

"ELOHIM"

The Almighty Godhead



*"...attaining
to the knowledge
of the mystery of God,
both of the Father and of Christ.."*
Col. 2:2

*"For it
pleased
the Father
that in Him
all the fullness
(of the Godhead)
should dwell..."*
Col.1:19



*"...for
in Him
dwells all
the fullness of
the Godhead
bodily..."*
Col. 2:9

*"...I bow my knees
to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
...that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."*
Eph.3:14,19

Pastor Randy Shupe

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE MATERIAL

Much of the reference material you will find in "Elohim, the Almighty Godhead" are taken from this classic work by the Late Herb Jahn, Exegete.

The "Exeges Parallel Bible" was 17 years in the making and is greatly valued.

I highly recommend you purchase a PDF copy of this classic study tool below.

I believe it will do for you what it did for me, namely, to greatly enhance your ability to comprehend and properly interpret the contents of scripture.

Pastor Randy Shupe

EXEGESES parallel BIBLE

"STILL- The only literal translation and transliteration of Scripture - EVER"

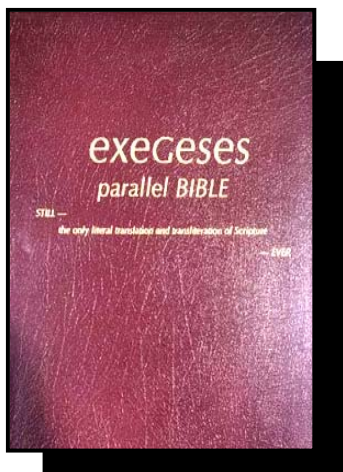
Herb Jahn Exegete

"Back in the early 1970's, Herb Jahn (a diligent student of God's word in the original languages) became burdened with the casual attitude that God's people had toward the Bible. He was especially concerned about the inaccuracy of Christian teachers and modern Bible versions when translating different Hebrew and Greek terms. In many of the popular translations and even in the 1611 King James translation, different Hebrew and Greek terms were translated the same and were said to mean the same thing. Of course there are occasional similarities in different terms of God's Word, but he found that many times there were MAJOR differences in how the terms should be translated that he could not overlook.

So he decided to do something about it. He then researched EVERY word in the Old and New Testaments to make sure they were accurate and translated according to their common usage. That process took over 15 years to complete. When the research was complete, he then ended up spending his life's savings to publish this work himself, since no Bible publisher would do it or do it right. The result is now the most accurate and literal Bible in existence.

Thousands of Believers across the world have purchased and enjoyed this remarkable Bible translation and transliteration. We thank the Lord for Herb Jahn and for his devotion to the Lord in bringing us this thoroughly accurate Bible for you and I to enjoy."

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Like so many other classic works, you will find that the Late Herb Jahn's Exeges Parallel Bible is presently out of print after five editions, the last printed in 2001. However, you can presently still purchase a PDF download of this out-of-print literary treasure from their website at:

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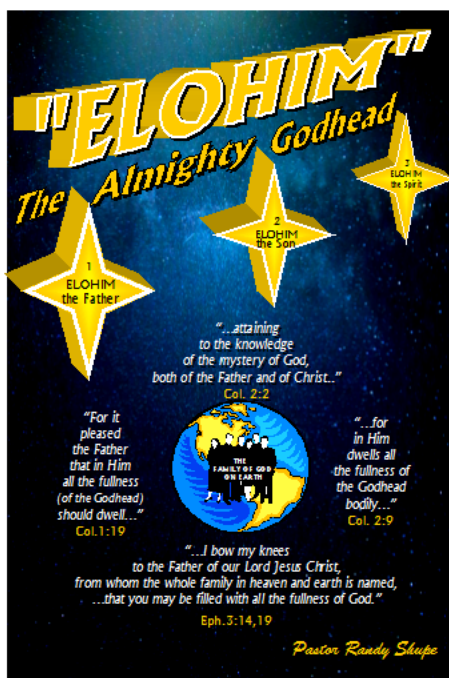
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THE TWO
MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS
ASKED IN THE BIBLE
ARE:



THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO UNFOLDING BIBLICAL ANSWERS
TO THESE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Pastor Randy Shupe

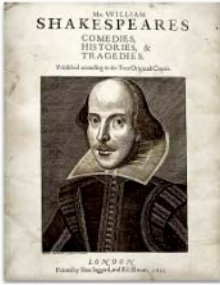


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~ CHAPTER ONE ~

"What's In a Name?"



The famous cynical quote, "What's in a name?" was penned long ago by William Shakespeare in his most famous and beloved play, "Romeo and Juliet."

Shakespeare held a philosophical belief that it did not matter what name something bore, but rather just focus upon achieving the desired end result. The moral to this philosophy Shakespeare summed up under the cute cliché:

"A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME IS STILL A ROSE."

William Shakespeare

Shakespeare believed that the name itself did not contain any worth or meaning. In essence, the name it bore had absolutely no effect on the end product produced. Perhaps that dubious philosophy may work in a world of make believe acted out on a controlled theater stage, but would be a stark contrast when compared to the emphasis scripture places upon the ability of names and titles to aid in expressing faith.

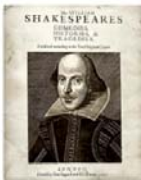
It is my growing suspicion that this Shakespearean philosophy may also hold a strong grip on the thinking of many Christians as well. We too can be guilty of allowing our faith to be concentrated solely on just achieving the end result. For instance, we can be ever desirous to be healed of a physical malady, but guilty of overlooking the importance Scripture places on the Name of the One who heals (Exodus 15:26).

Names/titles given in scripture are of the most important significance because the revelation contained within the meaning often depict levels of authority and power possessed by the individual bearing the name. The more we understand the depth of meaning behind the name revealed, greater is the aspect of faith that can be released.

THIS IS IMPORTANT:

Throughout scripture biblical concepts of faith zero in on expressing a firm belief in "the name" revealed as the very means by which the end result is obtained.

WHICH PRINCIPLE DO YOU EMBRACE?



"IT DOES NOT MATTER
WHAT NAME SOMETHING BEARS,
JUST FOCUS UPON
THE END RESULT
PRODUCED."

"IT DOES MATTER
WHAT NAME SOMETHING BEARS.
IT TAKES "FAITH IN THE NAME"
TO PRODUCE
THE END RESULT."

IT IS FAITH IN "THE NAME" THAT HEALS

The seven examples below are a minute portion of what you will find to be a running theme throughout the scriptures. Dear Christian, we too MUST develop a firm biblical pattern of faith in God's Name:

1

"...AND **HIS NAME**, THROUGH **FAITH IN HIS NAME**, HAS MADE THIS MAN STRONG, WHOM YOU SEE AND KNOW. YES, THE FAITH WHICH COMES THROUGH HIM HAS GIVEN HIM THIS PERFECT SOUNDNESS IN THE PRESENCE OF YOU ALL.."

Acts 3:16

2

"LET IT BE KNOWN TO YOU ALL, AND TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, THAT BY **THE NAME** OF JESUS CHRIST OF NAZARETH...
...THERE IS NO SALVATION IN ANY OTHER,
FOR THERE IS **NO OTHER NAME** UNDER HEAVEN
GIVEN AMONG MEN BY WHICH WE MUST BE SAVED."

Acts 4:10-12

3

"...GOD ALSO HAS HIGHLY EXALTED HIM
AND GIVEN HIM **THE NAME** WHICH IS **ABOVE EVERY NAME**,
THAT AT **THE NAME** OF JESUS EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW,
OF THOSE IN HEAVEN, AND OF THOSE ON EARTH, AND OF THOSE
UNDER THE EARTH, AND THAT EVERY TONGUE SHOULD CONFESS THAT
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER."

Phil 2:9-11

4

"...HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM IS NOT CONDEMNED;
BUT HE WHO DOES NOT BELIEVE IS CONDEMNED ALREADY,
BECAUSE HE HAS NOT BELIEVED
IN **THE NAME** OF THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD."

John 3:16-18

5

"AND THESE SIGNS WILL FOLLOW THOSE WHO BELIEVE:
IN MY NAME THEY WILL CAST OUT DEMONS;
THEY WILL SPEAK WITH NEW TONGUES;
THEY WILL TAKE UP SERPENTS;
AND IF THEY DRINK ANYTHING DEADLY,
IT WILL BY NO MEANS HURT THEM;
THEY WILL LAY HANDS ON THE SICK, AND THEY WILL RECOVER."

Mark 16:17-18

6

"IS ANYONE AMONG YOU SICK? LET HIM CALL FOR THE ELDERS OF
THE CHURCH, AND LET THEM PRAY OVER HIM, ANOINTING HIM
WITH OIL **IN THE NAME** OF THE LORD. AND THE PRAYER OF FAITH
WILL SAVE THE SICK, AND THE LORD WILL RAISE HIM UP."

James 5:14-15

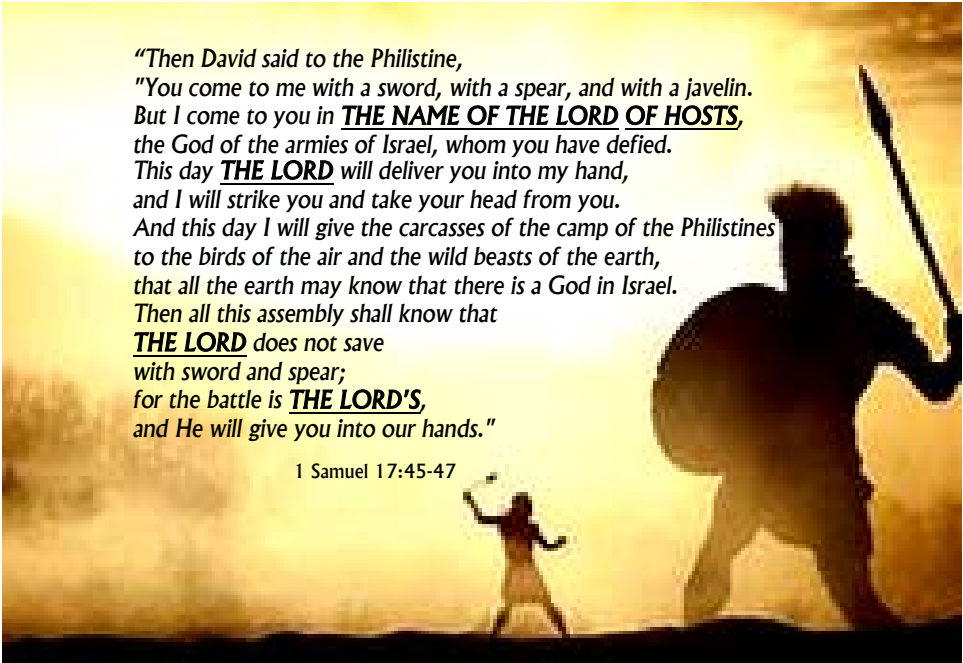
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"MOST ASSUREDLY, I SAY TO YOU, HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME,
THE WORKS THAT I DO HE WILL DO ALSO...
AND WHATEVER YOU ASK **IN MY NAME**,
THAT I WILL DO...
IF YOU ASK ANYTHING **IN MY NAME**, I WILL DO IT."

John 14:12-14

Names and titles are very significant in scripture. When God called a man to a place of ministry, often He would change the name of the individual to reveal the calling placed upon him. “Abram” became “Abraham” (father of many nations). It was prophesied over infant Jesus that He should bear the name “Emmanuel” because it meant “God with us” (Matt.1:21-22) . Names/titles contain seeds of faith ready to be sown.

One of my all-time favorite faith stories is the verbal exchange between David and Goliath. We all know the end result-David slew the giant. However, the weapon he used was not merely a stone to the forehead from David’s sling, but rather victory was sealed through David’s bold proclamation of faith in the name of the Lord:



*"Then David said to the Philistine,
"You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin.
But I come to you in **THE NAME OF THE LORD OF HOSTS**,
the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.
This day **THE LORD** will deliver you into my hand,
and I will strike you and take your head from you.
And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines
to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth,
that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.
Then all this assembly shall know that
THE LORD does not save
with sword and spear;
for the battle is **THE LORD'S**,
and He will give you into our hands."*

1 Samuel 17:45-47

David’s bold declaration reminds me of the apostle Paul’s admonition pertaining to what are the weapons of the Christian’s warfare against the strongholds of the enemy:



*"...FOR THOUGH WE WALK IN THE FLESH (PHYSICAL),
WE DO NOT WAR
ACCORDING TO THE FLESH.
FOR THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE
ARE NOT CARNAL (PHYSICAL)
BUT **MIGHTY IN GOD**
FOR PULLING DOWN STRONGHOLDS..."*

2 Cor 10:3-5

Goliath’s weapons were very carnal (physical) ones. They consisted of a very big sword, spear, and javelin in the hands of a ten-foot giant! (Intimidating weapons, to say the least!) However, David’s spiritual weapon of the name of the Lord was greater being mighty in God, a faith solely dependent upon the might behind
“THE NAME OF THE LORD OF HOSTS.”

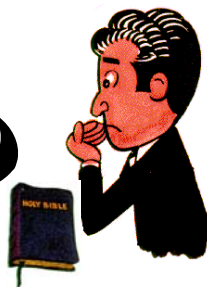
It is not only the outworking of faith like David's that is produced by acknowledging the name (the Lord) but also should produce supreme obedience in the life of those who claim to be under its authority.

Jesus confronted His disciples with this sober charge:



***"BUT WHY
DO YOU CALL ME
'LORD, LORD,'
AND
NOT DO
THE THINGS WHICH I SAY?"***

Luke 6:46



May I remind you again of our opening thought, "What's in a name?"
For instance, when the name being applied to God is that of Lord we must be ever-mindful of what is contained in the meaning of the name:

LORD (Gr. KURIOS)- ***"SUPREME IN AUTHORITY, LIFE-CONTROLLER, MASTER OF ALL..."***

If His disciples call Him, "Lord, Lord", then they must understand what that title requires of them. If He is Lord, then He is "supreme in authority" over them, He is their "life-controller", He is the "master of all" over those who follow Him.

Jesus is called "Lord" 673 times in the New Testament! Compare that statistic to another title Jesus bears, that of "Savior." Jesus is only identified 27 times in the same New Testament as Savior. Why then, we must ask, do we tend to gravitate toward thinking of Jesus primarily as our Savior instead of our Lord? Are we not guilty of theologically majoring in minors and minoring in majors as to what should be the proper emphasis scripture places on defining who is Jesus Christ? Is it sufficient to just call Him Savior, but not also to call Him Lord? The answer to this imbalance lies in what emphasis we are being taught by men rather than what the Word itself reveals. If I see Jesus addressed as Lord 673 times in the New Testament compared to only 27 times identified as Savior, I must conclude that His Lordship must be a higher priority than the fact that He is my Savior. Read carefully these passages of scripture that present God's plan of salvation and you will see that the Lordship of Jesus Christ is a woven integral part of that salvation message. Here are four examples:

***"...THAT IF YOU CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH THE LORD JESUS
AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD,
YOU WILL BE SAVED..."***

***"...FOR THE SAME LORD OVER ALL IS RICH TO ALL WHO CALL UPON HIM.
FOR "WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED."*** Rom. 10:9

"...BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND YOU WILL BE SAVED..." Acts 16:31

"...WE ALSO EAGERLY WAIT FOR THE SAVIOR, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST..." Phil 3:20-21

***"PAUL, AN APOSTLE OF JESUS CHRIST, BY THE COMMANDMENT OF
GOD OUR SAVIOR AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, OUR HOPE..."*** 1 Tim 1:1

Clearly, the One declared to be Savior is also stated to be Lord over our lives.

Previously we saw how important it was for David to express faith in the name the Lord of Hosts. Let us look to another Old Testament example as to the importance of the Name “the Lord” as it pertains to obedience/disobedience.

This time we will examine Pharaoh of Egypt as a negative example of a person who lacked understanding of the one whose name is called the Lord:



**“AND PHARAOH SAID,
“WHO IS THE LORD,
THAT I SHOULD
OBEY HIS VOICE?
...I DO NOT KNOW
THE LORD...”**

Ex. 5:2

Pharaoh of Egypt did not obey the voice of the Lord and he states clearly the reason why he did not do so:

**“WHO IS THE LORD THAT I SHOULD OBEY HIS VOICE?
...I DO NOT KNOW THE LORD...”**

I believe Pharaoh’s statement contains the same underlying reason that some of Jesus’ followers did not obey Him either. They called Him “Lord, Lord” but did not have a clue what that really implied. They knew Him as their Savior from sin, but not as Lord of their life in its fullest meaning of the name of the Lord:

LORD (KURIOS)- “SUPREME IN AUTHORITY, LIFE-CONTROLLER, MASTER OF ALL...”

Instead of properly stressing the fact that it is the Lord (“supreme in authority, life-controller, Master of all”) over the lives of those called to follow Him, the modern-day version of the gospel is repackaged in a non-confrontational theme under the more palatable banner “God has a wonderful plan for your life.” Listen friend: The Almighty’s plan is for Him to become the Lord of your life!

Instead of placing a proper emphasis upon what you need to give up in order for Christ to become Lord of your life, it is rather camouflaged as a beneficial package of what God is going to bring into your life once you simply receive Him as Savior. We are told emphatically that He is going to heal your marriage, heal your diseases, increase your finances, prosper you, provide for you, protect you, etc. Friend, that is not what it means to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ! God may indeed do some of those wonderful healing things for you as you learn to walk with Him, but that is not the gospel message the Lord Jesus presented.

The Lordship of Jesus Christ demands that the believer embrace the call to forsake living a self-centered, self-serving way of life. It is this lack of the evidence of a new life of obedience that Jesus addresses in some of His disciples who tritely continued to called Him “Lord, Lord” but were not obeying His commands:

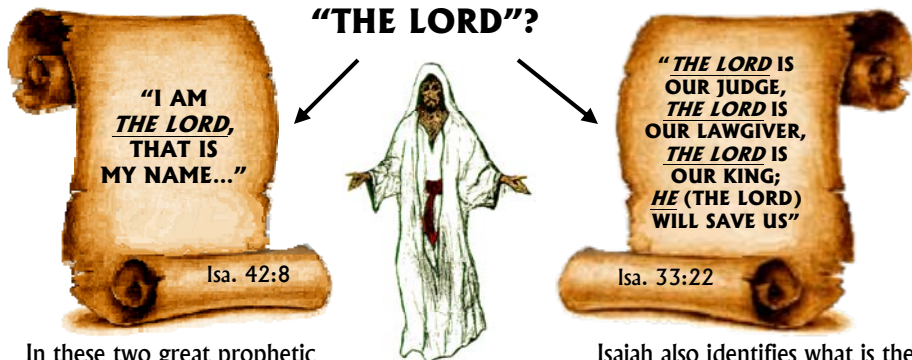


**“NOT EVERYONE WHO SAYS TO ME, ‘LORD, LORD,’
SHALL ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN,
IT HE WHO DOES THE WILL OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN...
...I WILL DECLARE TO THEM, ‘I NEVER KNEW YOU;
DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS!’”**

Matt. 7:21-23



HOW IMPORTANT IS THE NAME, "THE LORD"?



In these two great prophetic passages from Isaiah we are given the name of God as "the Lord."

Isaiah also identifies what is the delegated authority (subtitles) given to the one bearing that name.

First of all, I want to convey to you dear reader, the great significance and impact these two passages from Isaiah have had on me as a teacher of God's Word. Over the past fifty years of my ministry I have always given a place of great preeminence to what is portrayed above from the Book of Isaiah.

For instance, this is a picture of a wall in our old church building upon which I displayed the content of Isaiah 33:22. I kept this visual there for nearly forty years that we occupied that old building. I wanted it to always be a constant reminder to the people (and to myself) of what is the biblical meaning of the title of Jesus Christ as, the Lord.



Below is a recent snapshot of the main wall in my present study located adjacent to our public meeting room in our new location. Although we downsized our building, I increased the size of this visual display of Isaiah 33:22 to encompass a full wall. The truth it displays just gets bigger and bigger in the eyes of this old teacher. Like the original in our old building, I placed this new larger display also to serve as a constant visual reminder to myself and as well as to all those in our congregation as to what the saying "the Lord" really conveys:



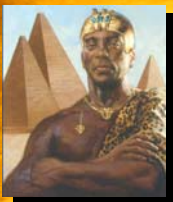
Our theme quest in this opening Chapter is to establish “What’s in a name?”
Isaiah the prophet has stated clearly for us,

“I am THE LORD, that is MY NAME.”

Isa. 42:8

God sent Moses to Pharaoh with a simple command from the Lord
to “Let My people go” (Ex. 9:1).

The response of Pharaoh was quite profound:



***“AND PHARAOH SAID,
“WHO IS THE LORD,
THAT I SHOULD
OBEY HIS VOICE?
...I DO NOT KNOW
THE LORD...”***

Ex.5:2

As professing followers of **the Lord** Jesus Christ,
we too must ask ourselves the same question Pharaoh posed.

