

ONE GOD

By: Phillip Hayes

*"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well:
the devils also believe, and tremble" [James 2:19]*

Throughout the Old and New Testaments the Bible declares there is only One True God. God is the Creator of all things and made Himself known to all mankind as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We shall find that God is not Three. God is not Two. God is One!

God is eternal. That means God has no beginning or end. God had no beginning or starting point. God has always existed. I have often defined The Eternal One as He that fills all things; transcending space, time and matter. God has declared the end from the beginning because He is in the end and in the beginning all at the same time. (1Timothy 1:17; Deut 33:27; Isa. 46:10).

God is not only Eternal, He is: Omniscient, Omnipotent and Omnipresent.

Omniscience means all knowing. Omni meaning all and science meaning knowledge. The word is not found anywhere in the Bible, but the truth of God being omniscient is revealed throughout its pages from Genesis to Revelation (1John 3:20).

Omnipotence refers to God's all-powerful character. To say that God is omnipotent is to recognize that there is nothing outside of His ability to accomplish and no one who can exercise power over Him. God created the entire universe, and He holds the power over it all (Matthew 19:26).

Omnipresence means that He is present everywhere, all the time. His presence is not limited by time or space. Because God created the universe, He is above all things and holds all things together (Colossians 1:17)

Apostle Paul made this declaration of what He defined God to be. *"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him"* [1Corinthians 8:6]. Notice He states that to us (Apostles and Christians) there is but one God! As Christians we must believe in One God! Notice, he doesn't say we believe there is one God in three persons; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost! In searching the scriptures, you can easily find God referred to as God the Father but you will never find Jesus or the Holy Spirit referred to as God the Son and God the Holy Ghost. These titles are not Biblical and come straight out of Roman Catholicism and influenced by pagan religions that worship many forms of gods.

Further, the Apostle Paul affirms the belief of only One God to Timothy, *"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus"* [1Timothy 2:5].

In addition to God being One, He is a Spirit, not a man. *"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth"* [John

4:24]. Also from the book of Numbers, *"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good" [Numbers 23:19].*

We can safely assume that the early church believed as the Apostle Paul wrote that there is only One God indivisible and not in the three in one concept later developed by the Roman church.

Ancient Israel was commanded to believe in only One God. *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" [Deuteronomy 6:4-5].*

This is the very reason many Jewish and Muslim people have trouble converting to Christianity. Each of these two religions believe in One God; the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as declared in the Old Testament. To them the doctrine of the three in one (trinity) is not compatible with Judaism or Islam.

This is routinely stated by both religions. The following quotation in italics is a similar response I recently found to the question, "Why is the trinity incompatible with Judaism, if it says God is one but in 3 persons?"

"Because God is one and totally indivisible - not by 2, not by 3. God is not a person at all - neither one, nor two, nor three, nor any other number.

Nothing about the Trinity fits within Judaism - it doesn't work. The Christians are welcome to believe as they please, after all, it's a doctrine that

clearly makes sense to them but it doesn't make sense to us and we must agree to disagree on it.

The trinity is in contrast with God's proclamation in Isaiah where he states quite categorically "I am the first and the last, besides me there is no other god!" I believe this statement clears up the contradiction. Also in daily prayers in Judaism it is declared Deut 4:6 "Hear O Israel the Lord is Our God, the Lord is One." It refutes the trinity. One analogy given of the trinity is the states of water, which are ice, water and steam, three conditions - it is still water and not three entities, It is also a case of simple arithmetic - church has used this conception to justify their inconsistencies and dogmas". [End of answer].

We see that the Jews and also the Muslim's take a strong stand that the Bible clearly teaches that God is One.

Let's take a close look at what the Scriptures affirm God to be.

In Isaiah chapter 44, verse 6, God says, *"Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God."* God's Word is clear that God is not only One, He is the King of Israel and their Redeemer. He is the first and the last! In other words there is no god in between! It sums it up by stating, "there is no god beside Him"! He continues in verse 8, *"Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any' [Isaiah 44:8].* God is saying if there is another god, I would know it!

Again He declares His Oneness, *"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me"* [Isaiah 46:9].

