

One God

Deuteronomy 6:4 *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:*

REVEALED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

One of the primary truths revealed to man about the God of the universe is that He is ONE. This truth is proclaimed all throughout the Old Testament. It is reiterated by God in His Word in many ways.

Isaiah 46:9 ...*I am God, and **there is none else**; I am God, and **there is none like me**,*

Isaiah 44:6, 8 ...*I am the first, and I am the last; and **beside me there is no God**. ... Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.*

Deuteronomy 32:39 *See now that I, even I, am he, and **there is no god with me**: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.*

Isaiah 43:10 *Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: **before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.***

Isaiah 44:24 *Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that **stretcheth forth the heavens alone**; that **spreadeth abroad the earth by myself**;*

Isaiah 43:11 *I, even I, am the LORD; and **beside me there is no saviour.***

It is clear that the Old Testament proclaims and bears witness to the fact that there is but one God. Nowhere does it say any different throughout its pages.

CONFIRMED BY THE NEW TESTAMENT

This simple revelation is continued throughout the Gospels. Jesus Himself continued to declare that God was indeed one, and that there was none other. It was part of the mission of Jesus to declare to us the true understanding of God. And when He was asked, He did not bring a new revelation of God, but rather, He supported the Old Testament truth that God is ONE.

Mark 12:29 *And Jesus answered him, **The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:***

When the Apostles were sent out by Jesus to preach to the world, He sent them with the understanding that there was just one God. This is revealed throughout their writings.

James 2:19 *Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: ...*

Galatians 3:20 *Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.*

DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY

Regardless of this clear and consistent teaching, many people teach that God is a “triune” God. They have a doctrine that teaches that God is made up of three “persons”. This is despite the fact that nowhere is it stated anywhere in the Word of God. How did this come to be?

This doctrine of the “trinity” was something that history tells us was introduced more than 100 years after the Apostles. It was introduced by teachers who mixed Christian principles with Greek philosophy. This fact can be easily established by looking in nearly any Bible encyclopedia. You will find quotes like the following:

“The doctrine of the Trinity itself, however, is not a Biblical doctrine... It is a product of theological reflection...The ecclesiastical doctrine of the Trinity is not only the product of genuine Biblical thought, it

is also the product of philosophical speculation, which is remote from the thought of the Bible."
Protestant Trinitarian Theologian Emil Brunner.

"The word Trinity is not found in the Bible, and though used by Tertullian in the last decade of the 2nd century, it did not find a place formally in the theology of the church till the 4th century. The Illustrated Bible Dictionary. Tyndale House

MANIFESTATION

There are not three Gods or three parts of God. There are not three "persons" of God. So how then do we understand the references to Father, Son and Holy Spirit? We understand them, by understanding the idea of manifestation.

Manifestation: An indication of the existence, reality, or presence of something. One of the forms in which someone or something, such as a person, a divine being, or an idea, is revealed.

God is a Spirit and as such cannot be seen. The Bible is clear that no man has seen God at any time. From the dawn of creation until 2,000 years ago God remained unseen. So, if we are to interact with Him and have a relationship with Him, He must manifest Himself to us.

JESUS CHRIST

2000 years ago God manifested Himself through Jesus Christ. Jesus is God manifesting Himself to mankind. Hear how the apostle Paul put this in 1 Timothy 3:16 and 2 Corinthians 5:19,

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh...

... God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself...

To do this, Jesus was born of a woman named Mary who was a virgin. His conception was supernatural. The scriptures teach that God miraculously caused Mary to conceive through the power of His Spirit. Mary carried and gave birth to the child in the normal way. Jesus, then, was both the Son of God and the Son of Man.

Throughout His earthly ministry Jesus lived, breathed, ate, and slept as a man, for He was fully man. But He also declared that the spirit in Him was the Spirit of the almighty God. He told His disciples in one place, "*he that hath seen me hath seen the Father*" (John 14:9). It was not part of God that was manifest in the flesh, but "*in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily*" (Colossians 2:9).

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is not another person or part of God, for God is a spirit. When the scriptures speak of the Holy Spirit, it is God Himself manifesting Himself to mankind through His power. It is the term that the scriptures use to describe God moving amongst mankind. The first use of the term is at the very beginning of the scripture. Genesis 1:2 says,

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

It is that same Spirit of God that dwells in the believers today. It is this Spirit that Jesus promised when He told His disciples in Acts 1:5,

For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit...

ONE GOD

There is only one God. That God has revealed Himself as Creator and Father. He manifested Himself in Jesus Christ to redeem man from sin. Now He works in the church through the power of the Holy Spirit.