Pharaoh did not know the Lord so he did not obey His voice, but rather very defiantly
proclaimed, “Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice? I do not know the Lord.”
What did Pharaoh lack? He lacked knowledge of the One whose Name is called
“the Lord.”

In these two passages from Isaiah we are not only given the proper name of our God as
being “the Lord”, but we have the added illumination from Isaiah of four subtitles that
add to the depth of meaning of the Name of “the Lord.”

***“I AM
THE LORD,
THAT IS
MY NAME...”***

Isa. 42:8



***“THE LORD IS
OUR JUDGE,
THE LORD IS
OUR LAWGIVER,
THE LORD IS
OUR KING;
HE (THE LORD)
WILL SAVE US”***

Isa. 33:22

To be able to know the Lord we need only to examine the meaning of the four subtitles
(names) that Isaiah assigns to the Name “the Lord.” These four topics become a
measuring stick for every Christian to determine the degree that we too know the Lord.
If you truly know the Lord you will obey Him. However, to practice a life of willful
disobedience like Pharaoh is proof-positive that you also do not know the Lord!

“WHO IS THE LORD THAT I SHOULD OBEY HIS VOICE?”



I don't want us to get sidetracked with over elaboration of these four topics, but it is essential that we establish that these scriptures from Isaiah add greatly to our ability in defining, "Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice?"

This passage from Isaiah reads from the top down. However, this is not how it works out in the life of the believer.



Actually, this passage works from the bottom to the top because our first encounter with the Lord takes place by the act of salvation. We first encounter the Lord when we embrace the call to be saved by Him.

Let us briefly comment on each of these four topics as they drive home the point, "Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice."

1. THE LORD is the one who SAVES US:

You must not divorce the aspect of the Lordship of Jesus Christ from the fact that He is our Savior. It is like the old secular song about love and marriage going together like a horse and carriage-you can't have one without the other. If you understand that concept then you can see why all the passages about salvation contain references to the Lord Jesus rather than the isolated truth that He is our Savior. Truly, you can't have one without the other. Hear this clearly: It is the Lord who saves us:

“...THAT IF YOU CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH **THE LORD JESUS** AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, YOU WILL BE SAVED...
FOR "WHOEVER CALLS ON **THE NAME OF THE LORD** SHALL BE SAVED."
Rom. 10:9

2. THE LORD is the one who is OUR KING:

Paul ties the act of salvation to being simultaneously delivered out of the power of darkness and immediately transferred into the kingdom of God's Son:

“...GIVING THANKS TO THE FATHER
WHO HAS QUALIFIED US TO BE PARTAKERS OF
THE INHERITANCE OF THE SAINTS IN THE LIGHT.
HE HAS DELIVERED US FROM THE POWER OF DARKNESS
AND
TRANSLATED US INTO THE KINGDOM OF THE SON
OF HIS LOVE,
IN WHOM WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD,
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.”

Col. 1:12-14

So then, it is the Lord (“supreme in authority, life-controller, Master of all”) who saves us by forgiving our sins. We need to hear that carefully. It isn't just Jesus our Savior who saves us, but it is the Lord who saves us, and He does so with a purpose. The Lord saves us in order that we can now meet Him as King Jesus.

Jesus has a kingdom functioning under His authority into which we are now placed. This kingdom does not exist just in eternity, but right now by the act of salvation we enter into living a new life in a new kingdom. The Lord who saves us has now become the Lord who is King over His Kingdom.

However, I must stress that there is a mystery surrounding the Kingdom of God. Jesus describes His present kingdom as a spiritual one that abides within the heart of His people:

“NOW WHEN HE WAS ASKED BY THE PHARISEES WHEN
THE KINGDOM OF GOD WOULD COME,
HE ANSWERED THEM AND SAID,
"THE KINGDOM OF GOD DOES NOT COME WITH OBSERVATION;
NOR WILL THEY SAY, 'SEE HERE!' OR 'SEE THERE!'
FOR INDEED,
THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU.”

Luke 17:20-21

Rather than the erroneous pursuit of our American Puritan forefathers who sought to create a literal “city on a hill” for all the world to see and obey, God's present Kingdom on earth can exist any place where His people are found. This Kingdom can exist in the midst of oppressive dictatorships or under false religious kingdoms such as the dark Muslim oppressive powers we see ever-increasing on earth.

The true Kingdom of God can even exist in the midst of a so-called “Christian” kingdom such as America's earth-minded cherished concept of “One nation under God” and “In God we trust.” None of these things constitute the real Kingdom of God as proclaimed in the detailed teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ as found in Matthew Chapters Five through Seven. These three chapters should be thoroughly digested by every follower of Christ!

3. THE LORD is the one who is OUR LAWGIVER:

Obviously every king has a kingdom over which he rules. How does he rule? By means of instituting His governing laws. The Lord Jesus becomes the Lawgiver to every follower of Christ. Hear this:

His laws are designed to govern **His people** within **His kingdom!**

But you may think "wait a minute!

Is not the New Covenant a covenant of grace and not of law?"

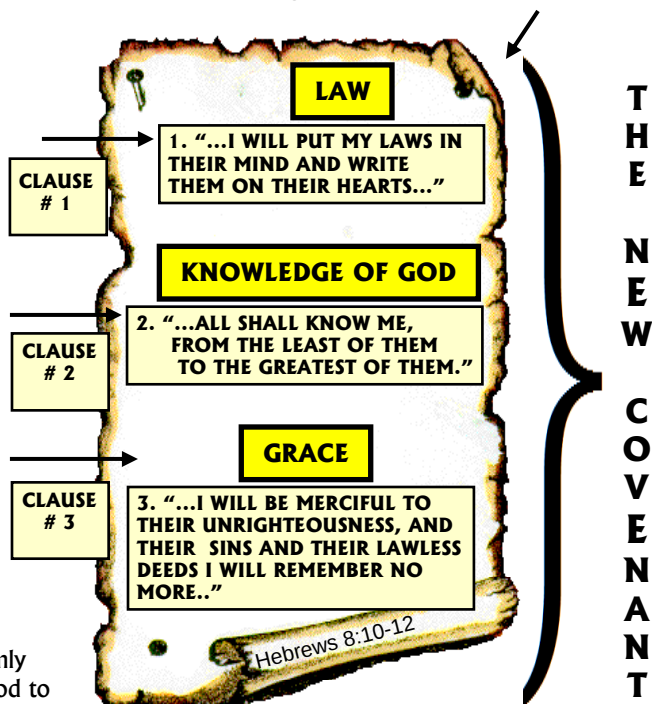
Not according to what is written in the Word of God. Little emphasis is given to the fact that there are three terms specified in the New Covenant. However, we've only been taught one term namely, "grace."

The word translated as covenant ("b'rith") means "to bind."

An old hymn is entitled "blessed be the tie that binds." However, for the most part, God's people have only been taught one-third of that binding agreement.

Namely, to hold quite firmly to the clause that binds God to "be merciful to their unrighteousness, and...their sins and their lawless deeds...(to) remember no more."

Heb. 8:12



Theologically, we have condensed this concept to the term, "grace." However, the covenant places an equally binding obligation upon the people of God to allow Him to "...put His laws in their mind and write them on their hearts..." (Heb.8:10). This concept can be condensed to the term "law." The needful question to be answered is: Can we just pick out grace, but then discard the law term of the covenant? (2 Tim.2:15). If God's people do not diligently search out the biblical balance between the subjects of law vs. grace, there is going to be a multitude of saints who will be ashamed when God Himself confronts them in eternity with the remainder of the contents of the New Covenant! It is not a matter of law or grace but rather law and grace! Consider that Jesus makes a vivid and lengthy comparison between Old Testament Law and New Testament Law in His dissertation found in Matthew 5, 6, and 7. You must read the continuity of these chapters for it is a vivid depiction of Jesus as our King describing Himself now as our Lawgiver. Jesus opens various topics with this repeated saying, "You have heard that it was said...but I say unto you" (see Matt. 5:27,31,33,38,43). In these chapters Jesus compares O. T. Law to His N. T. Law designed to govern the subjects of His new Kingdom.

If you follow His many vivid comparisons listed there, you will see that His New Testament Laws are more demanding than what was contained in the Old! He is certainly not supporting the false idea that New Testament grace has replaced all of God's Law. Yes, the Old Mosaic Law under Moses is done away with, but it is replaced by a new set of Laws from King Jesus, "our Lawgiver." Law does not save us, but rather is designed to sanctify us as a saved people living righteously in a different kingdom!

4. THE LORD is the one who is OUR JUDGE:

Isaiah gives us this fourth and final depiction of who is the Lord in the life of a believer. This time the Lord is identified as being our Judge. Each one of us, as a follower of Christ, has an eternal date with Christ the Lord in His role as our Judge. Let us note that this is not a judgment for our sins prior to receiving Christ for He has already received that judgment on our behalf by means of the exchange performed at the Cross. Paul reminds us of the exchange that took place:

**"FOR HE MADE HIM WHO KNEW NO SIN TO BE SIN FOR US,
THAT WE MIGHT BECOME THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN HIM."**

2 Cor. 5:21

In addressing the Judgment Seat of Christ below, Paul does not speak of a judgment of sin unto condemnation, but rather a judgment unto rewards to be received by the faithful believer. Paul, about to be beheaded, uses himself as an example of a judgment unto reward in saying:

**"FOR I AM ALREADY BEING POURED OUT AS A DRINK OFFERING,
AND THE TIME OF MY DEPARTURE IS AT HAND.
I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE,
I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.**

**FINALLY, THERE IS LAID UP FOR ME
THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,
WHICH**

**THE LORD, THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE,
WILL GIVE TO ME ON THAT DAY,
AND NOT TO ME ONLY BUT ALSO TO
ALL WHO HAVE LOVED HIS APPEARING."**



2 Tim. 4:6-8

MOST IMPORTANT POINT TO KEEP IN MIND:

The Lord will sit as the Righteous Judge evaluating to what degree each of us has embraced the Lordship of Christ in our lives. Has the Lord who saved us also become our King? Has the Lord become our Lawgiver? Have we allowed Kingdom Laws to govern our lives on earth? Have we been faithful submissive servants to the King and His Kingdom Laws? These are the areas of judgment that Christ the Lord will use to measure the level of our faithfulness on earth. Shall we qualify in all the needful areas to hear our Lord on Judgment Day say to us:

**"WELL DONE,
GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT;
YOU WERE FAITHFUL OVER A FEW THINGS,
I WILL MAKE YOU RULER OVER MANY THINGS.
ENTER INTO THE JOY OF YOUR LORD."**

Matt. 25:21-22



PAUL'S VIEW OF JUDGMENT, IS IT YOURS?

"THEREFORE WE MAKE IT OUR AIM,
WHETHER PRESENT OR ABSENT, TO BE WELL PLEASING TO HIM.
FOR WE MUST ALL APPEAR BEFORE
THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST,
THAT EACH ONE MAY RECEIVE THE THINGS DONE IN THE BODY,
ACCORDING TO WHAT HE HAS DONE,
WHETHER GOOD OR BAD."

2 Cor. 5:9-11

"FOR WE SHALL ALL STAND BEFORE
THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST.

FOR IT IS WRITTEN:

"AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME,
AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL CONFESS TO GOD."
SO THEN **EACH OF US SHALL GIVE ACCOUNT
OF HIMSELF TO GOD."**

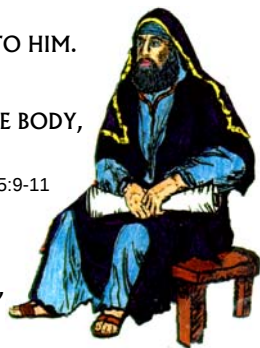
Rom. 14:10-13

"AND THERE IS NO CREATURE HIDDEN FROM HIS SIGHT,
BUT ALL THINGS ARE NAKED AND OPEN TO THE EYES OF HIM
TO WHOM WE MUST GIVE ACCOUNT."

Heb. 4:13

"...LET US HEAR THE CONCLUSION OF THE WHOLE MATTER:
FEAR GOD AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, FOR THIS IS THE WHOLE DUTY OF MAN.
FOR GOD WILL BRING EVERY WORK INTO JUDGMENT,
INCLUDING EVERY SECRET THING, WHETHER GOOD OR EVIL."

Solomon in Eccl. 12:12-14



Considering the repetitious theme of scripture above, one can easily see that there is heavy support for the concept of the Lord also being plainly presented as our Judge. Having become our Savior, our King and our Lawgiver on earth as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, it should not surprise us that He is now going to assume the role in eternity as our Judge. What is it that He will judge? It is the quality of life that we have lived as Christians. That life should be measurable.

1. QUESTION: DO I KNOW **THE LORD** JESUS CHRIST AS MY **SAVIOR** ?

The answer is yes if you can look back and enumerate the various changes He has brought into your life since you accepted Him. Lordship is measured by how much we give over to Him, not by how much we receive from Him. Lordship produces measurable repentance in the life of the born-again sinner. We immediately begin to bring forth "fruits worthy of repentance" (Acts 26:20). Lordship produces a tangible life filled with evidence of "diligence, clearing of yourselves, indignation against sin, Godly fear, vehement desire, zeal, vindication (making things right)" (2 Cor. 7:11).

2. QUESTION: DO I KNOW **THE LORD** JESUS CHRIST AS MY **KING** ?

The answer is yes if you truly live like you have been "translated out of the power of darkness and into the Kingdom of the Son of His love" (Col. 1:13). The answer is yes if you are no longer a "friend of the world" (Jam. 4:4). The answer is yes if you are "transformed rather than conformed" (Rom. 12:2). The answer is yes if you confess to be "a stranger and pilgrim on earth" (Heb. 11:13). The answer is yes if we plainly declare that "Here we have no continuing city for we seek the one that is to come" (Heb. 13:14). The answer is yes if we declare that "our citizenship is in Heaven, from whom we eagerly wait for the Savior the Lord Jesus Christ" (Phil. 3:20). The answer is yes if we confess as did Jesus, "My Kingdom is not of this world" (Jn. 18:36).

3. QUESTION: DO I KNOW **THE LORD** JESUS CHRIST AS MY **LAWGIVER** ?

The answer is yes if you embrace the beatitudes Jesus enumerates in Matthew 5-7 of being poor in spirit, mourning, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, merciful to others, pure in heart, a peacemaker in times of trouble. The answer is yes if you do not hate your enemies, you do not commit adultery in your heart, if your yes remains firmly a yes and your no continues to remain a firm no. The answer is yes if you turn the other cheek, even if they sue you. The answer is yes if you love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you. The answer is yes if you seek first the Kingdom of God, lay up treasures in heaven, refuse to serve two masters, avoid judging others from a position of hypocrisy, do not bear false witness, do not take oaths and obey the golden rule of treating others exactly as you desire to be treated. All these things are the laws of the Kingdom of God (Matt. 5,6,7)

4. QUESTION: DO I KNOW **THE LORD** JESUS CHRIST AS MY **JUDGE** ?

The answer is not yet if you are at this very moment reading this page. Only those who have died in Christ can answer in the affirmative. This is because the scripture states when the judgment of the believer actually takes place:

**"AND AS IT IS APPOINTED FOR MEN TO DIE ONCE,
BUT AFTER THIS THE JUDGMENT..."**

Heb 9:27-28

According to the apostle Paul's writings, we can see that he actively cultivated his future day in court with the Lord Jesus Christ, **THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE:**

**"THEREFORE WE MAKE IT OUR AIM,
WHETHER PRESENT OR ABSENT, TO BE WELL PLEASING TO HIM.
FOR WE MUST ALL APPEAR BEFORE
THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST,
THAT EACH ONE MAY RECEIVE THE THINGS DONE IN THE BODY,
ACCORDING TO WHAT HE HAS DONE,
WHETHER GOOD OR BAD."**

2 Cor 5:9-11



**"...THERE WILL BE A RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD, BOTH OF THE JUST AND THE UNJUST.
THIS BEING SO, I MYSELF ALWAYS STRIVE TO HAVE
A CONSCIENCE WITHOUT OFFENSE TOWARD GOD AND MEN."**

Acts 24:15-16

**"FOR I AM ALREADY BEING POURED OUT AS A DRINK OFFERING,
AND THE TIME OF MY DEPARTURE IS AT HAND.
I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE,
I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.
FINALLY, THERE IS LAID UP FOR ME
THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,
WHICH
THE LORD, THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE,
WILL GIVE TO ME ON THAT DAY,
AND NOT TO ME ONLY BUT ALSO TO
ALL WHO HAVE LOVED HIS APPEARING."**

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

*"EVERY NAME OR TITLE OF GOD
REVEALS SOME ATTRIBUTE OF THE DIVINE CHARACTER OF GOD.
IN STUDYING GOD'S WORD, WE LEARN NEW FACTS ABOUT GOD'S NATURE
WITH EACH NEW NAME BY WHICH HE REVEALS HIMSELF.
IN OTHER WORDS, GOD NAMES HIMSELF WHAT HE IS!"*

(page 125 Institutes of Biblical Law, R. J. Rushdooney)

We have only briefly introduced one additional name of God, which is the Divine Personage called, the Lord. In just placing the specific title, "the Lord" before the generic name "God" we are launched into the realm of being able to better define who is the personage we call "God." Study His title as "the Lord God" and your understanding of His Divine character and nature will greatly increase.

(LORD) (Gr. KURIOS)- "SUPREME IN AUTHORITY, LIFE-CONTROLLER, MASTER OF ALL..."

The Lord is our "Savior, King, Lawgiver and Judge" (Isa. 33:22). Study each of these four categories in scripture and you will greatly enhance your knowledge of the One called, the Lord. For the further point of illustration, just consider the title "Father" when it is found placed in front of the single word "God", and it will open new realms of understanding of the Divine personage of God. Jesus Himself spoke of God as His Father in John's gospel 129 times within just 21 Chapters!

It is the additional descriptive words such as "Father God", "Lord God", or "Almighty God" that increases our revelation and depth of understanding of the one we generically label just as "God." In the New Testament the Greek word translated 1,326 times as God is "Theos." It is the word from which we derive the term "Theology"-the study of God. However, there is really nothing revelational about the name "God" found in its meaning:

Strong's Greek: 2316. θεός (theos) -- God, a god

Original Word: θεός, οὗ, ὁ. Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine; Noun, Masculine. Transliteration: theos. Phonetic Spelling: (teh'-os) Definition: God, a god. Usage: (a) God, (b) a god,...

"GOD" The earliest written form of the **Germanic** word god comes from the 6th century Christian Codex Argenteus. The English word itself is derived from the Proto-Germanic *

Sadly, the specific Hebrew names of O.T. Scripture are NOT translated properly in any of our English versions including the King James Version. Rather than "God" being a direct translation of O.T. Scripture it is a mere substitution. For instance, the singular English Name, "God" is freely substituted for the actual plural Hebrew Name "Elohim" (2,197 times!) There is zero illumination in substituting the generic English word "God" in place of the specific Hebrew Name, "Elohim."

Ever since I first learned of the Bible translators purposeful substitution of specific Hebrew-based Names like "Elohim" with a man-made generic substitution such as "God", I have preferred to use a more illuminating Name like "the Almighty." At least I am more biblically correct as the Hebrew Name "El" means "the Almighty." The Name "God" is a meaningless generic substitute for His actual recorded Hebrew Name. "God" is generic where "The Almighty" is specific. Point being, using proper names are often of great illumination and importance.

This too is an important fact to always remember:

THE ENEMY OF TRUTH IS TRADITION

At this point I feel the need to inject a warning pertaining to the inherent danger of man-made traditions being substituted for God's truth.

"THE TORAH"

(WRITTEN WORD OF GOD)



"SETS YOU FREE"

(John 8:32)

"SETS YOU APART"

(John 17:17)



"THE TALMUD"

(ORAL TRADITION OF MEN)



"NULLIFIES TRUTH"

(Mark 7:3-13)

"CHEATS YOU"

(Col. 2:8)

**"...IN VAIN THEY WORSHIP ME,
TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN.'**

FOR LAYING ASIDE THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD,

YOU HOLD THE TRADITION OF MEN...

ALL TOO WELL YOU REJECT THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD,

THAT YOU MAY KEEP YOUR TRADITION...

**MAKING THE WORD OF GOD OF NO EFFECT THROUGH YOUR TRADITION
WHICH YOU HAVE HANDED DOWN."**

Mark 7:3-13

As the above scriptures depict,
doctrine is systematically being
replaced by the corrupting power
of the leaven of tradition.
Left alone, tradition will indeed
leaven the whole lump (1 Cor. 5:7)

Consider this prophetic parable in
which Jesus revealed that what was
initially given to mankind would
become totally corrupted by
leaven being sown into it:

As history will attest,
all three of these
religions began with
the inspired Word,
but have been
infiltrated over time
by the corrupting
power
of the leaven
of
tradition.