A few verses down God has the Prophet repeat there is no God beside Him! *"Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him"* [Deuteronomy 4:35].

God wants all the people of the earth to know there is only One God! *"That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD is God, and that there is none else"* [1Kings 8:60].

We have already read this verse but I want to remind you that believing God is One is His commandment, *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD"* [Deuteronomy 4:6]. Jesus confirmed this in Mark 12:29, *"And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord"*.

Hosea the prophet is very bold about this! *"Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me"* [Hosea 13:4]. Many times we find God reminding the people that He alone is their Savior!

Here is more proof that God wants His people to know that He Alone is their Savior. *"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. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and have saved, and I have*

shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God" [Isaiah 43"10-12].

The first commandment found in the Ten Commandments is: *"Thou shalt have no other gods before me" [Exodus 20:3].* Isaiah reminds the people that God is a jealousy God. Look at this! *"I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images" [Isaiah 42:8].*

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure" [Isaiah 46:9-10]. God is really letting us know that He is the One that knows the future for He has declared it. This is how we can know if a prophet is really speaking what God says for God Alone knows the future. If God said it or inspired it to be said, it will come to pass.

Again the Word of God is clear, God in One and He is the Creator. *"For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else" [Isaiah 45:18].* Not only does God want us to know He is the Creator, He wants us to know that He created everything by Himself! Look at this: *"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 44:24].* By

now, I am hoping you believe there is One God!

There are countless more scriptures I could give you stating that God is One. I hope the few I have given is sufficient.

Let me give you one more scripture concerning the creation of God. *"I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else. I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things"* [Isaiah 45:5-7]. Now, from Deuteronomy 32, verse 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."* Clearly, there is no power but God!

"The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, and he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and

exalt the horn of his anointed" [1 Samuel 2:6-10]. There it is! Who is like our God? Our God does all these things. He can keep you in the midst of tribulation and persecution. He can prepare you a table in the wilderness. He can make you poor, or rich. He can feed you with angel's food every day, or He can destroy you. He is God!

I have said many times that God has placed our Presidents in office for His purposes. All of them! Several believe this was not so. Let me go a step further in my belief that God is in control. I believe there is not one president, prime minister, or dictator in the world that God has not permitted. Let me prove all this by God's Word. Let God be true and every man a liar. *"For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another" [Psalms 75:6-7].*

Who does God set up and put down? *"Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding" [Daniel 2:20-21].* And again, *"This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men" [Daniel 4:17].*

Did you know that it would have been impossible for Jesus to have been killed had not God allowed it? In St. John chapter 19, verse 11 Jesus told Pilate, *"Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin."* God had placed Pilate in office and Jesus was well aware of it. It was the will of God for Jesus to die. *"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things" [Romans 8:32].*

"He increaseth the nations, and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the nations, and straiteneth them again" [Job 12:23]. Who increases nations, destroys them, enlarges them, straightens them?? None but God!

He can give you favor and cause men to give unto your bosom! He can harden hearts and He can soften hearts! He is God!

There is only One God! One Spirit! Not two or three, just One! Look at these few verses to confirm this: *"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit" [1Corinthians 12:13].*

"For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father" [Ephesians 2:18].

"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling" [Ephesians 4:4].

Remember, *"God was in Christ, reconciling the*
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world unto himself . . .” (2Cor. 5:19). And Christ in you is the mystery of God unveiled. “Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory” [Colossians 1:26-27].

Praise the Lord! Jesus is no longer a baby in a manger or a man hanging on a cross. He is the resurrected Christ sitting on the right hand of God. If God is in you, the Holy Spirit is in you. Christ is also in you for there is only One Spirit! Get it in your heart there is only One God, One Spirit!

Let me give you one more extraordinary scripture to confirm that Jesus Christ is inside you. *“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” [2Corinthians 13:5].* Where is Jesus? Up in Heaven somewhere? No my friend. According to the Word of God, Jesus Christ is inside you, unless you are a reprobate! The definition of a reprobate: Unapproved; cast away; sinner; degenerate.

