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Suggested Order:

1. Why I Believe in the Bible
2. Why I Believe in Bible Salvation
3. Why I Believe in One God
4. Why I Believe in Holiness
5. Why I Believe in Creation



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Why I Believe
in One God

suggested order: lesson three

How Many Gods Are There



1 God is One in the Old Testament

Throughout the Old Testament, especially to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their descendants, God always revealed Himself as one God. For example, after the children of Israel fled Egypt, the very first commandment that God gave to His people was, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:2-3). Years later, just before the children of Israel crossed into Canaan, Moses reminded them in Deuteronomy 6:4, "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD."

Genesis 1:1,
26-27
Isaiah 41:4; 42:8;
43:10-12; 44:6,
24; 45:6-7, 18, 24
Malachi 2:10

Although God showed Himself in the Old Testament in many different forms, from Genesis (the first book of the Old Testament) to Malachi (the last book of the Old Testament), God always revealed Himself as one God.

According to Isaiah 44:8, there is only one thing that God does not know: another god.

2 God is One in the New Testament

In the New Testament, God always revealed Himself as one God. Peter, James, John, Philip, Thomas, and Paul all had very up-close and personal encounters with this one God. They fully believed God was one and Jesus was that one God.

Jesus revealed Himself as the one God of the Old Testament. For example, He boldly proclaimed, "Before Abraham was, I am" and "I and my Father are one" (John 8:58; 10:30).

In the Old Testament, God revealed Himself in many different ways, but always as one God. In the New Testament, Jesus is that one "God with us" (Matthew 1:23).

Matthew 17:1-2
John 14:8-10;
20:26-29
Acts 9:3-5



Myth Buster! Myth: "Jesus is in the Godhead."

Truth: The Godhead is in Jesus. Colossians 2:9 says, "For in Him [Jesus] dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." In other words, all of God is in Jesus!

How is God Described?

There are many adjectives we can use for God: God is spirit, God is life, God is unchanging, God is truth, God is love, God is eternal, God is holy, God is immortal, God is invisible, God is omnipresent (is everywhere at the same time), God is omniscient (knows everything), God is omnipotent (has all power), and the list goes on and on.

But God never said, "Be ye spirit; for I am spirit." God never said, "Be ye life; for I am life" or "Be ye eternal; for I am eternal." God never said, "Be ye omnipresent; for I am omnipresent" or "omniscient; for I am omniscient" or "omnipotent; for I am omnipotent."

But God did say in 1 Peter 1:16, "Be ye holy; for I am holy." "Holy" is one of the only characteristics of God that He specifically commands us to imitate.

To be holy means we have separated ourselves from all that is sinful and have consecrated ourselves to God and His will for our lives. We should show holiness in two ways:

1 Holiness inside (heart)

1 Samuel 16:7
Proverbs 4:23
Matthew 23:26

2 Holiness outside (body)

Romans 12:1
1 Corinthians 6:19-20
1 Thessalonians 5:23

Thank you for taking your time to go through this Bible study.

We pray this Bible study has helped you understand why we believe in the Oneness of the Godhead. As you study the Bible, let it become more than just a book to you. Let it become alive to you as it has to so many others!

God has so many jewels in His Word that are just waiting to be found! So search the Bible for yourself and find your own relationship with God. There is nothing that can take the place of your own personal experience with God and His Word.

What is His Name?

Although the Old Testament heroes and prophets believed in and prayed to only one God, they did not know His Name. That is not to say that they did not desire to know His Name.

When Jacob wrestled the man at Peniel, he asked, “Tell me, I pray thee, thy name” and the man asked Jacob why he wanted to know His Name (Genesis 32:29). Manoah, Samson’s dad, asked the angel of the LORD, “What is thy name?” and the angel said that His Name was a secret (Judges 13:17-18). The prophet Agur, in Proverbs 30, knew that one day God was going to come in flesh, so he asked, “What is his name, and what is his son’s name, if thou canst tell?” (Proverbs 30:4)

Instead of telling the Old Testament heroes and prophets what His Name was, God revealed more and more about Himself depending on His people’s needs. For example, when Abraham needed a provider, God revealed Himself as Jehovah-jireh or “the Lord will see and provide.” (See Genesis 22:14.) When the children of Israel needed a healer, God revealed Himself as Jehovah-rapha or “the Lord that heals.” (See Exodus 15:26.) When they needed a victory, God revealed Himself as Jehovah-nissi or “the Lord our banner.” (See Exodus 17:15.) When they needed peace, God revealed Himself as Jehovah-shalom or “the Lord our peace.” (See Judges 6:24.)

None of the names for God in the Old Testament revealed all that God was and is.

But, in the New Testament, when the angel visited Mary, the angel said, “And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest” (Luke 1:31-32). (See also Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:21.)

Paul told the Philippian church that the Name of Jesus is above every name. In other words, the Name “Jesus” includes every Old Testament name for God. All of the names for God in the Old Testament can now be summed up in one Name: Jesus!

We know something Abraham, Moses, David, Isaiah, and many others in the Old Testament all wanted to know. We know His Name! His Name is Jesus!

Zechariah 14:9
Philippians
2:9-11
Ephesians
1:20-23



Frequently Asked Questions



1. Is Genesis 1:26 an Old Testament reference to the trinity?

No. Trinitarian focus on this one verse ignores the thousands of singular pronouns used throughout the Old Testament in reference to God. In fact, the very next verse states, “So God created man in his own image.” (Genesis 1:27) The Jewish people, who embraced a strict monotheistic (oneness) view of God and had only the Old Testament for their Scriptures, never saw this verse as trinitarian in nature!