**"THE KINGDOM OF
HEAVEN IS LIKE
LEAVEN
WHICH A WOMAN HID IN
THREE MEASURES OF MEAL
TILL IT WAS
ALL
LEAVENED."
Matt. 13:33**



1) JUDAISM

(HAS BEEN TOTALLY LEAVENED BY TRADITION...)

2) CATHOLICISM

(HAS BEEN TOTALLY LEAVENED BY TRADITION...)

3) PROTESTANTISM (Christianity)

(IS PRESENTLY BEING LEAVENED BY TRADITION...)

THE ENEMY OF TRUTH IS TRADITION

Consider below this quotation pertaining to the origin of the Rabbinical practice of substitution of the name the Lord (Adonai) for the forbidden sacred name of I AM. It is somewhat difficult to digest, but ponder it carefully as it depicts a prime example of man's tradition replacing God's truth. It is called "the Tetragrammaton":

<http://www.bible-researcher.com/tetragrammaton.html>

the **T** **R** **A** **D** **I** **T** **I** **O** **N** **O** **F** **M** **E** **N** The Hebrew word "יהוה" (Lord) is used as a name for the God of Israel nearly seven thousand times in the Hebrew Bible! Theologians call it the tetragrammaton...the meaning of the tetragrammaton is in the third chapter of the Book of Exodus:

"Then Moses said to God, Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they say to me, What is His name? what shall I say to them? And God said to Moses, **I AM** who **I AM** (אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה). And He said, Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, **I AM** (אֶהְיֶה) has sent me to you. Moreover God said to Moses, Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: **THE LORD** (יהוה)...has sent me to you. This is My name forever..."

Exodus 3:13-15

Here, as in most English versions, we find יהוה represented by the English word "Lord." But this is not a translation of (Lord) יהוה, it is a kind of substitution In this

the English versions are following an ancient tradition,

which was also observed by the writers of the New Testament. Long before the birth of Christ it had become customary among Jews to avoid pronouncing the sacred Name by substituting אֲדֹנָי (Adonai, meaning "Lord") for יהוה when the Hebrew text was read aloud, ..."

the **T** **E** **T** **R** **A** **G** **R** **A** **M** **M** **A** **T** **O** **N**

Even in our English translations of the Old Testament there is a wide substitution of the Hebrew word for the Name, "I AM" with the phrase, "the Lord." Apart from using a good interlinear or exegeses bible translation (see page 3), you cannot identify in our modern English translations where the phrase "I AM" has been replaced by "the Lord."

You may not know it, but our English Bible translations are still under the strong influence of cherished traditions handed-down by ancient Rabbinical Judaism. Just read the introductory pages in your personal English translation pertaining to who the Hebrew scholars were. Many have their roots in Rabbinical Judaism. They are among the selected experts that are consulted by those printing our English bibles! When it comes to His Hebrew based Names, cherished tradition has once again replaced truth! It is the power of handed-down Rabbinical tradition that has substituted the Hebrew word, "LORD" for revered Hebrew names such as "I AM", considered "too Holy" to be spoken or written! God becomes "G-d" and Lord becomes "L-rd." Just too Holy to be uttered!

Listen: The Almighty wants His names to be spoken verbally out loud, worshipped out loud and to be faithfully written just as they were initially given by Him! (Please, no man-made substitutes permitted!)

Let us consider:

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NAME "I AM" IN SCRIPTURE:

The Almighty is defined for us in the New Testament, not just by the single limited Greek name of "Theos" (God), but also by all the other specific names/titles that Jesus claimed for Himself. Here are 12 of those various names/titles that He claimed that describe different aspects who He is:



"I am THE BREAD OF LIFE" John 6:31
"I am THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD" John 8:12
"I am THE DOOR..." John 10:7
"I am THE GOOD SHEPHERD..." John 10:11
"I am THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE..." John 11:25
"I am THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE..." John 14:26
"I am THE TRUE VINE..." John 15:1
"I am HE..." John 18:6
"I am JESUS OF NAZARETH..." John 18:6
"I am ALPHA AND OMEGA..." Rev. 1:11
"I am THE FIRST AND THE LAST..." Rev. 1:17
"I am THE ROOT AND OFFSPRING OF DAVID..." Rev. 22:16

Do you realize how much knowledge of the Almighty is contained within the confines of these twelve titles of Jesus? Can you see that to study each topic in depth how much your knowledge of God would increase? What does it take? It requires considering the specific names and titles of God as stated in scripture! There is revelation contained in His various names and titles.

Let me now change the above displayed chart with a different emphasis that will give you a NEW revelation of Jesus claiming to be "I AM." I point you to how each of these 12 names/titles of Jesus begin purposely with the words, I AM:



"I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE" John 6:31
"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD" John 8:12
"I AM THE DOOR..." John 10:7
"I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD..." John 10:11
"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE..." John 11:25
"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE..." John 14:26
"I AM THE TRUE VINE..." John 15:1
"I AM HE... John 18:6
"I AM JESUS OF NAZARETH..." John 18:6
"I AM ALPHA AND OMEGA..." Rev. 1:11
"I AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST..." Rev. 1:17
"I AM THE ROOT AND OFFSPRING OF DAVID..." Rev. 22:16

It is not mere happenstance that Jesus prefaces all twelve of His titles above with the words I AM. In the Hebrew scriptures I AM is the most revered and solemn name for the Almighty found in the Old Testament! ("HYH"—the eternal "I AM.") However, since the Second A.D., this Name, I AM (as well as several others), were forbidden by Rabbinical Judaism's rules of handed-down tradition to even be spoken out loud. When this Name, I AM approached being vocalized it was always substituted with another name of the Almighty, that of the Lord (Adonai) or the substitute name, HaShem which just means, the Name.

JESUS' CLAIM OF BEING DIVINE

In addition to the list of the twelve declarations Jesus made of Himself prefaced with the claim of being, **I AM**, we also find this unique recorded confrontation He had with the Jewish Pharisees in which He boldly claimed the revered Old Testament sacred Hebrew name of **I AM** as being His own:

"YOUR FATHER ABRAHAM
REJOICED TO SEE MY DAY,
AND HE SAW IT AND WAS GLAD."
THEN THE JEWS SAID TO HIM,
"YOU ARE NOT YET 50 YEARS OLD,
AND HAVE YOU
SEEN ABRAHAM?"
JESUS SAID TO THEM,
'MOST ASSUREDLY,
I SAY TO YOU,
BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS,
I AM.'
THEN THEY TOOK UP STONES
TO THROW AT HIM..."
John 8:56-59



"I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE"
"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"
"I AM THE DOOR..."
"I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD..."
"I AM THE RESURRECTION, THE LIFE..."
"I AM THE WAY, TRUTH, LIFE..."
"I AM THE TRUE VINE..."
"I AM HE...
"I AM JESUS OF NAZARETH..."
"I AM ALPHA AND OMEGA..."
"I AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST..."
"I AM THE ROOT, OFFSPRING OF DAVID..."

In this account the Pharisees certainly understood what Jesus was claiming for Himself, for immediately they "took up stones to throw at Him." The application of the Name **I AM** to Himself was a bold declaration that He was indeed making Himself to be deity with the Almighty. Just two chapters later the Jews would again take up stones against Jesus' spoken claims of deity beside God the Almighty:

"...I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE.' THEN THE JEWS TOOK UP STONES AGAIN TO STONE HIM.
JESUS ANSWERED THEM, "MANY GOOD WORKS I HAVE SHOWN YOU FROM MY FATHER.
FOR WHICH OF THOSE WORKS DO YOU STONE ME?"
THE JEWS ANSWERED HIM, SAYING,
"FOR A GOOD WORK WE DO NOT STONE YOU,
BUT FOR **BLASPHEMY**, AND BECAUSE YOU, BEING A MAN, **MAKE YOURSELF GOD.**"
John 10:30-33

The question we must ask is whether we want to be guided by handed-down, man-made tradition or will we get our direction solely from biblical truth expressed in His Word? Consider this article based solely on cherished tradition rather than the stated revelation found in the Word of God. Notice how the article opens:

"JEWISH TRADITION discusses seven especially holy names of G-d that cannot be erased and must be written with special concentration. Due to the holiness of these names, we restrict their use to prayer only.

Outside of a liturgical context, we may read those names as simply *Hashem*—meaning "the name." Or we substitute certain sounds to alter the pronunciation of a name, such as replacing the 'h' with a 'k' in names of G-d such as 'kel' and 'elokim'.

https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/817362/jewish/The-Kabbalah-of-Divine-Names.htm

What?

We should purposely misspell words of sacred scripture?
We should purposely mispronounce words by changing certain letters
lest we become in danger of breaking the 3rd commandment,
"do not take the Name of the Lord in vain"?



Such sanctimonious religious zeal reminds me of Paul's warning about the misdirected zeal of the Jewish leaders in his day:

"BRETHREN, MY HEART'S DESIRE AND PRAYER TO GOD FOR ISRAEL IS THAT THEY MAY BE SAVED.

FOR I BEAR THEM WITNESS THAT

THEY HAVE A ZEAL FOR GOD, BUT NOT ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE.

FOR THEY BEING IGNORANT OF GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND SEEKING TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS, HAVE NOT SUBMITTED TO THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD."

Rom. 10:1-4

"YOU SHALL NOT

ADD TO THE WORD

WHICH I COMMAND YOU,

NOR TAKE FROM IT,

THAT YOU MAY KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD WHICH I COMMAND YOU."

Deut. 4:2-3

"ALL TOO WELL YOU

REJECT THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD,

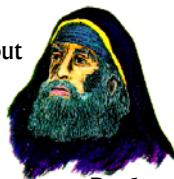
THAT YOU MAY KEEP YOUR TRADITION...

MAKING THE WORD OF GOD OF NO EFFECT

THROUGH YOUR TRADITION

WHICH YOU HAVE HANDED DOWN."

Mark 7:9-13



Paul



Moses



Jesus

Man has always had a tendency to add to God's Word. Consider the first account:

"...AND THE WOMAN SAID TO THE SERPENT, "WE MAY EAT THE FRUIT OF THE TREES OF THE GARDEN; BUT OF THE FRUIT OF THE TREE WHICH IS IN THE MIDST OF THE GARDEN, GOD HAS SAID,

'YOU SHALL NOT EAT IT, **NOR SHALL YOU TOUCH IT,** LEST YOU DIE.'"

Gen. 3:1-3

The last statement above did not originate from the Creator's mouth but from His creation, mankind. Now we have instituted a rule, a regulation of self-righteousness created by mankind to make him/her appear outwardly more holy. What did Eve do? She added to the Word, she improved on what the Almighty had said was sufficient.

Hear this well: What began with Eve in the Garden is still going on today. The Almighty records in His Word literal names for Himself that were revealed in order for mankind to know Him more fully through those names/titles.

The Late Herb Jahn, an excellent Exegete of the scriptures, in his *Exegeses Parallel Bible*, made this statement regarding the widespread tradition of Rabbinic-based scholars steeped in man-made traditions freely substituting other names for the Almighty because, according to their long-standing traditions, those sacred names are just "too holy" to be pronounced by mere man:

"... Elohim the Father first revealed His **name** to Mosheh (Moses) as **HYH** – the eternal **I AM**. ... However, Most Versions (of the Bible) often render the **name Yah Veh** incorrectly with the title **"LORD"** – all capital letters. **This is a caving in to the traditions of certain Hebrews who said His name was too holy to pronounce."**

In most Versions, the **name Yah Veh** is also mistranslated with the title **"Lord"** throughout the New Covenant."



"PRAISE THE LORD!
PRAISE THE NAME OF THE LORD;
 PRAISE HIM, O YOU SERVANTS OF THE LORD!
 YOU WHO STAND IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD,
 IN THE COURTS OF THE HOUSE OF OUR GOD,
 PRAISE THE LORD, FOR THE LORD IS GOOD;
SING PRAISES TO HIS NAME,
 FOR IT IS PLEASANT."
 Ps. 135:1-3



The above is a demonstration of TRUTH. What is below is mere TRADITION. What is stated above depicts acceptable acts of holiness and reverence for the Almighty's Name that are quite different from the strict man-made regulations of handed-down traditions such as:

T R A D I T I O N

1. A name never to be spoken out loud.
2. A name never to be written by man.
3. A name never to be erased by man.
4. A name always to be substituted with generic but authorized names for the Almighty that are to be spoken in place of those forbidden to be verbalized.
5. A name to be purposely mispronounced or misspelled by changing certain letters to prevent the deadly sin of breaking the Third commandment of "taking the Name of the Lord in vain."
6. A name to be printed as "G-d" or "L-rd" lest "the name" be "taken in vain."



May we guard ourselves against such sanctimonious man-made rules of counterfeit holiness! His sacred names were intended to be spoken, written, worshipped, and even praised out loud by His people!

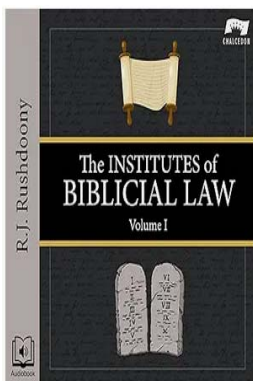
Notice in the regulations above, the frequent references to the danger of being guilty of "taking the name of the Lord in vain." The inference is toward speaking His name irreverently, mispronouncing His name, pronouncing forbidden holy names of the Almighty, etc.

This is NOT what it means to "take the name of the Lord in vain."

Consider this quote from *"The Institutes of Biblical Law"* by R. J. Rushdooney:

"To take **THE NAME OF THE LORD IN VAIN** is to deny in reality the only true God; it is the **EMPTY PROFESSION** of Him when our lives and actions, and often every thought, possession, and every law-sphere is alienated from God or blasphemously ascribed to ourselves." pg. 117

What is the heart of the 3rd Commandment? It is to take the name "Christian" to ourselves, but then not to live out our lives in a Christ-like manner! Such a one has "taken the Name of the Lord in vain." This commandment has nothing to do with what we say with our mouths pertaining to His sacred names, but rather is about how we live our lives for the One whose name we bear!



Below are two of my favorite meditation charts.

The first quote pertains to the value of names in Scripture taken from
Institutes of Biblical Law, R. J. Rushdooney.

The second is a list of key names of God comprised by the late Herb Jahn, Exegete found at
<https://www.exegesesbible.com/blog>

I framed these two displays and hung them together in a visible place as a constant reminder of the significance of God's revealed names:

***"EVERY NAME OR TITLE OF GOD
REVEALS SOME ATTRIBUTE OF THE DIVINE CHARACTER OF GOD.
IN STUDYING GOD'S WORD, WE LEARN NEW FACTS ABOUT GOD'S NATURE
WITH EACH NEW NAME BY WHICH HE REVEALS HIMSELF.
IN OTHER WORDS,
GOD NAMES HIMSELF WHAT HE IS!"***

Institutes of Biblical Law, R. J. Rushdooney.

ELOHIM
"PLURALITY
IN UNITY"
(Gen.1:1)

EL
"THE STRONG
ONE"
(Gen.14:18)

ELAH,
"THE ADORABLE
ONE"
(Ezra 4:24)

EL ELYON
"GOD MOST HIGH"
(Gen.14:18)

EL ROI
"THE LORD THAT
SEETH"
(Gen.16:13)

EL ELOHE YISRA EL
"GOD OF ISRAEL"
(Gen.33:20)

EL SHADDAY
"THE ALMIGHTY,
ALL-SUFFICIENT GOD"
(Gen.17:1)

ADONAY
"YAH VEH OUR RULER"
(Gen.15:2)

YAH VEH
"THE ETERNAL,
EVER-LOVING ONE"
(Gen.4:3)

YAH VEH-TSEBAOTH
"THE LORD OF HOSTS"
(1 Sam.1:3)

YAH VEH-RAAH
"THE LORD
MY SHEPHERD"
(Psalm 23:1)

YAH VEH-YIREH
"THE LORD APPEARS- IS SEEN"
(Gen.22:14)

YAH VEH-TSIDKENU
"THE LORD
OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS"
(1 Kings 2:4)

YAH VEH-MAKKEH
"THE LORD SHALL SMITE"
(Ezekiel 7:9)

YAH VEH-GMOLAH
"THE GOD OF
RECOMPENSES"
(Deut. 32:36)

YAH YAH VEH
"GOD OF ETERNITY"
(Isaiah 26:4)

YAH VEH-SHAM
"THE LORD IS THERE"
(Ezekiel 48:35)

YAH VEH-SHALOM
"THE LORD OUR PEACE"
(Judges 6:24)

YAH VEH-HOSEENU
"THE LORD
OUR MAKER"
(Job 35:10)

YAH VEH-ELOHIM
"THE MAJESTIC
OMNIPOTENT GOD"
(Gen.2:4)

YAH VEH-RAPHAH
"THE LORD,
THE HEALER"
(Ex.15:26)

YAH VEH-NISSI
"THE LORD
OUR BANNER"
(Ex.17:15)

YAH VEH-M'KADDESH
"THE LORD DOTH
SANCTIFY"
(Ex. 31:13)

**YAH VEH-
ELOHEKA**
"LORD THY GOD"
(Deut.2:7)

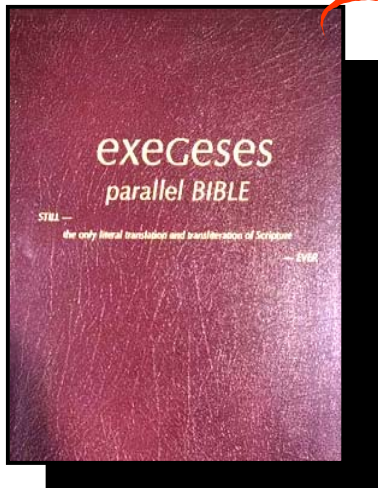
YAH VEH-ELOHAY
"THE LORD MY GOD"
(Judges 6:15)

The Late Herb Jahn Exegete at: www.exegesesbible.com/blog

Among the 25 primary Hebrew names describing the Almighty is this one:

"ELOHIM"
"PLURALITY IN UNITY"

The Name "ELOHIM" appears 2,197 times in the Old Testament Hebrew Scripture and thereby qualifies as being among the top three Hebrew names used for the Almighty. However, it is a name surrounded in controversy and dispute between scholars of Rabbinical Judaism and Christianity.



ELOHIM "PLURALITY IN UNITY" (Gen. 1:1)	YAH VEH "THE ETERNAL, EVER-LOVING ONE" (Gen. 4:3)	YAH VEH-SHALOM "THE LORD OUR PEACE" (Judges 6:24)
EL "THE STRONG ONE" (Gen. 14:18)	YAH VEH-TSEBAOTH "THE LORD OF HOSTS" (1 Sam. 1:3)	YAH VEH-HOSEINU "THE LORD OUR MAKER" (Job 25:10)
ELAH "THE ADORABLE ONE" (Isa. 4:24)	YAH VEH-RAAH "THE LORD MY SHEPHERD" (Psalm 23:1)	YAH VEH-ELOHIM "THE MAJESTIC OMNIPOTENT GOD" (Gen. 2:4)
EL ELYON "GOD MOST HIGH" (Gen. 14:18)	YAH VEH-TSIDIKENU "THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS" (1 King 2:4)	YAH VEH-RAPHAH "THE LORD, THE HEALER" (Isa. 13:26)
EL ROI "THE LORD THAT SEETH" (Gen. 16:13)	YAH VEH-MAKKEH "THE LORD SHALL SMITE" (Exodus 7:19)	YAH VEH-NESI "THE LORD OUR BANNER" (Isa. 17:15)
EL ELOHI YISRAEL "GOD OF ISRAEL" (Gen. 31:32)	YAH VEH-GIMOLAH "THE GOD OF RECOVERNESS" (Deut. 32:36)	YAH VEH-M-KADDESH "THE LORD DOTH SANCTIFY" (Isa. 31:12)
EL SHADDAI "THE ALMIGHTY, ALL-SUFFICIENT GOD" (Gen. 17:1)	YAH YAH VEH "GOD OF ETERNITY" (Isaiah 26:4)	YAH VEH-ELOHEKA "LORD THY GOD" (Deut. 2:7)
ADONAY "YAH VEH OUR RULER" (Gen. 19:2)	YAH VESHAM "THE LORD IS THERE" (Isaiah 48:25)	YAH VEH-LOHAY "THE LORD MY GOD" (Judges 6:15)

The Late Herb Jahn Exegete at: www.exegesesbible.com/blog

Elohim, elohim transliterated plural title {430 elohim} plural of {433 eloahh, elowahh}; this plural title has a dual interpretation; at times it refers to pagan gods, and at times to the triune Father,

So Exegeses Parallel Bible, Exegete, Herb Jahn, page 1868, Summaries -Lexicon

If you research the Name "ELOHIM" on the internet you will usually see the phrase "PLURALITY IN UNITY" attached to it as in the above list from Exegete Herb Jahn's Exegeses Parallel Bible.

