God's only begotten son could and did die; hence, regarding Christ Jesus and "sonship" – such always refers to His humanity – never to His deity (Luk. 1:32).

As a man – at a moment in history, He was begotten – had a beginning and became a son.

I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. (Psalm 2:7)

This verse declares that after David's days God would begat a son -not in eternity past.

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel (shall = future tense!), which being interpreted is, God with us. 24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: 25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS. (Matthew 1:18-25)

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: **therefore** also that holy thing which **shall** be born of thee **shall be** called **the Son of God**. (Luke 1:35)

Here Luke clearly explains when & why our Lord was given the title "Son of God".

32 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that **the promise** which was made unto the fathers, 33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that **he hath raised up Jesus again**; as it is also written in the second psalm, **Thou art my Son**,

this day have I begotten thee. (Acts 13:32-33, i.e., resurrection day is the final fulfillment)

5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, **this day** have I begotten thee? And again, I **will be** to him a Father, and he **shall be** to me a Son? 6 And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And **let all the angels of God worship him**. (Heb. 1:5-6)

Note: all the above references are **future tense!** (shall and/or will be)

But as God/deity, the Lord Jesus had no beginning! Indeed, He is the Creator Himself come in flesh (John 1:1-3; Col. 1:12-17; 1 Tim. 3:16 – note: God was manifest in the flesh, not the "son of God" was manifest). There is but *one God* (Rom. 3:30; 1 Cor. 8:4; Eph. 4:6; 1 Tim. 2:5; Jam. 2:19). Still, the Trinity is also true. John 4:24 says "God is a Spirit", not three – thus we see that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one and the same eternal Spirit who, for the sake of redeeming fallen man, humbled Himself and came to earth in the womb of a woman thereby becoming the only begotten Son-Messiah. At the same time God remained in heaven and ruled as Father over all Creation. Yet as the Holy Spirit, God bore witness of the gospel to the crowds who came to hear Christ Jesus of Nazareth, while to the thief on the Cross – that the man beside him was the Son of David, the Savior of the world.

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee **shall** he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, **from everlasting**. (Micah 5:2)

Before the incarnation, He was The Word, The Creator, Almighty God, The everlasting Father!

For unto us a **child** is born, unto us a **son** is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor,

The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

(Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 50:1, and see Revelation 1:8-18 where Jesus is also called the **Almighty** God)