake Zabel

Names have meaning. Throughout Scripture the names of individuals can reveal a lot about that person's character and about God.

I was studying some biblical names in the Old Testament and two of them struck my interest: Abijah and Ahijah.

Jah is shorthand for Yahweh (the LORD), which is the name of God given to Moses from the burning bush.

The 'i' is possesive suffix for the first person, thus translated as "my".

'Ab' is the Hebrew word for 'father'.

Thus the name Abijah means 'Yahweh is my father'. This a clear reference to the first person of the Trinity, God the Father, who we call 'Abba, father'.

As for Ahijah, this name peaked my interest as 'ah' (pronounced ach) is the Hebrew word for 'brother'. Thus the name Ahijah means Yahweh is my brother.

This is profound, for the New Testament refers to the second person of the Trinity as the Son of the Father. Jesus, the Son, is also called our brother, for by His death and resurrection we have been adopted as sons of God through Holy Baptism. Thus, God the Father is now our father and God the Son is now our brother.

Jesus is our Lord and our God, and He is our brother. Here the Old Testament, through the name Ahijah, makes reference to Yahweh, our Lord and our God, being our brother. In the name Ahijah the Old Testament is making reference to the second person of the Trinity.

In addition to this, the name Abijah identifies Yahweh as our father, and Ahijah identifies Yahweh as our brother. In these two names the Old Testament identifies God as both our father and our brother, providing further evidence of the Trinity by identifying God as Father and Son. Ahijah shows Yahweh to be my brother. For Him to be my brother we must share a father. Abijah identifies Yahweh as my father, showing that there are two persons in the one Godhead, Yahweh the Father, who is my father, and Yahweh the Son, who is my brother. Yahweh the Father is the father of Yahweh the Son.

These who names, Abijah and Ahijah, reveal some very interesting facts about Jesus. Firstly, that Jesus is the Son of Yahweh and hence Jesus is the Son of God. Secondly, that Jesus is Yahweh the Son and hence Jesus is God. Thirdly, Deuteronomy 6:4 teaches us that Yahweh is one, for it says, "Hear, O Israel, the LORD (Yahweh) our God, the LORD (Yahweh) is one." Yet Yahweh, who is one, is both my Father and my Brother. Thus Yahweh is both Father and Son; meaning that there are at least two members of the Trinity in the single Godhead of Yahweh. And fourthly, Jesus, who is God, is my brother, and I have become a heir of God and a co-heir with Christ.