However, in your research you may also find a similar phrase attached to the Hebrew Name "ELOHIM" which is "PLURALITY IN MAJESTY", and especially if you happen to be searching on a Rabbinical Judaism website. "PLURALITY IN UNITY" is a Christian rebuttal phrase to the Rabbinical Jewish phrase of "PLURALITY IN MAJESTY."

"ELOHIM"
"PLURALITY
IN MAJESTY"

You may remember the classic old science-fiction book, *"War of the Worlds"*? This is a depiction of "The War of the Words"!

"ELOHIM"
"PLURALITY
IN UNITY"

Rabbinical Judaism's stance...



Christianity's stance...

The Hebrew language is very exacting leaving little or no leeway in defining its meaning. The Hebrew Name 'ELOHIM' is a strong PLURAL noun appearing 2,197 times in the Hebrew Scripture as among the top three Names for the Almighty. Since Rabbinical Judaism is strong in their belief of a monotheistic God, then they must hold a totally different perspective as to the meaning of ELOHIM. It certainly can't represent a "PLURAL GODHEAD" in a monotheistic religion, so ELOHIM" is therefore taught as "PLURALITY IN (His) MAJESTY" rather than a literal Triune Godhead functioning by means of "PLURALITY IN UNITY."

Let us begin to properly define the meaning this Hebrew Name:



"EL" by itself is also a Name for the Almighty (see list pg. 24). It is a SINGULAR noun meaning, "The Strong One" or "The Almighty One." No controversy here. However, the letters ending in "IM" in "ELOHIM", depicts for us a very strong PLURAL noun with the choice of meaning of "Gods, Godhood, Godhead." There is controversy here!

Some Christian scholars view the Name "ELOHIM" as revealing the hidden seeds of the Triune Godhead that the New Testament will plainly unfold as the Triune Divine Godhead consisting of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

THIS IS IMPORTANT:

It is of paramount importance that we understand that the above revelation of the Triune Godhead contained in the word, "ELOHIM" becomes badly overshadowed by the translators of ALL of our English Bibles, including the King James Version, by the generic English word, "God" being substituted in place of the specific Name of "ELOHIM." Only by the use of works like Exegete Herb Jahn's *"Exegeses Parallel Bible"* or a good Hebrew Interlineal Bible will show what the Almighty has recorded about the supreme importance of studying His various names as revealed in Scripture. The singular Name "GOD" is a poor substitute for the plural Name "ELOHIM"!

In the very first verse of Genesis Chapter One the Almighty is revealed with His chosen Name of "ELOHIM." The Name specified here in Hebrew scripture is NOT "God", but rather is "Elohim." By the time you get down to verse 26 Elohim speaks as a PLURAL Godhead with the use of such clarifying words as "US and OUR":

~~"Then God" Elohim said,~~
"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness"
Gen. 1:26

The contextual setting of Genesis Chapter One requires that we properly interpret the Creator as being "ELOHIM" (the Almighty Godhead) who proclaims plainly of this Triune Godhead, "Let US make man in OUR image, according to OUR likeness." It is puzzling that the translators left Genesis 1:26 intact plainly depicting a PLURAL Godhead of ("US and OUR"), but plunged ahead substituting a singular generic "God" Name for the plural Name of "ELOHIM." That is a vivid example of the power of tradition at work! Rabbinical Judaism has had its way with our English translations in substituting the generic singular Name, "God" in place of the specific Name of "Elohim." This blatant substitution occurs in every one of the 2,197 places where "Elohim" is used in the Old Testament! It is intentional!

Compared to the revelational Name “ELOHIM” (“the Almighty Godhead”) the substituted singular Name “GOD” is quite “generic”, don’t you think? Let me give you a vivid illustration: If I told you that today I saw a “bird”, that would be quite a vague and generic description, true? However, if I rather told you that today I saw a “Peacock”, you would instantly have a vivid picture in your mind. “Bird” is a generic term. “Peacock” is a specific term. “God” is a generic term. “Elohim” is a specific term.



Beware when the Almighty pens a very specific plural word in describing His Personage, and man, without justifiable cause, replaces it with a singular generic substitute. On what basis does man freely substitute with his own generic preferred choice something that the Almighty has chosen to identify His specific Personage? Such willful bias originates from Rabbinical Judaism’s strong influence on the translators. Rabbinical Judaism wants to always depict a singular, monotheistic “God” image rather than a plural Godhead!

The Name “ELOHIM” was specifically chosen by the Almighty 2,197 times in Scripture to show plainly a Triune Godhead that functions by means of “plurality in unity” and not so that man could take it upon himself to freely substitute the singular generic name “GOD” in place of the specific plural Name of “ELOHIM”- the Almighty Godhead! Remember this illuminating truth:

**“EVERY NAME OR TITLE OF GOD
REVEALS SOME ATTRIBUTE OF THE DIVINE CHARACTER OF GOD.
IN STUDYING GOD’S WORD, WE LEARN NEW FACTS ABOUT GOD’S NATURE
WITH EACH NEW NAME BY WHICH HE REVEALS HIMSELF.
IN OTHER WORDS, GOD NAMES HIMSELF WHAT HE IS!”**

Institutes of Biblical Law, R. J. Rushdooney.

THE POWER OF TRADITION

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**Rabbinical Judaism's
view of God is
SINGULAR
(“there is only one God”)**

**Christianity's
View of God is
PLURALISTIC
(a Triune Godhead)**

**“THEM THERE IS
FIGHTIN' WORDS!”**

Here
are two
opposing
positions
on who is
the Almighty.

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**“HEAR,
O
ISRAEL:
THE
LORD
OUR GOD,
THE LORD
IS ONE!
(GOD)”**

Deut. 6:4

**“THERE IS
ONLY
ONE GOD!”**

**“MAKE
DISCIPLES...
BAPTIZING THEM
IN THE NAME
OF THE FATHER
AND OF THE SON
AND OF
THE HOLY
SPIRIT...”**

Matt. 28:19

**“THERE ARE
THREE IN
THE GODHEAD!”**

Rabbinical Judaism is firmly entrenched in the daily Shema prayer declaration (Deut. 6:4) that there is only one monotheistic God in existence. Below is heavy evidence in Genesis that favors Christianity's view of the existence of a Triune **PLURAL** Godhead:



~~“God~~ **ELOHIM** said,
“Let Us make man
in Our image,
according to Our likeness”
Gen. 1:26

However, Rabbinical Judaism interprets the meaning of “Elohim” as referring to the Creator having “plurality in (His) Majesty” rather than plurality in His physical existence. Rabbinical Judaism teaches that the plurality contained in the word “Elohim” describes the multi-faceted character/titles of their singular “God.” However, in context this does NOT explain how He describes Himself as the Creator in using words like “US” and “OUR”! The Almighty is not speaking of His majestic attributes in this contextual setting, but rather of the literal **PLURALITY** contained within the Godhead. It is hard to dismiss away that these are the words of a plural Godhead of “US” and “OUR” speaking rather than a singular “God” who has plurality only in His Majestic character and titles! Context of Genesis 1:1-26 plainly presents a **PLURAL** Godhead at work in creating man in His likeness!

There exists stark contrasts between these two different concepts of the Almighty known as "Elohim." For Rabbinical Judaism, "Elohim" is one literal "God" who is plural only by His myriads of majestic character and titles. For the enlightened Christian "Elohim" represents a Triune (plural) Godhead of three Divine personages functioning in oneness and unity of purpose.

~ ELOHIM ~

to Rabbinical Judaism is

"PLURALITY IN MAJESTY"

"ONE GOD
POSSESSING
MYRIADS OF
CHARACTER /TITLES"



*"The precise meaning of **"Elohim"** is a subject of interpretation and debate among scholars.*

... "Elohim" is generally understood as a term for God, emphasizing His authority, power, and divine nature...

***Elohim can be interpreted as a plural form of majesty,** suggesting the greatness and sovereignty of God.*

However, within the context of monotheistic Judaism, it does not indicate the belief in multiple gods but rather emphasizes the singular God's exalted nature."

(<https://davidraphaelisrael.medium.com/on-Elohim-the-majesties-c9986b25fb7c>)

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On
the left is
"the tradition
of men."

It's stated
conclusion is
based on
monotheistic
Judaism

and its theological
elimination of any
possibility of
multiple Gods
being implied in
the name,
"Elohim."

Therefore Elohim
is defined as
consisting of
"Plurality in
Majesty."

However,
on the right is
Jesus' own prayer
to the Father
expressing a
desire

**"THAT THEY MAY
BE ONE IN US"...**

**"THAT THEY MAY
BE ONE**

**JUST AS WE
ARE ONE..."**

**"THAT THEY MAY
BE MADE PERFECT
IN ONE."**

This is the
Triune Godhead
in oneness of
unity and
purpose.

Therefore
"Elohim"

is defined rightly
as

"Plurality in
Unity."

~ ELOHIM ~

to Christianity is

"PLURALITY IN UNITY"

"TRIUNE GODHEAD
FUNCTIONING
AS ONE IN
UNITY OF PURPOSE"



*"I do not pray for
these alone, but also
for those who will
believe in Me through
their word;*

***that they all
may be one, as You,
Father, are in Me, and
I in You; that they
also may be one in Us,***

*that the world may
believe that You sent
Me. And the glory
which You gave Me
I have given them,
**that they may be one
just as We are one:
I in them, and You in
Me; that they may be
made perfect in one,***

*and that the world
may know that You
have sent Me, and
have loved them as
You have loved Me."*

John 17:20-23

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"ALL TOO WELL YOU
**REJECT THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD,
 THAT YOU MAY KEEP YOUR TRADITION...**
**MAKING THE WORD OF GOD OF NO EFFECT
 THROUGH YOUR TRADITION**
 WHICH YOU HAVE HANDED DOWN." Mark 7:9-13



T R A D I T I O N

*"The precise meaning of
**"Elohim" is a subject of
 interpretation and debate
 among scholars.***

*...**"Elohim"** is generally
 understood as a term for
 God, emphasizing His
 authority, power,
 and divine nature..."*

***"Elohim can be interpreted
 as a plural form of majesty,
 suggesting the greatness
 and sovereignty of God."***

***"However,
 within the context of
 monotheistic Judaism,
 it does not indicate the
 belief in multiple gods
 but rather emphasizes
 the singular God's
 exalted nature."***

This is an understatement! It is more like a raging rampage between the two warring parties. Just research "Plurality in Majesty" vs. "Plurality in Unity." What you are going to find from Rabbinical Judaism is a smoke screen of intellectual arguments that split hairs over proper/improper use of nouns or proper verb tense in the Hebrew school of difficult linguistics.

There is no question that the Almighty possesses many different titles describing areas of His Majesty as a sovereign Creator of all creation, however, we are talking about One who identifies Himself with words of plurality of existence such as "Us and Our" as being the creators of mankind! The context demands the existence of a plural Godhead at work!

Here is the crux of the problem! Rabbinical Judaism refuses to think beyond a monotheistic concept of the Almighty! They are taught to confess twice daily the Shema prayer of Deut.6:4 that states:

Shema Yisrael (שמע ישראל) ("Hear, O Israel") are the first two words of a section of the Torah that is the centerpiece of the morning and evening prayer services, encapsulating the monotheistic essence of Judaism:

"Hear, O Israel: G-d is our L-rd, G-d is one."

https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/705353/jewish/The-Shema.htm

I took this prayer directly from a Rabbinical Judaism website so that you could see that the contained Names are neither written out or pronounced-they are "just too holy for mere man." Would it surprise you that the Name of the Almighty in this Shema sacred prayer is plural "ELOHIM" rather than the singular "G-D"?

Here is that same verse as printed in Herb Jahn's Exegeses Parallel Bible. The real Name of ELOHIM in Deut.6:4 is substituted with a generic "G-D" in the traditional Shema prayer.

**"Hear, O Israel Yisra El:
 The LORD Yah Veh our God Elohim
 is one LORD Yah Veh: And thou shalt love
 the LORD Yah Veh thy God Elohim."**

EXEGESES PARALLEL BIBLE
 exeGeses POBox 1776 • Orange CA • 92668

"ELOHIM" ("Gods, Godhood, Godhead") is changed by Rabbinical Judaism into a singular "G-D". A proper translation would depict the Godhead (plural) as being one that functions in "Plurality in Unity." It is the "Us and Our" Godhead working together as one Godhead in unity and purpose.

The brand of intellectualism that Rabbinical Judaism espouses does not give a satisfying explanation of what comprises the Almighty. Neither does their cherished handed-down traditions of the oral Talmud impart what is missing. Truth consists of only what is recorded in Scripture. Paul the apostle proclaimed "But what do the Scriptures say?" (Rom. 4:3).

For a prime example of a pungent rebuke of the prideful intellectual, let us consider what is recorded in Scripture of one who never claimed to be a learned man, but one used to pose an enormous challenge to the intellectuals of Judaism's leaders in his day:

***"THE WORDS OF AGUR
THE SON OF JAKEH, HIS UTTERANCE.
THIS MAN DECLARED TO ITHIEL
- TO ITHIEL AND UCAL:***

***'SURELY I AM MORE STUPID
THAN ANY MAN,
AND DO NOT HAVE
THE UNDERSTANDING OF A MAN.***

***I NEITHER LEARNED WISDOM
NOR HAVE KNOWLEDGE
OF THE HOLY ONE.***



Agur

***WHO HAS ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, OR DESCENDED?
WHO HAS GATHERED THE WIND IN HIS FISTS?
WHO HAS BOUND THE WATERS IN A GARMENT?
WHO HAS ESTABLISHED ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH?***

***WHAT IS HIS NAME, AND WHAT IS
HIS SON'S NAME, IF YOU KNOW?***

***...EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE...
DO NOT ADD TO HIS WORDS..."***

Proverbs 30:1-6

First of all notice that in context, Agur has the Creator of the ends of the earth in mind when he issues the challenge to all intellectuals of his day to reveal what is not only the Name of the Creator, but also asks what is the Name of the Creator's Son! In context, we must ask is not Agur suggesting that there was more than a "singular God" figure at work in Creation, that of the Father and His Son?

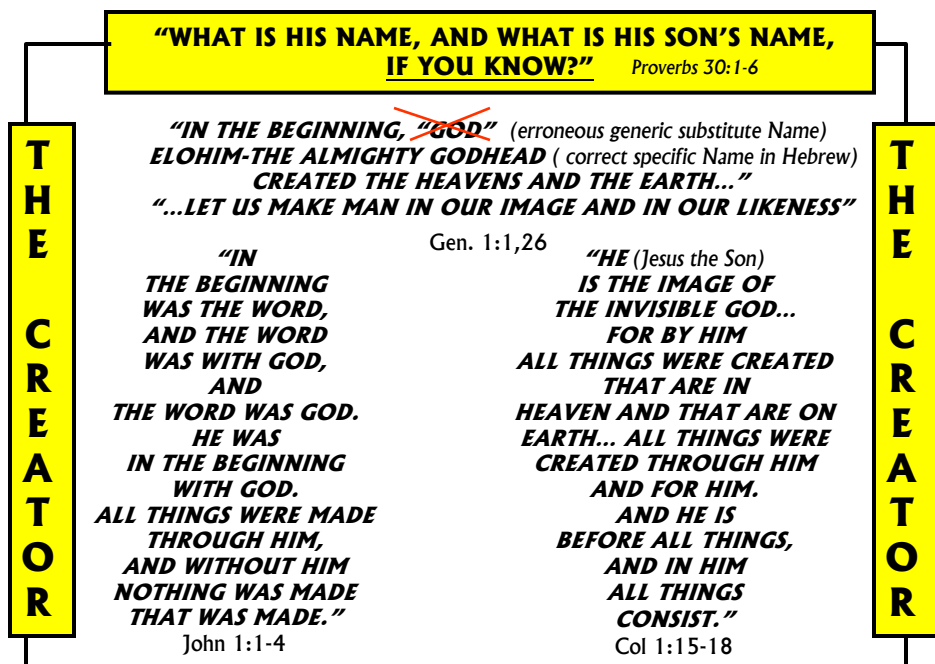
The startling fact that the Creator would even have a Son should shake up Agur's peers who are steeped in the daily monotheistic Shema prayer of all Jews:

"Hear O Israel! The Lord our God is one!" (Deut. 6:4).

What does Agur's statement above say about the validity of Judaism's monotheistic concept of God with their proud follow up statement, "God has no Son!"? Agur's words are as much a part of inspired Scripture as is Deuteronomy's sacred Shema prayer, are they not? Both can't be true, can they?

Judaism has been heavily indoctrinated with the blinding Rabbinical dogma of there being in existence only a monotheistic God, so He certainly cannot have a Divine Son that bears the title, "The Son of God" as proclaimed by Agur, can He?

Yes He can, but it takes the additional supportive revelation of the Creation/Creator that the apostle Paul presents along with the added illumination of the apostle John to convey the complete picture of what we find in the Old Testament account in Genesis.



Spend some time digesting the above chart. It will harmonize what Moses and Agur presented along with what the apostle Paul and John adds to the creation account. They are in agreement, not in conflict. Put the blame where it belongs. Any confusion stems from the generic substitution of the singular Name "God" used by the translators in place of the specific Name of Hebrew scripture, "ELOHIM-THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD."

When considering all the passages above in the Old and New Testaments we can see it was the whole Godhead at work in Genesis, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Ponder well the two apostles account of Creation above. Not only is Jesus Christ stated to be "the Creator of all things" by the apostle Paul, but the apostle John adds to that story that "The Word" who we know to be Jesus Christ (Rev.19:13), is clearly identified to also be "God":

"IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD. HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD. ALL THINGS WERE MADE THROUGH HIM, AND WITHOUT HIM NOTHING WAS MADE THAT WAS MADE."
 John 1:1-4

This is not "one God" physically, but rather a literal threefold Triune Godhead consisting of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit!

I am well aware that what I just stated on the previous page will never be endorsed by the likes of Rabbinical Judaism that rejects all such New Testament scripture as being part of the inspired Word of the Almighty. They prefer to stick with their additional handed-down traditions which makes the Word to be of no effect.

This book is not aimed at reaching Rabbinical Judaism.

My purpose so far has been to use their biased love of tradition-based beliefs as vivid illustrations of the

BINDING AND BLINDING POWER OF REPLACING TRUTH WITH TRADITION:



**"BUT THEIR MINDS WERE BLINDED.
FOR UNTIL THIS DAY
THE SAME VEIL REMAINS UNLIFTED
IN THE READING OF
THE OLD TESTAMENT,
BECAUSE THE VEIL IS
TAKEN AWAY IN CHRIST.
BUT EVEN TO THIS DAY,
WHEN MOSES IS READ,
A VEIL LIES ON THEIR HEART.
NEVERTHELESS
WHEN ONE TURNS TO THE LORD, THE VEIL IS TAKEN AWAY."**

2 Cor 3:14-17



Paul

There is only one pathway to avoid the pitfalls of man-made tradition and that is to embrace scripture-based truth. There are three governing principles that are crucial to imparting truth to sincere seekers.

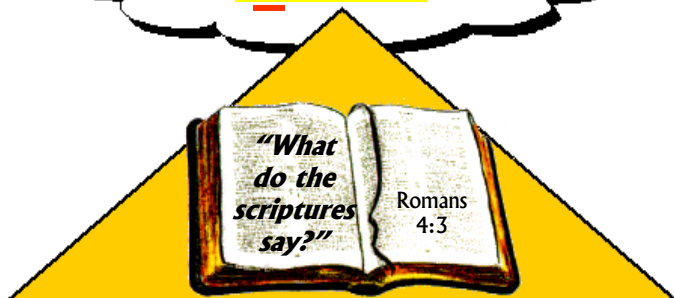
They are all "C" words easy to remember:

When these three governing principles of interpretation are properly applied, they will keep you, dear reader, from exchanging the **TRUTH** contained in God's Word for the **TRADITION** of men.

"YOU SHALL NOT ADD TO THE WORD WHICH I HAVE COMMANDED YOU, NOR TAKE FROM IT, THAT YOU MAY KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD WHICH I COMMANDED YOU."

Deut. 4:2-3

1. **CONTEXT**



2. **COMPARE**

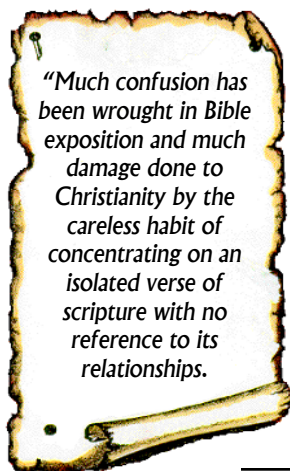
**"NOT AS MAN'S WISDOM
TEACHES BUT AS
THE HOLY SPIRIT
TEACHES
COMPARING SPIRITUAL
THINGS WITH SPIRITUAL."**

1 Cor 2:12-14

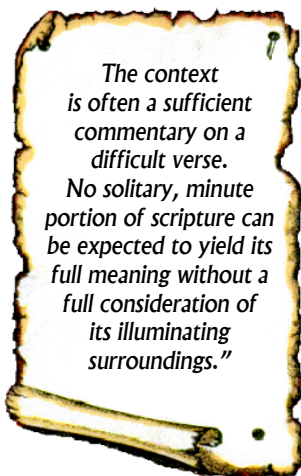
3. **CONFIRM**

**"BY THE MOUTH OF
TWO OR THREE
WITNESSES
EVERY WORD
SHALL BE
ESTABLISHED."**

2 Cor 13:1-2



Pertaining to the importance of always considering the very context in which we find specific scripture, I give you this piece of sound counsel from the Late Harold Horton written in 1934 in his classic work, "The Gifts of the Spirit"



(Although it is not the main subject matter of this book, let us consider a little more evidence pertaining to the danger of mixing tradition with truth.)