My friends, if you are “Born Again” you are an integral part of the Eternal God. In God’s mind, you have always been with Him just as Jesus has always been with Him. Remember, He declared the end from the beginning. Where were you when He laid the foundation of the earth and the sons of God shouted with joy? Where were you? You were in His Spirit. Your names were written in the Lamb’s Book of Life that was slain before the foundation of the world. (Please study the following scriptures: Mat.

25:34; Eph. 1:4; Heb 9:26; 1Pet. 1:20; Rev. 13:8; Rev. 17:8).

Our Lord Jesus Christ existed in the Father before the world was. God the Father created all things *because of, or for His Son!* This revelation of God has been hidden in God from the very beginning of the world. *"And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by (because of, by, for) Jesus Christ" [Ephesians 3:9].*

Instead of accepting the Word as it is written, men have devised all kinds of teachings trying to explain God the Father, His only begotten Son, and the Holy Spirit. The truth is, they are all One in unity. Jesus prayed to the Father, *"That they may be one, as we are" John 17:11.* Through the supreme sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, you and I are also one with the Father and the Son. We are all divinely connected. Believing that Jesus is one with the Father does not mean Jesus is His own Father. Neither is it believing that Jesus should be referred to as God the Son! Also you cannot separate the Holy Spirit from the Father. As the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Father. Nor can you separate the church from God. It is impossible. God in Christ, Christ in you is perfect oneness. *"But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit" [1Corinthians 6:17].*

The One Spirit in which we are all baptized with has made us one with God. *"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through*

all, and in you all" [Ephesians 4:4-6].

When the Pharisees rebuked Jesus for healing on the Sabbath Day, Jesus said, *"My Father worketh hitherto, and I work"* (See St. John 5:17). It was actually God that performed the miracles. In St. John fourteen, verse ten, Jesus said, *". . . the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works."*

I believe the scriptures have clearly proven there is but One God. Apostle John wrote His Gospel to prove that Jesus is the Son of God and that is what we should believe. *"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" [John 20:31].*

So how should Christians express their belief in God to others? How should we describe Him to a Jew or a Muslim or anyone for that matter? First, don't try to explain the unexplainable. *"Great is the mystery of Godliness" (1Tim. 3:16)*. Just stick to what the Bible plainly teaches!

- 1) There is One God, the Father.
- 2) Jesus is the only begotten Son of God.
- 3) There is One Spirit of God, the comforter, the Holy Ghost.

Apostle Paul's statement of faith says it best for all Christians: *"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him" [1Corinthians 8:6].*

GOOD ADVICE ON PRAYER FROM A PRAYING MAN WHO GOT RESULTS WHEN HE PRAYED

George Muller, who in the mid-1830s, cared for over 2,000 orphans in England. All by faith in God. Muller was known as the man who got answers to his prayers. Before he died, he had listed in his journals over 50,000 answers to prayer.

When asked how he determined the will of God on any matter, Muller listed the following steps he believed were necessary:

- 1. "I get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to any particular matter."**
- 2. "I do not leave the result to feelings or simple impressions. That can make one open to great delusions."**
- 3. "I seek God's will through, or in connection with, his Word. If you look to the Spirit without the Word, you open yourself to delusion."**
- 4. "I consider providential [God-controlled] circumstances."**
- 5. "I ask God in prayer to reveal his will to me."**
- 6. "I make sure I have a clear conscience before God and man."**
- 7. "Every time I listened to men instead of God, I made serious mistakes."**
- 8. "I act only when I am at peace, after much prayer, waiting on God with faith."**

Those who walk by faith, seeking only God's perfect will, are often sorely tested and tried. More and more in my own life, I am finding out how important diligent prayer and Bible reading are. Sadly, not many of God's people pray diligently nowadays. Instead, there is much TV viewing and very little of waiting on God.

When I give myself to prayer, my faith rises. And when I feed on God's Word, my confidence in his power to lead and help me increases. The Lord becomes my banker, my advisor, my attorney.

May you find Him doing the same for you.

REMEMBER THE POOR

Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do. [Galatians 2:10]

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.
[Proverbs 19:17]

He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.
[Proverbs 28:27]

Blessed *is* he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.
[Psalms 41:1]

He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.
[Psalms 112:9]