2. Does the Baptism of Jesus portray a trinity?

No. God is omnipresent, which means that He is everywhere at the same time and He is revealing Himself all over the world all the time. However, this does not mean that each time/place God shows Himself to somebody, it is a separate person of the Godhead! So, at Jesus’ baptism we are seeing not three persons of God or three gods—the Bible emphatically teaches against that—but three manifestations of God at the same time. (See Deuteronomy 6:4; Galatians 3:20.)

3. Does Matthew 28:19 contradict baptism in Jesus’ Name?

No. It is important to observe that while all the apostles were there when Jesus spoke the words of Matthew 28:19, nowhere does the Bible record that anyone ever baptized in the titles “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.” Every time the apostles baptized, it was always in the Name of Jesus Christ. (See Acts 2:38; 8:12, 16; 10:47-48; 19:5; 22:16.)

The apostles knew that “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost” are titles, not names. Imagine trying to sign a check with “son/daughter, friend, and human being.” The bank teller would say, “Sorry, that’s what you are, but we need you to sign your name.” Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are things that God is, but Jesus is His Name!

4. Do the scriptures that refer to Jesus “at the right hand of God” refer to a second person in the Godhead?

No. “God is a Spirit” and a “spirit hath not flesh and bones” (John 4:24; Luke 24:39). So, how can someone, even Jesus, sit on God’s hand? Also, God is infinite, which means He has no end. So how can someone, even Jesus, get on the right side of Him? All the references in the Bible to God in human terms, ears, eyes, hands, and other body parts, are just attempts by God to help us understand Him better.

Since God’s “right hand” must be metaphorical, what is it referring to? Just as most people are right-handed and consequently stronger in that hand, whenever the Bible refers to the right hand, it is always referring to strength or power, especially God’s power to save. (See Exodus 15:6; Psalm 118:15-16; Isaiah 59:16; 63:5.)

What Are The Benefits?

1 Creator God created all things, including us. He formed us, and He breathed life into us. God knows everything about us, even how many hairs are on our head. We are the best of God's creation. And He created us so we can love Him, and He can love us.

Psalm 95:6;
100:3
John 1:3
Colossians
1:16-17

2 Savior We all have sinned, and all of us deserve to die for our sins. But God loved and loves us so much that He died for our sins. He became our Savior!

Isaiah 45:21-22
Luke 2:11
John 3:16-17

3 Provider God is interested in our everyday needs. In fact, He knows what we need before we even know what we need. God also knows how to "show up" right on time or when we need Him the most.

Matthew 6:8,
31-32
Philippians 4:19
Hebrews 4:16

4 Healer While there will be no more death, sorrow, crying, or pain in heaven, unfortunately, here on earth, we all have experienced someone dying, sorrow, crying, and pain. But God is a healer. He has all power and can do anything!

Isaiah 53:5
Luke 4:18; 6:19
James 5:14-15

5 Peace Wars...rumors of wars...famines... pestilences...earthquakes...afraid? God does not want us to be afraid. In fact, if we have God, we have nothing to be afraid of. That kind of fear does not come from God. He is "the Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

John 14:1, 27
Romans 14:17;
15:13
Philippians 4:7

6 Ever Present One We never have to worry about being alone. Why? Because God is always with us. God never sleeps, He never takes a break, He never gets hungry, He never gets sick, and He never takes a vacation. God is with us 24/7!

Proverbs 18:24
Matthew 28:20
Hebrews 13:5

Who is God?

Father in Creation

God existed before anything else ever existed. In fact, God created everything that we can see (plants, people, etc.) and

everything that we cannot see (wind, air, etc.). Because God created everything, He is the Father of all living things.

When we call God "Father," we are not referring to the first person in a so-called trinity; instead, we are referring to God's relationship to us. In the Old Testament, God was referred to as the "Father to Israel" (Jeremiah 31:9). In the New Testament, even the humanity of Jesus recognized God as the Father of his flesh. The Paul referred to God as "our Father" seventeen times in his writings. God desires to be more than our Judge on the last day; He wants to be our "Heavenly Father" today (Luke 11:13).

Isaiah 9:6; 64:8
2 Corinthians
6:17-18
1 John 3:1-2

Not only is God the "Father in Creation," but He is also the "Son in Redemption." God who is a Spirit that cannot bleed, suffer, or die in the Old Testament, appeared in human flesh in the New Testament so that He could suffer

Son in Redemption

and "taste death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9). Isaiah prophesied that one day a virgin would conceive, and a child would be born, and a son would be given who would save us from our sins. (See Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; 1:18.) In Jesus, we can see every characteristic of God because all of God dwells in Him.

1 Timothy 2:5; 3:16
2 Corinthians 5:19
Colossians 2:8-9

Holy Ghost in Rebirth

The Holy Ghost is Jesus living inside of those who have spoken with other tongues. Jesus, who walked on this earth

for thirty-three and one half years, didn't leave forever. Fifty days after His crucifixion, He returned in Spirit form to fill all who believed. Jesus promised His disciples that He would not leave them comfortless, but He would return to them. He did exactly that on the Day of Pentecost in the form of His Spirit.

Colossians 1:27
John 14:16-18, 26
Acts 2:4; 16-17, 38

The Holy Ghost is not a third person of God, but it is actually His Spirit living in us, teaching and helping us to do the things that please Him—something we can't do on our own. The Holy Ghost is the "Father in Creation" and "Son in Redemption" living inside the created and redeemed!