A LITTLE LEAVEN GOES A LONG WAY

We have looked at the leaven that has permeated monotheistic Rabbinical Judaism. They are emphatic in their dogmatic conclusion that "God has no Son!"



RABBINICAL JUDAISM

1



ROMAN CATHOLICISM

2



MAIN STREAM CHRISTIANITY

3

"THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE

LEAVEN

WHICH A WOMAN HID IN THREE MEASURES OF MEAL TILL IT WAS

ALL

LEAVENED."

Matt. 13:3



Enter Roman Catholicism. It bears the cynical title of, "The King of Tradition."

We shall examine the level of tradition in it as well as what is found in Christianity! You may be shocked at what I have to say about such tradition that exists in the concept of Christianity's widely accepted "Three-in-one God"! This is a Catholic-based tradition that has never been taught in the Word!

"ALL TOO WELL YOU REJECT THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD, THAT YOU MAY KEEP YOUR TRADITION...
 MAKING THE WORD OF GOD OF NO EFFECT THROUGH YOUR TRADITION
 WHICH YOU HAVE HANDED DOWN." Mark 7:9-13

"THE KINGDOM
 OF HEAVEN IS
 LIKE

LEAVEN
 WHICH A WOMAN
 HID IN THREE
 MEASURES OF MEAL
 TILL IT WAS
ALL
 LEAVENED."
 Matt. 13:3



**RABBINICAL
 JUDAISM
 HAS BEEN
 TOTALLY LEAVENED
 BY TRADITION**



"GOD HAS NO SON!"

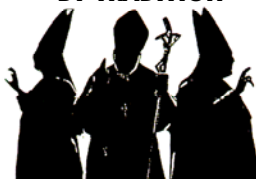
"THIS IS THE WITNESS OF
 GOD WHICH HE HAS
 TESTIFIED
 OF HIS SON....
 HE WHO DOES NOT
 BELIEVE GOD HAS MADE
 HIM A LIAR, BECAUSE
**HE HAS NOT
 BELIEVED THE
 TESTIMONY THAT
 GOD HAS GIVEN OF
 HIS SON.**

AND THIS IS THE
 TESTIMONY: THAT GOD
 HAS GIVEN US ETERNAL
 LIFE, AND THIS LIFE IS
 IN HIS SON.
**HE WHO HAS
 THE SON HAS LIFE;
 HE WHO DOES NOT
 HAVE THE SON
 OF GOD
 DOES NOT
 HAVE LIFE."**
 1 John 5:9-13

"...WHOEVER
 TRANSGRESSES
 AND DOES NOT ABIDE IN
 THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST
 DOES NOT HAVE GOD.
**HE WHO ABIDES
 IN THE DOCTRINE
 OF CHRIST
 HAS BOTH
 THE FATHER AND
 THE SON."**
 2 John 7-10

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**ROMAN
 CATHOLICISM
 HAS BEEN
 TOTALLY LEAVENED
 BY TRADITION**



**"CATHOLICISM
 DOES NOT PRACTICE
 ANY CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES
 THAT WERE GIVEN
 BY GOD IN HIS WORD!
 RATHER THEIR DOCTRINES
 ARE ALL
 TRADITION-BASED
 WHICH HOLD AN
 OPPOSING POSITION TO
 REVEALED SCRIPTURE.
 THERE IS NOTHING
 CHRISTIAN ABOUT
 CATHOLICISM!"**

Pastor Randy Shupe-
 "Babylon the Great"
 page 212

On pages 36-40 I printed
 out for you 19 examples
 from my book,
 "Babylon the Great" to
 support the above
 statement. Roman
 Catholicism is even more
 blatant in their cherished
 traditions than Rabbinical
 Judaism. Catholicism is
 cynically called
 "The King of Tradition"
 and as we shall see, is the
 origin of Christianity's
 belief in a mystical "Three-
 in-one God." **36**

**CHRISTIANITY
 HAS THE SEEDS
 OF LEAVEN
 SOWN WITHIN
 BY TRADITION**



**"WE WORSHIP ONE GOD
 AS A TRINITY...
 THE FATHER IS GOD,
 THE SON IS GOD,
 THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD.
 THEY ARE NOT THREE GODS,
 BUT ONE GOD.
 NONE IS GREATER OR LESSER
 THAN ANOTHER...
 THE WHOLE THREE PERSONS
 ARE COEQUAL IN POSITION
 AND IN AUTHORITY"**

The above Catholic
 Creeds from the 3rd
 and 5th Century has
 been readily endorsed
 today by most of
 professing Christianity!
 However, this was not
 the teaching of the
 Apostle Paul found in
 any of his 13 epistles.
 Paul did not endorse
 any mystical "three-in-
 one God" Trinity but
 rather freely spoke of a
 literal Triune Godhead of
 the Father, Son and
 Holy Spirit!

Before we look into how tradition is replacing truth in Christianity by means of a mystical "Three-in-One God", consider these pages about the totality of tradition replacing truth in all of Roman Catholic doctrines. This is not an attack on Catholicism per say, but rather a vivid illustration of how the tradition of men nullifies the truth stated in His Word. Let us now consider a terse comparison of Christian doctrines according to the Word vs. man-made Catholic doctrines and ask,

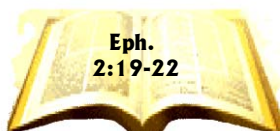
"IS THERE ANYTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM?"

**FOUNDATION OF
CHRISTIANITY:**

**"...THE HOUSEHOLD
OF GOD, HAVING
BEEN BUILT ON
THE FOUNDATION OF
THE APOSTLES AND
PROPHETS,
JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF
BEING
THE CHIEF
CORNERSTONE..."**

Eph. 2:19-20

**JESUS CHRIST,
THE CHIEF
CORNERSTONE**



THE APOSTLES AND THE PROPHETS

**THE WORD TEACHES THAT JESUS
IS THE ROCK UPON WHICH
THE CHURCH IS BUILT.**

(Mat. 16:13-18, 1Pet. 2:4-8,
Eph. 2:20-21, Col. 1:15-18, Heb. 8:1)

**THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE PRESENT
VOICE OF GOD ON THE EARTH.**

(Rev. 3:13, 14:13, 5:6, 4:5, Jn. 16:8,13,
Jn.14:26, Gal.5:16, Eph. 4:30,Acts 5:3)

**THE BIBLE EXALTS THE WORD OF
GOD ABOVE ALL THINGS AND
WARNS AGAINST TRADITIONS
THAT MAKE IT OF NO EFFECT.**

(Mark 7:6-13, Col. 2:8, Psm.138:2,
1Pet.1:18-25, 2Tim. 3:15-17, Jn.
1:1,14, Rev. 19:13, Psm. 12:6,
Psm. 119:160)

**FOUNDATION OF
CATHOLICISM:**

**"BEWARE
LEST ANYONE
CHEAT YOU
THROUGH...
EMPTY DECEIT,
ACCORDING TO
THE TRADITION OF
MEN...
AND NOT ACCORDING
TO CHRIST."**

Col. 2:8

EMPTY DECEIT



**THE TRADITION
OF MEN**

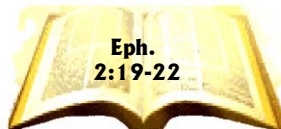
**CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY)
TEACHES THAT PETER
IS THE ROCK UPON WHICH
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
IS BUILT.**

**THE PAPACY ITSELF IS
THE PRESENT ("INFALLIBLE")
VOICE ("VICAR") OF GOD
ON THE EARTH.**

**CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY)
EXALTS THEIR OWN
"SACRED TRADITIONS"
ABOVE THE WORD OF GOD,
EVEN WHEN THOSE TRADITIONS
ARE IN OPPOSITION
TO THE WORD OF GOD,
DUE TO
"PAPAL INFALLIBILITY."**

"IS THERE ANYTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM?"

**JESUS CHRIST,
THE CHIEF
CORNERSTONE**



THE APOSTLES AND THE PROPHETS



EMPTY DECEIT



**THE TRADITION
OF MEN**

**SALVATION IS IN CHRIST ALONE
BY FAITH IN GRACE RECEIVED
AS A FREE GIFT
APART FROM WORKS.**

(Eph. 2:8-10, Rom. 3:28, 5:1-2, 5:21,
6:23, 10:9-13, 1Cor.15:1-4, 2Cor.
5:21, 1Jn. 5:9-13, Jn. 3:15-18, 3:36,
14:6, 5:39)

**SALVATION
IS ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH
BAPTISMAL REGENERATION,
THROUGH
THE EUCHARIST, THE MASS,
THE CONFESSIONAL,
AND MAINTAINING A
RIGHT-STANDING IN
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

**WATER BAPTISM IS ONLY FOR THOSE
WHO FIRST REPENT AND BELIEVE
THE GOSPEL, AND IT IS ONLY BY
TOTAL IMMERSION.**

(Acts 2:38,41, Acts 8:34-38, Rom.
6:3-6, Col. 2:11-13, 1Pet. 3:21)

**WATER BAPTISM BRINGS
SALVATION (BAPTISMAL
REGENERATION) BY MEANS OF
SPRINKLING PERFORMED
EVEN ON INFANTS WHO
CANNOT REPENT.**

**THE WORD TEACHES ETERNAL,
EVER-LASTING DAMNATION FOR ALL
WHO DO NOT RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST.**

(Mark 9:42-48, Rev.14:10-11,20:10,
14,15 Rev. 21:8, Luke 16:19-31,)

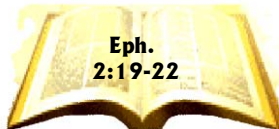
**CATHOLICISM TEACHES A
TEMPORARY "PURGATORY"
(EVEN FOR BELIEVERS)
AND "ULTIMATE
RECONCILIATION"
FOR UNBELIEVERS DUE TO
"GOD NOT WILLING THAT
ANY PERISH – SO THEY
WON'T!"**

**THE WORD TEACHES
THE DIVINE TRINITY REIGNING
IN HEAVEN:
"THERE ARE THREE WHO BEAR
WITNESS IN HEAVEN –
THE FATHER, THE WORD (Jesus),
AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.
AND THESE THREE
ARE ONE." (in unity)
(1Jn. 5:7)**

**CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY)
TEACHES THERE ARE
FOUR REIGNING IN HEAVEN –
THE FATHER, THE SON,
THE HOLY SPIRIT,
AND
"MARY,
THE MOTHER OF GOD,
THE MOTHER OF
THE CHURCH,
THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN."**

“IS THERE ANYTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM?”

**JESUS CHRIST,
THE CHIEF
CORNERSTONE**



THE APOSTLES AND THE PROPHETS



EMPTY DECEIT



**THE TRADITION
OF MEN**

**THE WORD TEACHES
“THERE IS ONE MEDIATOR
BETWEEN GOD AND MAN,
THE MAN CHRIST JESUS.”**

(1Tim. 2:5, Heb 8:6, Jn. 14:6,
Eph. 2:18, Jn. 16:23)

**CATHOLICISM HAS TWO
MEDIATORS: MARY IS THE
MEDIATOR IN HEAVEN BETWEEN
GOD (JESUS) AND MAN.
THE CATHOLIC PRIEST IS THE
MEDIATOR ON EARTH BETWEEN
MAN AND GOD.**

**THE WORD TEACHES
A FIVEFOLD MINISTRY GIVEN TO
MEN BY CHRIST TO GUIDE THE
CHURCH – (ELDERS) “APOSTLES,
PROPHETS, EVANGELISTS AND
PASTORS AND TEACHERS”**

(Eph. 4:7-14, 1Cor. 12:28-29)

**CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY)
TEACHES A MAN-MADE
HIERARCHY TO RULE THE
CHURCH CONSISTING OF
THE PAPACY, CARDINALS,
ARCHBISHOPS, BISHOPS,
AND A CLERGY OF PRIESTS.**

**THE WORD TEACHES
ALL BELIEVERS ARE SAINTS
IN THIS PRESENT LIFE.**

(Rom. 1:7, 16:15, 1Cor. 1:2,
2 Cor. 13:13)

**CATHOLICISM TEACHES
BELIEVERS ONLY BECOME
SAINTS AFTER DEATH, AND
ONLY IF CANONIZED BY
THE POPE FOR GOOD WORKS,
MIRACLES ETC.**

**THE WORD TEACHES
ALL BELIEVERS ARE A HOLY,
ROYAL PRIESTHOOD CHOSEN BY
GOD TO OFFER ACCEPTABLE
SACRIFICES TO GOD THROUGH
JESUS CHRIST.**

(1Pet. 2:4-9)

**CATHOLICISM TEACHES
A SELECT, CELIBATE,
MALE ONLY, PRIESTHOOD
CHOSEN BY CATHOLIC
HIERARCHY TO OFFER
SACRIFICES TO GOD ON BEHALF
OF THE PEOPLE.**

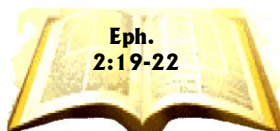
**THE WORD TEACHES CONFESSION
OF SIN TO GOD AND
FORGIVENESS FROM GOD
THROUGH REPENTANCE BIRTHED
BY A CONTRITE HEART BROKEN
OVER SIN.**

(Prov. 28:13, Psm. 51, Psm. 38:18,
Psm. 32:1-5, 1Jn. 1:9, 2:1-2)

**CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY)
TEACHES CONFESSION OF SIN
TO A CATHOLIC PRIEST AND
FORGIVENESS OF SIN BY THAT
PRIEST THROUGH ASSIGNED
ACTS OF PENITENCE TO BE
PERFORMED BY THE SINNER.**

"IS THERE ANYTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM?"

**JESUS CHRIST,
THE CHIEF
CORNERSTONE**



THE APOSTLES AND THE PROPHETS



EMPTY DECEIT



**THE TRADITION
OF MEN**

THE WORD TEACHES THE BELIEVER NOT TO PRAY VAIN, REPETITIOUS PRAYERS AS THE HEATHEN DO, FOR THEY THINK THEY WILL BE HEARD FOR THEIR MANY WORDS.

(Matt. 6:7)

CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY) TEACHES PRAYING REPETITIOUSLY THE ROSARY WHICH CONTAINS A TEN-TO-ONE RATIO OF PRAYERS TO MARY VS. PRAYING TO GOD.

THE WORD TEACHES THE BELIEVER TO PRAY DIRECTLY TO GOD THE FATHER THROUGH JESUS CHRIST AS OUR ONLY MEDIATOR.

(Jn. 15:16, 16:23-24, Luke 11:2, Eph.2:18, Heb. 7:22-27, 1Tim. 2:5)

CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY) TEACHES PRAYING DIRECTLY TO DECEASED SAINTS IN HEAVEN WHO ARE ABLE TO MAKE INTERCESSION FOR THEM, AND ESPECIALLY PRAY TO MARY AS THE MEDIATOR TO GOD.

THE WORD TEACHES THE BELIEVER NOT TO CALL ANY MAN ON EARTH "FATHER" BECAUSE THE BELIEVER HAS ONE FATHER, HE WHO IS IN HEAVEN.

(Matt. 23:9)

CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY) TEACHES THAT EVERY CATHOLIC PRIEST IS TO BE CALLED "FATHER," AND THAT THE POPE IS TO BE CALLED "THE HOLY FATHER."

THE WORD EMPHASIZES A GLORIOUS, RISEN CHRIST WHO NOW REIGNS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER

(Heb. 8:1-2, 1Cor. 15:25, 1Tim. 6:15-16, Rev. 1:11-18, Rev. 6:16-17)

CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY) EMPHASIZES A CRUCIFIED CHRIST OR AS "BABY JESUS" IN HEAVEN, STILL IN THE ARMS OF HIS MOTHER MARY WHO REIGNS AS THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN.

THE WORD INSTRUCTS CHURCH ELDERS ("APOSTLES, PROPHETS, EVANGELISTS, PASTORS AND TEACHERS" – Eph. 4:11) TO BE EXAMPLES TO THE FLOCK AND NOT LORDS OVER THEM.

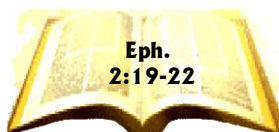
(1Pet. 5:1-4, Phil. 3:17, Matt. 20:25-28)

CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY) BY MEANS OF "PAPAL INFALLIBILITY," LORDS OVER ITS PEOPLE WITH THREATS:

"HENCE IF ANYONE, WHICH GOD FORBID, SHOULD DARE WILLFULLY TO DENY OR TO CALL INTO DOUBT THAT WHICH WE HAVE DEFINED, LET HIM KNOW THAT HE HAS FALLEN AWAY COMPLETELY FROM THE DIVINE AND CATHOLIC FAITH."

"IS THERE ANYTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM?"

**JESUS CHRIST,
THE CHIEF
CORNERSTONE**



THE APOSTLES AND THE PROPHE



EMPTY DECEIT



THE TRADITION OF MEN

THE WORD TEACHES THAT THE CHURCH SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (THE BREAD AND THE WINE) ARE TO BE TAKEN BY EVERY BELIEVER AS A SYMBOL OF THE ONCE FOR ALL SACRIFICE OF CHRIST ON THE CROSS. COMMUNION IS TO BE TAKEN "IN REMEMBRANCE" OF THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST ON BEHALF OF THE SINS OF THE BELIEVER.

(1Cor.10:16-17, 11:23-32, Jn. 6:53-63, Matt. 26:26-29, Luke 22:19-20)

CATHOLICISM (THE PAPACY) TEACHES THE PRIEST PERFORMING MASS AND ADMINISTERING THE EUCHARIST HAS THE SUPERNATURAL POWER TO BRING DOWN CHRIST AT WILL TO BE SACRIFICED ONCE AGAIN AND BECOMES A LITERAL TRANSUBSTANTIATION OF CHRIST INTO THE BREAD WAFER. THE CUP IS USUALLY WITHHELD FROM CATHOLICS.

There are more comparisons that could be made, but I believe we have examined a sufficient number to prove this point:

CATHOLICISM DOES NOT PRACTICE ANY CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES THAT WERE GIVEN BY GOD IN HIS WORD. RATHER THEIR DOCTRINES ARE TRADITION-BASED WHICH HOLD AN OPPOSING POSITION TO REVEALED SCRIPTURE. THERE IS NOTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM.

The charge Jesus laid upon the hierarchy of Rabbinical Judaism will also be laid upon the hierarchy of Roman Catholicism:

**"...IN VAIN YOU WORSHIP ME,
TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN.
FOR LAYING ASIDE THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD,
YOU HOLD THE TRADITIONS OF MEN...**

**ALL TO WELL YOU
REJECT THE
COMMANDMENT
OF GOD,
THAT YOU MAY
KEEP YOUR
TRADITION...**



**...MAKING
THE WORD OF GOD
OF NO EFFECT
THROUGH
YOUR TRADITIONS
WHICH YOU HAVE
HANDED DOWN.**

**AND MANY
SUCH THINGS YOU DO."**

Mark 7:7-13

"ALL TOO WELL YOU REJECT THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD, THAT YOU MAY KEEP YOUR TRADITION...
MAKING THE WORD OF GOD OF NO EFFECT THROUGH YOUR TRADITION
WHICH YOU HAVE HANDED DOWN."

Mark 7:9-13

"THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN IS
LIKE

LEAVEN

WHICH A WOMAN
HID IN THREE
MEASURES OF MEAL
TILL IT WAS
ALL
LEAVENED."

Matt. 13:3



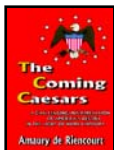
**RABBINICAL
JUDAISM
HAS BEEN
TOTALLY LEAVENED
BY TRADITION...**

**ROMAN
CATHOLICISM
HAS BEEN
TOTALLY LEAVENED
BY TRADITION...**

**PROTESTANTISM
HAS THE SEEDS
OF LEAVEN
SOWN WITHIN
BY TRADITION...**

I express a personal fear that Protestantism (Christianity) has already begun to travel down that same road of self-deception in which cherished traditions eventually become dogmatic beliefs. A very great concern was expressed over

America's love of tradition by French Historian,
Amaury de Reincourt in his book, *"The Coming Caesars":*



**"GIVEN SUFFICIENT TIME,
CHERISHED TRADITIONS
BECOME
DOGMATIC BELIEFS"**

(French Historian, Amaury de Reincourt)



Although there was a breaking away from the traditions of Catholicism by Martin Luther's proclamation by which Protestantism was officially birthed, large segments of Christianity in America are entrenched in Catholicism's added creeds in the 3rd and 5th century of a Trinity consisting of a mystical form of a "three-in-one God":

**The Constantine
Creed of
Catholicism
(3rd Century)**

BISHOP'S DECREE:

**FATHER AND SON
DECLARED TO BE
"ONE GOD"**



Does
this have a familiar
ring to it?

**The Athanasian
Creed of
Catholicism
(5th Century)**

BISHOP'S DECREE:

**FATHER, SON AND SPIRIT
DECLARED TO BE
"ONE GOD"**

Have we heard something like this before? Earlier we considered the conflict between "Plurality in Majesty" vs. "Plurality in Unity." Rabbinical Judaism argued, "The Lord our God is one!" Their follow up was, "God has no Son!" Now we have the acknowledgment of a Divine Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but quickly followed with the statement, "Father, Son and Spirit are not three Gods but "one God" that is mystically able to appear as three different personages whenever needed. Really? Where did the apostle Paul ever say such a thing in any of his fourteen epistles? How about Peter or John? No apostle endorsed such a concept in any epistle written!

"ALL TOO WELL YOU REJECT
THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD,
THAT YOU MAY KEEP
YOUR TRADITION...
MAKING THE WORD OF GOD
OF NO EFFECT
THROUGH YOUR TRADITION
WHICH YOU HAVE HANDED DOWN."

Mark 7:9-13



Satan seeks to corrupt man's ability to see a proper biblical view of who the Almighty is. The trend of such deception reduces a PLURAL Godhead back into a vague mystical concept of a "ONE GOD" image.

The Corrupting Leaven Sown: THE CHERISHED TRADITION OF "ONE GOD"

**RABBINICAL
JUDAISM
ENDORSES
A
SINGULAR
MONOTHEISTIC
"ONE GOD"**

**CATHOLICISM
ENDORSES
A
DIVINE TRINITY
BUT
IS REALLY ONLY
"ONE GOD"**

**CHRISTIANITY
ENDORSES
A
DIVINE TRINITY
BUT
IS REALLY ONLY
"ONE GOD"**

THE TRADITION OF MEN

The New Testament view of the Almighty is plainly outlined by the epistles of the apostles.

Paul, as well as John, present the Almighty, whether in Heaven or on earth, as consisting of a Triune Godhead ("Elohim-the Almighty Godhead").

The apostles portray the supreme Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit as three Divine individual Personages. None of the apostles EVER or ANYWHERE

in their epistles confirm the existence of a mystical "Three-in-one God" as introduced by Catholicism.

These concepts were invented in the third and fifth centuries-long after the Scriptures of the New Testament were written!

The apostles revealing

THE TRIUNE GODHEAD of the Scriptures:



he Apostle Paul:

**"...ATTAINING
TO THE KNOWLEDGE
OF THE MYSTERY OF GOD,
BOTH OF THE FATHER
AND OF CHRIST..."**

Col. 2:2

**...FOR IN HIM (Christ)
DWELLS
ALL
THE FULLNESS
OF THE GODHEAD
BODILY..."**

Col. 2:9

**"FOR
THROUGH HIM (Christ)
WE HAVE ACCESS
BY ONE SPIRIT
TO THE FATHER..."**

Eph. 2:18



The Apostle John:

**"IN THE BEGINNING
WAS THE WORD,
AND THE WORD WAS
WITH GOD,
AND THE WORD
WAS GOD."**

**HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING
WITH GOD.**

**ALL THINGS WERE MADE
THROUGH HIM, AND WITHOUT
HIM NOTHING WAS MADE
THAT WAS MADE...**

**...AND THE WORLD WAS MADE
THROUGH HIM, AND THE WORLD
DID NOT KNOW HIM..**

**AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH
AND DWELT AMONG US,
AND WE BEHELD HIS GLORY,
THE GLORY AS OF
THE ONLY BEGOTTEN
OF THE FATHER,
FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH."**

Jn.1:1-17 excerpts

THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD

"CATHOLICISM DOES NOT PRACTICE ANY CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES THAT WERE GIVEN BY GOD IN HIS WORD.

RATHER THEIR DOCTRINES ARE ALL TRADITION-BASED WHICH HOLD AN OPPOSING POSITION TO REVEALED SCRIPTURE. THERE IS NOTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM."

That includes this cherished tradition of a mystical "three-in-one God":



**"WE WORSHIP
ONE GOD
IN TRINITY..."**

**THE FATHER IS GOD, THE SON IS GOD,
AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD;
AND YET THEY ARE NOT THREE GODS, BUT ONE GOD...
NONE IS GREATER OR LESS THAN ANOTHER...
THE WHOLE THREE PERSONS ARE COEQUAL"**

"THE TRINITY"



"3-IN-1 GOD"

(the Constantine Creed of Catholicism 3rd Century and the Athanasius Creed of Catholicism 5th Century)

Previously I showed you twenty erroneous doctrinal positions held by Catholicism that are all opposed to what the Scriptures reveal. I summed up this religion of the tradition of men with the sober charge,
"THERE IS NOTHING CHRISTIAN ABOUT CATHOLICISM."

Are we now to accept (as has much of Christianity)
this mystical Catholic tradition pertaining to the very identity of God?

**"WE WORSHIP
ONE GOD
AS A TRINITY...
THE FATHER IS GOD,
THE SON IS GOD,
THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD.
THEY ARE NOT THREE GODS,
BUT ONE GOD.
NONE IS
GREATER OR LESSER
THAN ANOTHER...
THE WHOLE
THREE PERSONS
ARE COEQUAL
IN POSITION
AND IN AUTHORITY"**

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**"WE WORSHIP A
TRIUNE GODHEAD,
A DIVINE ETERNAL
FAMILY CONSISTING OF
GOD THE FATHER,
GOD THE SON,
GOD THE SPIRIT.
...A DIVINE FAMILY
OF THREE FUNCTIONING
IN PERFECT ONENESS
OF AGREEMENT WITH
ONE ANOTHER.
ALTHOUGH ALL ARE
DIVINE PERSONAGES,
THEY ARE NOT COEQUAL
IN POSITION AND
IN AUTHORITY"**

**TRADITION
OF MEN**

**THE WORD
OF GOD**

The existence of a literal Triune Godhead (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) is indeed the true teaching of the Scriptures rather than the mystical tradition of a "three-in-one God" as commonly taught today by most Protestant theologians. The true "oneness of God" speaks of a triune Godhead that is in perfect and complete unity with one another. Therefore the Father does not manifest Himself as the Son or as the Holy Spirit! It is not one God manifesting Himself in three identities, but rather three individual personages comprising a Godhead that functions in complete oneness of unity and purpose. The prayer Jesus utters for us as believers, "That they may be one as we are one" (Jn.17:11) makes no sense if the "oneness" of which Jesus speaks refers to a "three-in-one" God. Can we become that kind of oneness? Hardly! However, can we become one in unity and harmony with our will as was Jesus with submission to His Father's will? Yes we can if we hold fast to the vivid pattern demonstrated by the Triune Godhead of three working in "Plurality in Unity."

SELAH! THINK ON THIS!

Dear reader, it is quite ludicrous to think that when the Father spoke from heaven saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" (Matt. 17:5), that He was in essence saying, "This is (Me in the role of) My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear (Me) as I speak (as) Him"? If we are indeed to embrace a literal "three-in-one God," then that is what is being conveyed! How is this concept able to make us "one as He is one" with the Father?

In addition, we would have to believe that Jesus, in stating of the Father (which He would really be saying of Himself) things like, "The Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does" (Jn. 5:20). Think about it dear saint! If the Father and the Son are one and the same God, this phrase has no real meaning for us!

It would also be meaningless for Jesus to teach us, "I do not seek My own will, but the will of the Father who sent Me" (Jn. 5:30) if indeed the Son is in reality the Father! If He is the Father as well as the Son, then of course He would do His will-they are one and the same! Rather, the real lesson being conveyed is that we are being presented with **TWO WILLS** of two different members of the Godhead that are functioning together in perfect **UNITY** and **ONENESS** with one another! Jesus is teaching His disciples how they too can function in unity and oneness! It is a meaningless illustration if the Father and the Son are really one and the same person.

AM I MAKING YOUR HEAD HURT?

Then be encouraged by this needful exhortation from
Evangelist/teacher Charles Grandison Finney:



Charles Grandison Finney
1792-1875

(Presbyterian minister and leader
in the Second Great Awakening
in the United States.
He has been called the
"Father of Old Revivalism.")

**"LET NO ONE DESPAIR
IN COMMENCING THIS BOOK,
NOR STUMBLE AT THE DEFINITIONS,
THINKING HE CAN NEVER UNDERSTAND
SO ABSTRUSE A SUBJECT...
MY BROTHER,
SISTER FRIEND-
READ, STUDY, THINK
TO DEVELOP YOUR POWERS
BY STUDY.
GOD DESIGNED THAT RELIGION
SHOULD REQUIRE THOUGHT,
INTENSE THOUGHT,
AND SHOULD THOROUGHLY DEVELOP
OUR POWERS OF THOUGHT.
THE BIBLE ITSELF IS WRITTEN IN
A STYLE SO CONDENSED AS TO REQUIRE
MUCH INTENSE STUDY.
MANY KNOW NOTHING
OF THE BIBLE OR OF RELIGION,
BECAUSE THEY WILL NOT THINK AND STUDY.
I DO NOT PRETEND TO
SO EXPLAIN THEOLOGY AS TO
DISPENSE WITH THE
LABOR OF THINKING."**

(SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY-
PREFACE, PAGE 9- CHARLES FINNEY)

Even the Scriptures portray an intense effort is required in diligently searching out what is the true knowledge of the Almighty:

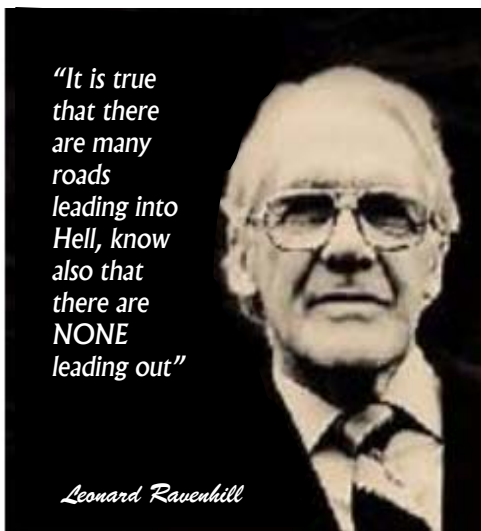
"MY SON,
IF YOU **RECEIVE** MY WORDS,
AND **TREASURE** MY COMMANDS
WITHIN YOU,
SO THAT YOU **INCLINE**
YOUR EAR TO WISDOM,
AND **APPLY** YOUR HEART
TO UNDERSTANDING;
YES, IF YOU
CRY OUT FOR DISCERNMENT,
AND **LIFT UP** YOUR VOICE
FOR UNDERSTANDING,
IF YOU **SEEK** HER AS SILVER,
AND **SEARCH** FOR HER
AS FOR HIDDEN TREASURES;
THEN
YOU WILL UNDERSTAND
THE FEAR OF THE LORD,
AND
FIND THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD."

Prov. 2:1-3

RECEIVE...
TREASURE...
INCLINE...
APPLY...
CRY OUT...
LIFT UP...
SEEK...
SEARCH...



Proverbs Chapter Two above uses eight action-filled verbs in describing what is required from a believer seeking the infinite knowledge of the Almighty. We live in such times that everything pertaining to Him has been over-simplified. We think all we need to do is buy the latest popular edition of "God for Dummies" to dumb-down the infinite knowledge of the Almighty so that we don't need to "receive, treasure, incline, apply, cry out, lift up, seek, search" to find the infinite knowledge of the Almighty. Revivalist Leonard Ravenhill often lamented over the seemingly pitiful level of the knowledge of the Almighty held by today's professing Theologians.



"It is true
that there
are many
roads
leading into
Hell, know
also that
there are
NONE
leading out"

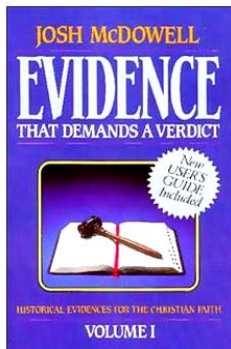
Leonard Ravenhill

Leonard Ravenhill
was prolific with his multitude of
British pithy quotes.
I have always liked this one about
the low-level of content expressed
by modern-day theologians:

"Gone are the quality days of old...
men who penned great volumes
of Hardback Theology.
...men like Charles Finney,
William Gurnall and Andrew Murray.
Alas, their modern-day replacements
produce a cheap
paperback version of Theology,
little mini-sermonettes only capable
of producing mini-Christianettes...
...much of which I must say,
is not worth the paper
it is printed on."

Leonard Ravenhill

EVIDENCE THAT DEMANDS A VERDICT



Fifty years ago Josh McDowell wrote this confrontational classic book in which he sought to prove within a legal court of Law the Resurrection of Christ. His premise was that there is enough plain evidence in the Scriptures to prove in a court of Law that Christ rose from the dead. Josh toured the nation's secular colleges holding live debates in which he presented all the evidence to support his bold claim. Sadly, I doubt if in today's liberal, humanistic colleges he would even be allowed to speak. Liberal colleges today have become known more as institutions of "burnings" rather than ones of "learning."

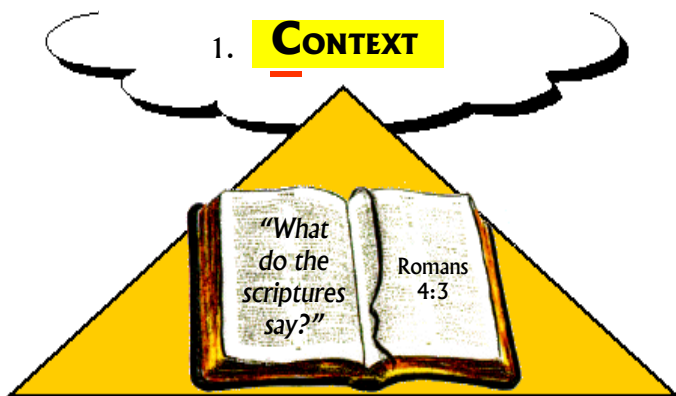
The likes of Josh McDowell's Christian-based presentations would not be tolerated in today's secular liberal colleges even though history will affirm that the likes of Harvard, Yale and Princeton all have in their original constitutional statements of their Reason for Being that these colleges were initially created to further promote the teachings first instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The evidence that we shall present in the remainder of this book as to the existence of "Elohim-the Almighty Godhead" will be based solely upon these three principles that govern properly interpreting what is recorded in "The Word of Truth", the inspired Scriptures:

"YOU SHALL NOT ADD TO THE WORD WHICH I HAVE COMMANDED YOU, NOR TAKE FROM IT, THAT YOU MAY KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD WHICH I COMMANDED YOU."

Deut. 4:2-3

1. **CONTEXT**



2. **COMPARE**

"NOT AS MAN'S WISDOM TEACHES BUT AS THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES COMPARING SPIRITUAL THINGS WITH SPIRITUAL."

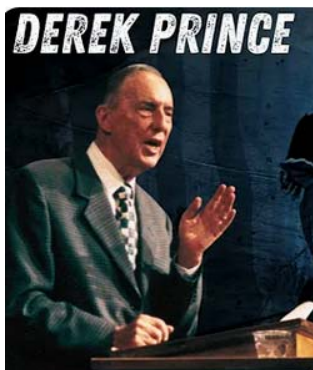
1 Cor 2:12-14

3. **CONFIRM**

"BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY WORD SHALL BE ESTABLISHED."

2 Cor 13:1-2

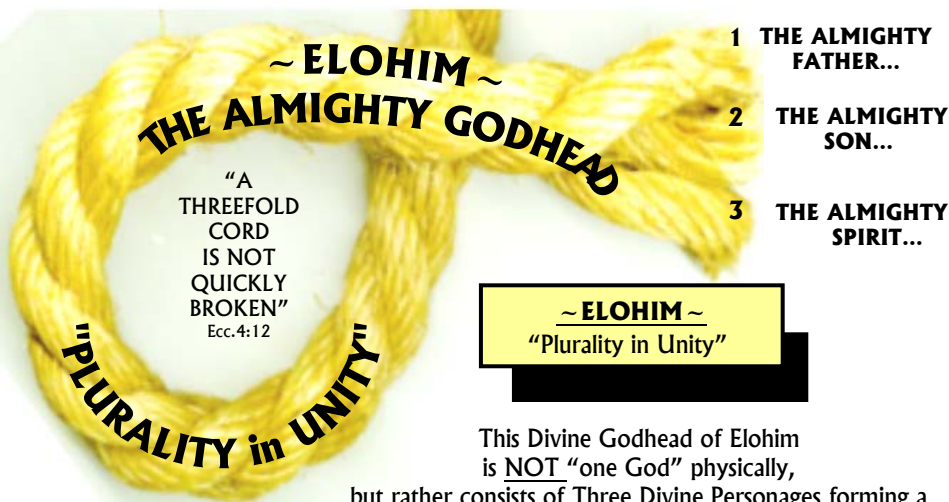
THE THREEFOLD CORD PRINCIPLE



Bible teacher Derek Prince told the story of a rope maker who was in his audience listening as he taught about the concept of the strength of “a three-fold cord.” Derek was likening the three-fold cord concept to the Triune Godhead of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. After the teaching the rope maker came up and told Derek that a three stranded rope was actually the strongest rope that could be made because all three separate strands are tightly intertwined together, closely touching one another making it a three stranded rope that cannot be easily broken. (Ecc. 4:12).

What a vivid illustration this becomes of the Almighty in which three separate Divine Personages are intertwined together as a Triune Godhead of manifested strength, **“PLURALITY IN UNITY”!**

A Triune Godhead united together in oneness of purpose!



This Divine Godhead of Elohim is NOT “one God” physically, but rather consists of Three Divine Personages forming a Divine Family of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, all three functioning together as one in unity and purpose!

In the next Chapter I will begin to present the overwhelming evidence in Scripture of the One generically labeled “God” but in essence, is more specifically revealed as

“ELOHIM, THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD.”

It is a story that begins in the opening verse of Genesis and carries right through the end of the Book of Revelation. “ELOHIM” is the specific Name that the Almighty chose to identify His plural personage 2,197 times in the Old Testament.

In Chapter Two we shall further identify and unfold the revelation of “Elohim-the Almighty Godhead”, a threefold cord functioning truly in “Plurality in Unity.” The New Testament is the unveiling of the specific working of the Personages of the Divine Father, His Divine Son, and the Divine Holy Spirit.

~ CHAPTER TWO ~

"THE FULLNESS OF THE GODHEAD ACCORDING TO THE WORDS OF THE PROPHETS AND THE APOSTLES"

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"BELOVED, I NOW WRITE TO YOU IN WHICH
I STIR UP YOUR PURE MINDS BY WAY OF REMINDER, THAT YOU
MAY BE MINDFUL OF THE WORDS WHICH WERE SPOKEN BEFORE BY
THE HOLY PROPHETS AND OF US **THE APOSTLES**
OF THE LORD..."
2 Pet. 3:2

"...MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD HAVING BEEN
BUILT ON THE FOUNDATION OF THE **APOSTLES** AND **PROPHETS**,
JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE..."
Eph. 2:20-21

"AND HE HIMSELF GAVE SOME TO BE
APOSTLES, SOME **PROPHETS**,
SOME EVANGELISTS, AND SOME PASTORS AND TEACHERS..."
Eph. 4:9

"...AND GOD HAS APPOINTED THESE IN THE CHURCH:
FIRST **APOSTLES**, SECOND **PROPHETS**,
THIRD TEACHERS..."
1 Cor 12:28

"...GOD ALSO SAID, 'I WILL SEND THEM
PROPHETS AND **APOSTLES**,
AND SOME OF THEM
THEY WILL KILL AND PERSECUTE,'
THAT THE BLOOD OF ALL
THE PROPHETS WHICH WAS
SHED FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD
MAY BE REQUIRED OF THIS GENERATION..."
Luke 11:49-51

The apostle Peter opens the above list with a strong admonishment to all believers
to "be mindful of the words which were spoken before by
the **HOLY PROPHETS** and of us **THE APOSTLES** of the Lord..."

Proceed down that list above and you will be quickened to realize that the
subject of **PROPHETS** and **APOSTLES** permeates the New Testament.

At the outset I want to stress that our discussion in this chapter will only deal with
those apostles and prophets specifically delineated and confirmed by the Scriptures.
As I am sure you have seen, there exists in scripture many warnings pertaining to
the rising up of "false prophets, false apostles, and false teachers" that would
deceive many. In our ultra-religious society today there exists the enormous
cult of Mormonism built on an extreme controlling foundation of modern-day
"apostles and prophets" spewing out all kinds of "latter-day revelation" designed to
subvert the biblical pattern and purpose God the Father established in instituting
the offices of "prophets and apostles." In light of false religions such as Mormonism
we must remember the warning given by the prophet Moses:

"YOU SHALL **NOT ADD TO THE WORD** WHICH I COMMAND YOU, **NOR TAKE FROM IT**,
THAT YOU MAY KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD
WHICH I COMMAND YOU."

Deut. 4:2

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE **PROPHETS**:

"GOD, WHO AT VARIOUS TIMES AND IN VARIOUS WAYS
SPOKE IN TIME PAST TO THE FATHERS **BY THE PROPHETS...**"

Heb. 1:1-2

The Almighty first began communicating with man His creation by means of the writings/sayings of the **PROPHETS**. The first book of the Bible (Genesis) was supernaturally inspired by direct revelation from God given to the **PROPHET** Moses nearly 1,500 years after the Creation took place. Since there was no personal witness to those events by its author, Moses, we are immediately confronted with the foundational basis upon which all scripture rests, "The just shall live by faith" (faith in what has been written). Therefore, it is vitally important to understand the origin of the words of the **PROPHET**:



"AND SO WE HAVE
THE PROPHETIC WORD CONFIRMED,
WHICH YOU DO WELL TO HEED
AS A LIGHT THAT SHINES IN A DARK PLACE...
KNOWING THIS FIRST, THAT **NO PROPHECY OF SCRIPTURE**
IS OF ANY PRIVATE INTERPRETATION,
FOR **PROPHECY NEVER CAME BY THE WILL OF MAN,**
BUT **HOLY MEN OF GOD** (the prophets)
SPOKE AS THEY WERE MOVED **BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.**"

2 Pet. 1:20

In the passage above we are given the source of the prophet's written/spoken word: "Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by **THE HOLY SPIRIT.**" Here we are introduced to the major function of the third Person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit-He Divinely inspires the **PROPHET** with the very words to write! Consider this profound statement from the Almighty:

"SURELY THE LORD GOD DOES NOTHING,
UNLESS HE REVEALS HIS SECRET TO HIS SERVANTS THE PROPHETS." Amos 3:7

The **PROPHET** spoke words of encouragement to those who would heed the words of God's inspired prophets:

**"BELIEVE IN THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND YOU SHALL BE ESTABLISHED;
BELIEVE HIS PROPHETS, AND YOU SHALL PROSPER."** 2 Chron. 20:20

One only need consider the degree that the Almighty rewards His faithful servants the **PROPHETS** in eternity to see the benefit of heeding their words in this life:

"AND THE LORD GOD OF **THE HOLY PROPHETS** SENT HIS ANGEL TO SHOW HIS SERVANTS
THE THINGS WHICH MUST SHORTLY TAKE PLACE." BEHOLD, I AM COMING QUICKLY!
BLESSED IS HE WHO KEEPS THE WORDS OF **THE PROPHECY** OF THIS BOOK."
NOW I, JOHN, SAW AND HEARD THESE THINGS. AND WHEN I HEARD AND SAW,
I FELL DOWN TO **WORSHIP BEFORE THE FEET OF THE ANGEL**
WHO SHOWED ME THESE THINGS. THEN HE SAID TO ME,
"SEE THAT YOU DO NOT DO THAT.

FOR I AM YOUR FELLOW SERVANT, AND **OF YOUR BRETHREN THE PROPHETS,**
AND OF THOSE WHO KEEP THE WORDS OF THIS BOOK. WORSHIP GOD." Rev. 22:6-9

This "angel" John thinks to be God Himself and worthy to "worship before His feet" turns out to be "of your brethren the **PROPHETS.**" The faithful **PROPHETS** have been so glorified by God that even the apostle John mistakenly attempts to worship this glorified being. Moral to the story? "Heed God's **PROPHETS!**"

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE APOSTLES:

*"BELOVED, I NOW WRITE TO YOU IN WHICH
I STIR UP YOUR PURE MINDS BY WAY OF REMINDER,
THAT YOU MAY BE MINDFUL OF THE WORDS WHICH WERE SPOKEN BEFORE BY
THE HOLY PROPHETS AND OF... US **THE APOSTLES** OF THE LORD..."*

2 Pet.3:2

In addition to "God's Holy **PROPHETS**" being a great source by which God communicated with His people of old, we must also consider another group stated above that surfaces in the New Testament, "and of us **THE APOSTLES** of the Lord."

If you think the Old Testament **PROPHETS** had hard sayings for the people of God, then consider these extra hard sayings uttered by the New Testament **APOSTLES**:



Paul

*"But even if we,
or an angel from heaven,
preach any other gospel
to you than what we
have preached to you,
let him be accursed.
As we have said before,
so now I say again, if anyone
preaches any other gospel
to you than what you
have received,
let him be
accursed."
Gal 1:8-9*



John

*"Whoever transgresses and does
not abide in the doctrine of
Christ does not have God.
He who abides in the
doctrine of Christ has
both the Father and the Son.
If anyone comes to you
and does not bring this doctrine,
do not receive him
into your house nor greet him;
for he who greets him
shares in his
evil deeds."
2 John 9-11*



Peter

*"Paul... has written to you,
as also in all his epistles, speaking in
them of these things, in which are
some things hard to understand,
which untaught and unstable people
twist to their own destruction,
as they do also the rest of the
scriptures.
You therefore, beloved,
since you know this beforehand,
beware lest you also fall from your
own steadfastness,
being led away with
the error of the wicked"
2 Peter 3:15-18*

Why, do you think, dear reader, that these three men who authored most of the New Testament books in your Bible take such a hard-nosed stand against those holding any other view of the scriptures than what they themselves have written? Their words are brutally strong and there is a reason why. Below the apostle Paul specifically addresses the vital importance for every New Testament believer to pay close attention to God's revealed purpose in appointing **APOSTLES**:

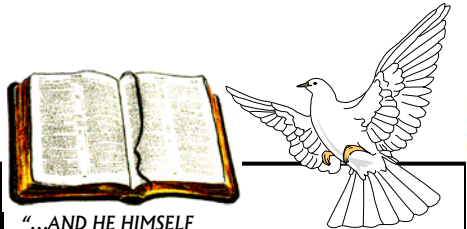
*"...AND HE HIMSELF GAVE SOME TO BE
APOSTLES, SOME **PROPHETS**, SOME **EVANGELISTS**, AND SOME **PASTORS** AND **TEACHERS**,
FOR THE EQUIPPING OF THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY, FOR THE EDIFYING OF THE BODY OF
CHRIST, TILL WE ALL COME TO THE UNITY OF THE FAITH AND OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD,
TO A PERFECT MAN, TO THE MEASURE OF THE STATURE OF THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST;*

*THAT WE SHOULD NO LONGER BE CHILDREN, TOSSED TO AND FRO
AND CARRIED ABOUT WITH EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE, BY THE TRICKERY OF MEN,
IN THE CUNNING CRAFTINESS OF DECEITFUL PLOTTING,*

*BUT, SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE, MAY GROW UP IN ALL THINGS INTO HIM WHO IS THE HEAD -- CHRIST
-- FROM WHOM THE WHOLE BODY, JOINED AND KNIT TOGETHER BY WHAT EVERY JOINT SUPPLIES,
ACCORDING TO THE EFFECTIVE WORKING BY WHICH EVERY PART DOES ITS SHARE,
CAUSES GROWTH OF THE BODY FOR THE EDIFYING OF ITSELF IN LOVE."*

Eph. 4:11-16

Study the chart below carefully and you will see
God's perfect plan of enablement vs. Satan's counter-plan to disable the believer.



“...AND HE HIMSELF
GAVE SOME TO BE
APOSTLES, SOME **PROPHETS**...
FOR THE EQUIPPING OF THE SAINTS
FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY,
FOR THE EDIFYING OF THE BODY OF CHRIST,
TILL WE ALL COME TO THE UNITY OF THE FAITH
AND OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD,
TO A PERFECT MAN,
TO THE MEASURE OF THE STATURE
OF THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST...”



“...CHILDREN,
TOSSED TO AND FRO
AND
CARRIED ABOUT WITH
EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE,
BY THE
TRICKERY OF MEN,
IN THE
CUNNING CRAFTINESS
OF
DECEITFUL PLOTTING ...”

REGARD FOR GOD'S
APOSTLES AND PROPHETS...

DISREGARD FOR GOD'S
APOSTLES AND PROPHETS...

The choice is set before us:

Either we “grow up in all things into Him who is the head-Christ”,
or we can “remain children, tossed to and fro, carried about with every wind of
doctrine by the trickery of men who lie in wait to deceive.” It all depends upon
embracing the written instruction of God's **APOSTLES** and **PROPHETS** of
scripture and rejecting Satan's misleading and deceptive alternatives.

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“BELOVED, I NOW WRITE TO YOU IN WHICH
I STIR UP YOUR PURE MINDS BY WAY OF REMINDER, THAT YOU
MAY BE MINDFUL OF THE WORDS WHICH WERE SPOKEN BEFORE BY
THE HOLY PROPHETS AND OF US **THE APOSTLES**
OF THE LORD...”
2 Pet. 3:2

“...MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD HAVING BEEN
BUILT ON THE FOUNDATION OF THE **APOSTLES** AND **PROPHETS**,
JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE...”
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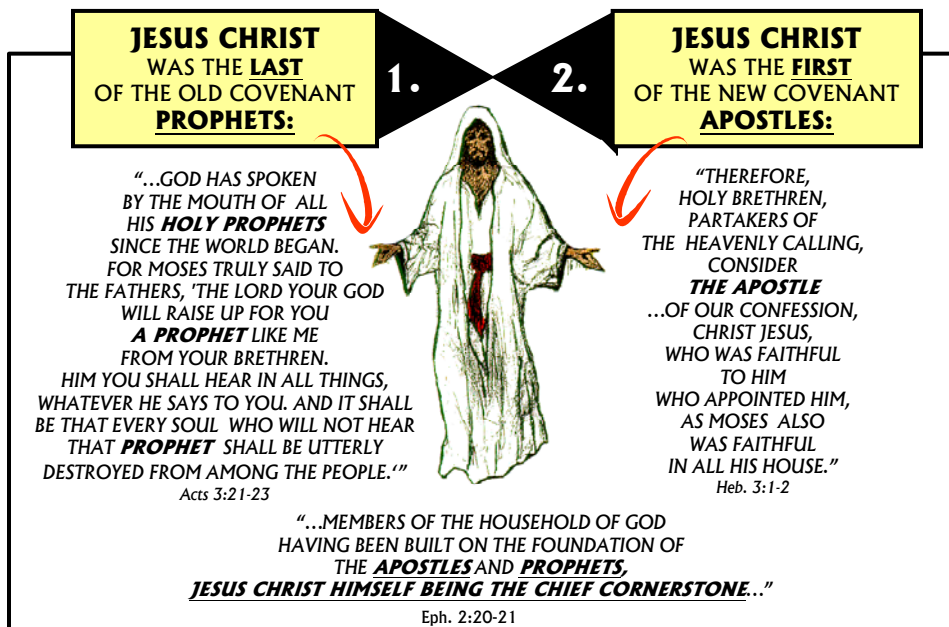
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1 Cor 12:28

“...GOD ALSO SAID, ‘I WILL SEND THEM
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THEY WILL KILL AND PERSECUTE,’
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MAY BE REQUIRED OF THIS GENERATION...”
Luke 11:49-51

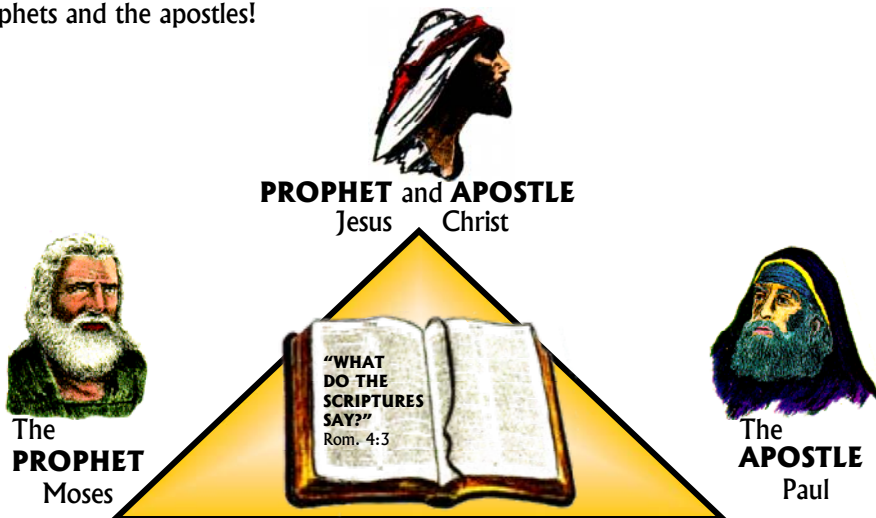
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Considering the great emphasis that scripture places upon the subject of **APOSTLES** and **PROPHETS**, we must ask why it is that the Almighty is so focused on exalting the ministry of His apostles and prophets on earth? The answer is found by considering this dual summary of the initial earthly ministry of Jesus Christ the Son:



Stated above is the dual reason why Jesus is considered to be "the Chief cornerstone" of the household of God. The Son of God holds the dual offices of "**PROPHET** and **APOSTLE**" making Him to be the foundational cornerstone upon which the Church is built. Whenever Paul states the question, "What do the scriptures say?" (Rom.4:2) he is in essence asking, "What do the **PROPHETS** and **APOSTLES** say", because the bulk of the scriptures were authored by the prophets and the apostles!

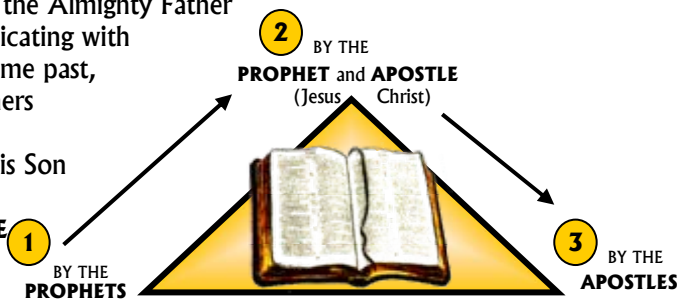


"GOD, WHO AT VARIOUS TIMES AND IN VARIOUS WAYS SPOKE IN TIME PAST
TO THE FATHERS BY **THE PROPHETS**, HAS IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN TO US **BY HIS SON...**"
"...THAT YOU MAY BE MINDFUL OF THE WORDS ...OF US **THE APOSTLES...**"

Heb. 1:1, 2 Pet. 3:2

These verses depict how the Almighty Father has, and still is, communicating with His people. Initially, in time past, He spoke to our forefathers "by the prophets."

Afterward, He sent us His Son to the earth to be both **PROPHET** and **APOSTLE** over the Church yet to be formed.



Finally, He commissioned His chosen apostles to become His voice of authority on earth. The Word of God was inspired by the Holy Spirit to contain the words of the prophets of old, the words of the "Chief Cornerstone", Jesus Christ who, is both prophet and apostle. His inspired words were captured in the writings of the four gospels. The epistles of the New Testament were written by the twelve apostles of the Lamb (the apostle Paul was chosen after the ascension of Christ.)

The apostle Peter gives to every believer this important charge to keep in mind:



(The primary **PROPHET** of scripture was Moses)

"BELOVED, I NOW WRITE TO YOU IN WHICH I STIR UP YOUR PURE MINDS BY WAY OF REMINDER, THAT YOU MAY BE MINDFUL OF THE WORDS WHICH WERE SPOKEN BEFORE BY **THE HOLY PROPHETS** AND OF US **THE APOSTLES** OF THE LORD..."
2 Pet. 3:2



(The primary **APOSTLE** of scripture was Paul)

There were twelve prophets divinely chosen to author the Old Testament as there were also twelve apostles of the Lamb hand-chosen by Jesus in the New Testament. (The apostle Paul was divinely appointed after the ascension of Jesus Christ.)

However, it was primarily the prophet Moses and the apostle Paul who qualify as appointed to author much of what is found in the Old and New Testaments. The prophet Moses penned the first lengthy five books of the Old Testament, and the apostle Paul authored fourteen of the twenty-one epistles that comprise the New Testament. The four Gospels tell the story of Jesus Christ functioning on earth as both the last Old Covenant **PROPHET** and New Covenant **APOSTLE** and chief-cornerstone of the church. The New Testament Gospels are loaded with the warnings spoken by Jesus as the last of the Old Testament prophets and also contain what would become the foundational teachings of the "apostles doctrine" (Acts 2:42)

You might ask,

what is the difference between a **PROPHET** and an **APOSTLE**?

Here is the primary distinction between the two that you need to understand:

The **PROPHET**
IS OFTEN A
"SEER OF THE UNSEEN",
FUTURE THINGS YET TO OCCUR.

The **APOSTLE**
IS OFTEN A
"CLARIFIER AND AMPLIFIER"
OF VISIONS AND DOCTRINAL TRUTHS.

The PROPHET
IS OFTEN A
“SEER OF THE UNSEEN”,
FUTURE THINGS YET TO OCCUR.

The APOSTLE
IS OFTEN A
“CLARIFIER AND AMPLIFIER”
OF VISIONS AND DOCTRINAL TRUTHS.

For the point of illustration, let us consider a sampling of contrasts between the writings of the **PROPHET** and that of the **APOSTLE**:

Moses the PROPHET:

“THEN THE LORD SPOKE TO MOSES, SAYING,
“TAKE THE ROD; YOU AND YOUR BROTHER
AARON GATHER THE CONGREGATION TOGETHER.
**SPEAK TO THE ROCK BEFORE THEIR EYES,
AND IT WILL YIELD ITS WATER;
THUS YOU SHALL BRING WATER
FOR THEM OUT OF THE ROCK,
AND GIVE DRINK TO THE CONGREGATION...**”
Num 20:7-9

Paul the APOSTLE:

“MOREOVER, BRETHREN, I DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE
UNWARE THAT ALL OUR FATHERS WERE UNDER THE
CLOUD, ALL PASSED THROUGH THE SEA ALL WERE
BAPTIZED INTO MOSES... ALL ATE THE SAME
SPIRITUAL FOOD AND **ALL DRANK THE SAME
SPIRITUAL DRINK. FOR THEY DRANK OF THAT
SPIRITUAL ROCK THAT FOLLOWED THEM,
AND THAT ROCK WAS CHRIST.**”
1 Cor. 10:4

Obviously, the level of revelation given to Moses the prophet by the Almighty was limited when compared to the greater degree of revelation given to the apostle Paul. It takes BOTH the message of the prophet along side the message of the apostle to get the complete picture.

Moses the PROPHET:

“THEN **MELCHIZEDEK
KING OF SALEM**
BROUGHT OUT
**BREAD AND WINE;
HE WAS THE PRIEST
OF GOD MOST HIGH.**”
AND HE BLESSED HIM AND SAID:
“BLESSED BE ABRAM OF GOD MOST HIGH,
POSSESSOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH;
AND BLESSED BE GOD MOST HIGH,
WHO HAS DELIVERED YOUR ENEMIES
INTO YOUR HAND.”
AND HE GAVE HIM A TITHE OF ALL.”
Gen. 14:18-20

Paul the APOSTLE:

“FOR THIS MELCHIZEDEK, KING OF SALEM,
PRIEST OF THE MOST HIGH GOD,
WHO MET ABRAHAM... AND BLESSED HIM,
TO WHOM ALSO ABRAHAM GAVE A TENTH PART
OF ALL, FIRST BEING TRANSLATED
“KING OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,”
AND THEN ALSO KING OF SALEM,
MEANING **“KING OF PEACE,”**
**WITHOUT FATHER, WITHOUT MOTHER,
WITHOUT GENEALOGY,
HAVING NEITHER BEGINNING OF DAYS
NOR END OF LIFE,
BUT MADE LIKE
THE SON OF GOD...**”
Heb 7:1-3

The **PROPHET** has limited revelation of the Personage of “Melchizedek, the priest of the God Most High.” However, compare that to the **APOSTLE** Paul’s revelation of who Melchizedek really is. Paul knows this to be a “theophany”, a literal manifestation of Jesus Christ, our High Priest “after the order of Melchizedek” (Heb.7:14-18). The revelation of the **APOSTLE** is always greater than that initially given to the **PROPHET**. We need to embrace BOTH!

Moses the PROPHET:

“IN THE BEGINNING
GOD CREATED
THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH...”
Gen. 1:1

John the APOSTLE:

“IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD,
AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD,
AND **THE WORD WAS GOD. ...**
ALL THINGS WERE MADE THROUGH HIM...
Jn. 1:1-17

Obviously, once again, the revelation of the prophet Moses pertaining to the Creation is not as complete as what is later shown to the apostle John. The **PROPHET** said, “In the beginning God created...” The **APOSTLE** adds, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....” The God in Genesis is now properly identified as Jesus Christ in John’s epistle! Jesus Christ is “God” the Creator! WOW! That is indeed some “clarification and amplification” from the mouth of the **APOSTLE**!

What was stated on the previous page about the Creation account is worthy of more elaboration. Consider this:

PROPHET:



Exegete Herb Jahn, in his *Exegeses Parallel Bible* reveals a stunning revelational comparison between the opening verse of Genesis 1:1 of the Old Testament and the opening verse of John 1:1 in the New Testament: Although recorded 4,000 years apart, both verses begin with the same words, **"IN THE BEGINNING."**

APOSTLE:



In his commentary, Exegete Herb Jahn states that it was the Gospel of John that was inspired by the Holy Spirit to be the "Genesis" of the New Testament-not Matthew. Therefore when he printed his *Exegeses Parallel Bible* he physically placed the Gospel of John in front of the accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke! Consider this well: Moses the prophet gave the initial revelation of the Creation account. However, the identity of the Creator in Genesis is not specifically identified by Moses, but is rather stated to be "God." (In our first chapter we saw that the generic word "God" was a poor substitute for the Hebrew Name, "Elohim-the Almighty Godhead.") Look at the display below. BOTH Moses the **PROPHET** and John the **APOSTLE** use the same opening words tying their message together as one. However, it takes the added illumination of the apostle John to specifically identify the Creator's title as "the Word", which we know is Jesus Christ, Divine Son of the Father.

Moses the **PROPHET**:

"IN THE BEGINNING
ELOHIM CREATES
THE HEAVENS
AND THE EARTH-
THE EARTH BEING WASTE
AND VOID WITH DARKNESS
UPON THE FACE OF
THE ABYSS:
AND THE SPIRIT OF ELOHIM
BROODS ON THE FACE OF
THE WATERS."
...AND ELOHIM SAYS,
WE WORK ADAM
IN OUR IMAGE,
AFTER OUR LIKENESS!...
AND ELOHIM CREATES ADAM
IN HIS IMAGE;
HE CREATES HIM
IN THE IMAGE OF ELOHIM;
HE CREATES THEM
MALE AND FEMALE..."

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John the **APOSTLE**:

"IN THE BEGINNING
WAS THE WORD,
AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD,
AND THE WORD WAS GOD.
HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH
GOD. ALL THINGS WERE MADE
THROUGH HIM, AND WITHOUT HIM
NOTHING WAS MADE THAT WAS
MADE. IN HIM WAS LIFE, AND THE LIFE
WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN.
AND THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE
DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS DID
NOT COMPREHEND IT...HE WAS IN
THE WORLD, AND THE WORLD WAS
MADE THROUGH HIM, AND THE
WORLD DID NOT KNOW HIM.. AND
THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND DWELT
AMONG US, AND WE BEHELD HIS
GLORY, THE GLORY AS OF THE ONLY
BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER, FULL OF
GRACE AND TRUTH."

(Gen. 1:1-27 E.P.B.)

(John 1:1-17 N.K.J excerpts)

From the above comparison of Genesis Chapter One and John Chapter One, you can easily see how the apostle's New Testament account becomes an amplification and clarification of what was initially spoken in more brevity by the prophet in the Old Testament. It is important to see that the continuity of the message begun in Genesis is carried over into the New Testament. Although there are volumes of expressions of truth between these two Chapters, they join together as one continuous ongoing theme of the triune members of the Almighty Godhead.

Are you beginning to see the significance of “**PROPHETS** and **APOSTLES**”?

“BELOVED, NOW WRITE TO YOU IN WHICH
I NOW STIR UP YOUR PURE MINDS BY WAY OF REMINDER,
THAT YOU MAY BE MINDFUL OF THE WORDS WHICH WERE SPOKEN BEFORE BY
THE HOLY PROPHETS AND OF US **THE APOSTLES** OF THE LORD...” 2 Pet.3:1-2

IMPORTANT THEME:

In the remainder of Chapter Two I will seek to present for your consideration what the scriptures have to say pertaining to the depiction of “the fullness of the Almighty Godhead.” Our source will be the words recorded by the Almighty’s **APOSTLES**. Also we will present for your investigation what are the recorded visions of Heaven that the **PROPHETS** of the Old Testament were shown pertaining to Heaven, as well as what the **APOSTLES** of the New Testament reveals pertaining to what constitutes the Almighty Triune Godhead of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We have a very sober warning that we must consider from the apostle John:

“BELOVED,
DO NOT BELIEVE EVERY SPIRIT,
BUT TEST THE SPIRITS, WHETHER THEY ARE OF GOD;
BECAUSE MANY
FALSE PROPHETS
HAVE GONE OUT INTO THE WORLD...
THEY ARE OF THE WORLD.
THEREFORE THEY SPEAK AS OF THE WORLD,
AND THE WORLD HEARS THEM.
WE (THE APOSTLES) ARE OF GOD.
HE WHO KNOWS GOD HEARS US; (THE APOSTLES)
HE WHO IS NOT OF GOD
DOES NOT HEAR US. (THE APOSTLES)
BY THIS WE KNOW
THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH AND THE SPIRIT OF ERROR.”
1 John 4:1-6



The apostle John

The apostle John warns us, “Do not believe every spirit.” Not everything that comes in the Name of God is from God for “many” are actually **FALSE PROPHETS**. In the book of Second Chronicles 20:20 we are given “20-20 vision” that will always cause us to see clearly:

“**BELIEVE IN THE LORD YOUR GOD**
AND YOU SHALL BE ESTABLISHED;
BELIEVE HIS PROPHETS,
AND YOU SHALL PROSPER.”
2 Chron. 20:20

To “believe in God” requires us to “believe in God’s Word” and that includes believing in the recorded writings of His Holy **PROPHETS** of the Old Testament and the clarifying writings of His **APOSTLES** found in the New Testament.

In the concluding pages to this second chapter you will find all the pertinent information pertaining to the Almighty Godhead in all of its fullness. I think you will be amazed at how often the **APOSTLES** described the Almighty Godhead for our learning. Also within these pages you will find all the significant heavenly visions of that plural Godhead recorded by the **PROPHETS** of scripture.



The Almighty invested most of the New Testament to primarily be written by one man-the apostle Paul and for this reason:

***“REMIND THEM...
HOW I TEACH IN EVERY CHURCH...”***

1 Cor.4:17

Not only the apostle Paul, but the apostle Peter and the apostle John had one pressing thought on their mind: to reveal the fullness of the triune Godhead of Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

THE FIRST CHAPTER OF EACH EPISTLE BELOW

(Paul, Peter and John)

CONTAINS THE REVEALING OF

ELOHIM,

THE ALMIGHTY TRIUNE GODHEAD

(God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)



What was the pressing subject matter on Paul's heart as he penned his fourteen epistles to the churches under his care? I believe the answer to that question can be found in his opening chapters to his epistles. Six of Paul's fourteen epistles have the very first chapter open with a complete threefold revelation of Elohim, the Almighty Godhead as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This revelation was given so that every believer would be rooted and grounded in "the fullness of the Godhead" (Col. 1:19, 2:9). Paul's great desire for every Christian is, "that you may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Eph.3:14,19). Paul labored to see every believer "attain to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ" (Col.2:2)

With all the above examples of how the apostles presented what image the Almighty Godhead was shown to possess, we must ask why is it today throughout theological circles that this original Triune Godhead was later changed into a mystical trinity that could appear as a "three-in-one" God? Paul NEVER taught such an image ANYWHERE in his writings and neither did Peter or John! Where did we get the present concept of "the Trinity" as it is widely presented today?

You can find this popular, but erroneous diagram all over the internet under the search banner of "the Trinity."

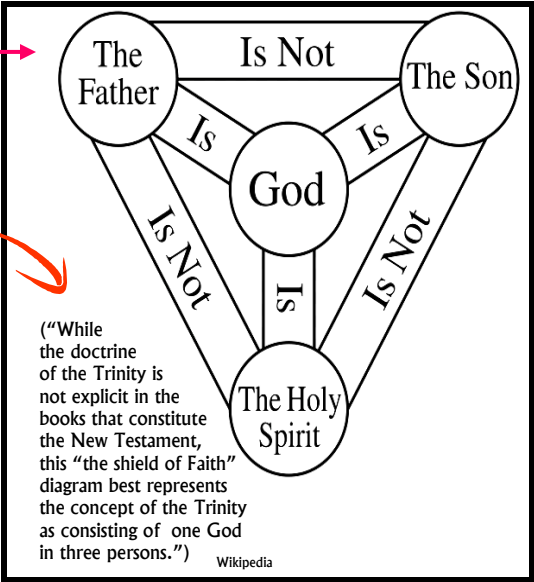
However, the opening comment from Wikipedia Encyclopedia is astounding in honesty in admitting that:

"THE TRINITY IS NOT EXPLICIT IN THE BOOKS THAT CONSTITUTE THE NEW TESTAMENT."

In other words, this popular concept of "the Trinity" is not so stated anywhere in the Word of God but is rather a conception created by man. No such concept was ever taught in the Word of God by any of the apostles! This is tradition replacing the truth of God's Word!

Rather, as we have previously considered (pages 41-43), this doctrine of the Trinity (as a three-in-one God) is post-scripture erroneous Catholic tradition penned in the 3rd and 5th Century:

"THE THREE-IN-ONE TRINITY"



CATHOLIC TRADITION

**"WE WORSHIP
ONE GOD
IN TRINITY..."**

**THE FATHER IS GOD, THE SON IS GOD,
AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD;
AND YET THEY ARE NOT THREE GODS, BUT ONE GOD.
NONE IS GREATER OR LESS THAN ANOTHER...
THE WHOLE THREE PERSONS ARE COEQUAL"**

(the Constantine Creed of Catholicism 3rd Century and the Athanasius Creed of Catholicism 5th Century)

"THE TRINITY"



"three-in-one God"

**The Constantine
Creed of
Catholicism
(3rd Century)**

BISHOP'S DECREE:

**FATHER AND SON
DECLARED TO BE
"ONE GOD"**



**The Athanasian
Creed of
Catholicism
(5th Century)**

BISHOP'S DECREE:

**FATHER, SON AND SPIRIT
DECLARED TO BE
"ONE GOD"**

Although there was a breaking away from the traditions of Catholicism by Martin Luther's proclamation by which Protestantism was initially birthed, large segments of Christianity in America are still very much entrenched in Catholicism's added creeds in the 3rd and 5th century of a Trinity consisting of a mystical form of a "three-in-one God." **NO APOSTLES** taught the above concept anywhere in the New Testament! Like the Mormon cult, this Catholic heresy of cherished tradition falls under "Latter day revelation" from the exalted Popery. It has no foundation in the Word of God!

"TRUTH OR TRADITION?"



The existence of a literal Triune Godhead (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) is indeed the true teaching of the Scriptures rather than the mystical Catholic-based tradition of a "three-in-one God" as commonly taught today even by most Protestant theologians. The true "oneness of God" speaks of a triune Godhead that is in perfect and complete unity with one another. It is not "one God" manifesting Himself in three separate identities, but rather three literal and distinct individual Divine personages comprising a Godhead that functions in complete oneness of unity and purpose. Consider the absolute clarity of the Word of God from the apostle Paul's epistles pertaining to the literal existence of the fullness of the triune Godhead:

THE FULLNESS OF THE GODHEAD:

"...attaining the knowledge of
the mystery of **GOD, BOTH of the Father and of Christ..**"
Col. 2:2

"For it pleased the Father
that in Him (Christ) all **THE FULLNESS**
(of the Godhead) should dwell..."
Col. 1:19

"...for in Him (Christ)
dwells all
THE FULLNESS
OF THE GODHEAD bodily..."
Col. 2:9

"...I bow my knees
to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
...that you may be filled with all **THE FULLNESS OF GOD.**"
Eph. 3:14, 19



Why is it that I don't seem to find Jesus, Paul, Peter or John teaching that mystical concept of a "three-in-one Trinity" anywhere in the Bible?

Even the writers of Wikipedia Encyclopedia knows that fact is true:

"THE TRINITY IS NOT EXPLICIT IN THE BOOKS THAT CONSTITUTE THE NEW TESTAMENT."

Wikipedia

This unbiblical, Catholic-based tradition of a "three-in-one-God Trinity" is STILL embraced today not only by Catholicism but is ALSO STILL widely endorsed today by most Bible-believing Protestant denominations in spite of the previously stated fact that

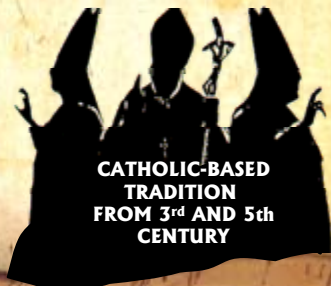
"THE TRINITY IS NOT EXPLICIT IN THE BOOKS THAT CONSTITUTE THE NEW TESTAMENT."

"WE WORSHIP ONE GOD IN A TRINITY..."

**THE FATHER IS GOD,
THE SON IS GOD,
THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD.**

YET THEY ARE NOT THREE GODS, BUT ONE GOD.

**NONE IS GREATER OR LESSER THAN ANOTHER.
THE WHOLE THREE PERSONS ARE COEQUAL IN POSITION AND IN AUTHORITY"**



CATHOLIC-BASED TRADITION FROM 3rd AND 5th CENTURY

"the TRADITION of men"

As we have previously seen, Paul presents a vivid depiction of the **TRIUNE GODHEAD** as being "the fullness of the Godhead." Never did Paul in his writings present any such "three-in-one" concept of God! The "three-in-one" trinity theologians readily teach all three individual EARTHLY depictions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, but then state firmly, "Heaven consists of one God sitting on one throne." The "three-seen-on-earth" somehow mystically becomes "One-God-on-one throne" in Heaven.

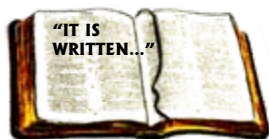
However, what we do NOT find is any New Testament evidence for three Divine (Personages) becoming "One God" in eternity! They proclaim there is only "One God" and one throne in heaven upon which "God" will sit.

They readily espouse that when you get to Heaven you will not see what we have been shown on earth namely, three divine individual Personages consisting of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. However, now we are to accept that when we get to Heaven we will only see "one God sitting on one throne." What we shall see there will be exactly what was recorded in the Word which was spoken by the **PROPHETS** and the **APOSTLES!**

What do you expect to see when you get to Heaven? Will the vision in Heaven change to that of "One God on one Throne" or should you expect to see what you have already been shown throughout scripture by the **PROPHETS** and the **APOSTLES** namely, a vivid manifestation of the Triune Godhead of three Divine Personages consisting of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit?

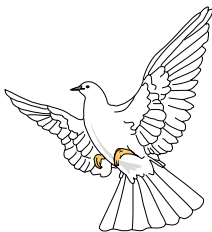
I believe that what we shall see when we get to Heaven is EXACTLY what we have already been shown pertaining to it within the confines of the Word of God. There is an old popular saying that goes, "What you see, is what you get" and it is applicable to what is in Heaven. There are multiple recorded visions of Heaven in the Word of God as well as what might be called, "word pictures" (descriptive depictions) shown to us. There are depictions that contain figurative illustrations such as found in the Book of Revelation such as the "Seven Spirits sent forth into all the world." Even Jesus is depicted in Heaven as looking like "A lamb as though it had been slain."

The point is that all these visions were recorded by **THE PROPHETS** so that there would not be any surprises to what you see when you get there. "What you see" written in His Word is "what you will get" when Heaven finally becomes one's home. We have ALREADY been shown what is there:



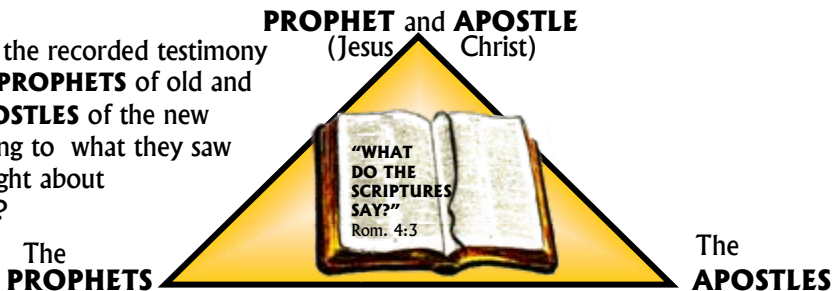
"EYE HAS NOT SEEN, NOR EAR HEARD,
NOR HAVE ENTERED INTO THE HEART OF MAN
THE THINGS WHICH GOD HAS PREPARED
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."
**BUT GOD HAS REVEALED THEM
TO US THROUGH HIS SPIRIT "**

1 Cor 2:9-11



We are going to look at those Heavenly visions found in God's Word recorded by the **PROPHETS**. In doing so, we will confirm that the things that God has prepared in Heaven are plainly stated throughout scripture and we will not have to wait till we get there before seeing them. What we shall see in Heaven has already been shown to us in His recorded Word!

What is the recorded testimony of the **PROPHETS** of old and the **APOSTLES** of the new pertaining to what they saw and taught about Heaven?



~ EVIDENCE THAT DEMANDS A VERDICT ~

Let us examine the evidence set before us. We shall consider the primary three **APOSTLES** who authored most of the New Testament, the apostle Paul, the apostle Peter and the apostle John. You may be shocked to see how often these men spoke about "God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit."

"THE APOSTLES DOCTRINE OF THE TRIUNE GODHEAD"

Let us begin our examination of **THE APOSTLES** depiction of the Almighty Godhead by considering what I believe to be Paul's most complete epistle:

PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS

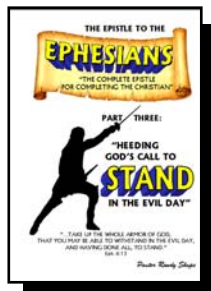
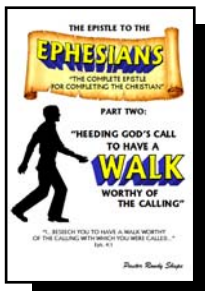
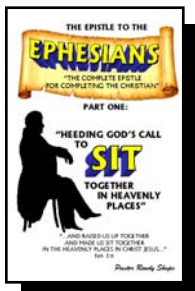
"THE COMPLETE EPISTLE FOR THE COMPLETE CHRISTIAN"



The apostle Paul was commissioned by the Holy Spirit to author two-thirds of the New Testament epistles.

Of his fourteen epistles, I believe Ephesians stands out among all the others because of the complete message that it contains designed to make the Christian to be totally complete in God's sight.

(Twenty years ago I did a DVD series on the Epistle of Ephesians and it is still viewable on my website at PastorRandyShupe.com)



The theme of this teaching series I based on the timeless classic little book of Watchman Nee entitled "Sit, Walk Stand." The epistle to the Ephesians can easily be divided topically and chronologically in such a manner: "Sit" (Chapters 1-3), "Walk" (Chapters 4-5), and "Stand" (Chapter 6). The Christian needs to embrace the whole message as presented in Ephesians to be found complete in Christ. Once the Christian becomes illuminated to heed God's call to "Sit in heavenly places" in Christ, he/she must begin to "Have a walk worthy of the Calling." Of necessity, once the believer begins to walk properly then, of even greater importance, is the need to embrace the call to spiritual warfare in order to be able to "Stand in the evil day" against the onslaught of the Evil One. The point I am seeking to make is this needful one:

***IT REQUIRES THE CHRISTIAN
TO EMBRACE THE COMPLETE DIVINE GODHEAD OF ELOHIM
(God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit)
IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE MAKING OF THE CHRISTIAN INTO
THE IMAGE OF CHRIST IN WHOM SCRIPTURE STATES,
"IS THE FULLNESS OF THE GODHEAD BODILY"***

On the next page are the first fourteen verses of Ephesians Chapter One. These verses depict in chronological order the supportive Divine ministry of Elohim as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit that are ordained to be at work in the life of the believer. Take some quality time to ponder the contents of these verses for they set the stage for the Christian to be enabled to "Sit, Walk and Stand" properly in the midst of demonically evil surroundings.

**“ELOHIM”,
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN
EPHESIANS**

1. ELOHIM (THE ALMIGHTY FATHER)

“BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
WHO HAS BLESSED US WITH
EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING
IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES IN CHRIST,
JUST AS HE CHOSE US IN HIM
BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD,
THAT WE SHOULD BE HOLY AND WITHOUT
BLAME BEFORE HIM IN LOVE,
HAVING PREDESTINED US TO ADOPTION AS
SONS BY JESUS CHRIST TO HIMSELF,
ACCORDING TO THE GOOD PLEASURE OF HIS
WILL, TO THE PRAISE OF THE GLORY OF HIS
GRACE, BY WHICH HE MADE US
ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED.”

Eph. 1:3-6

2. ELOHIM (THE ALMIGHTY SON)

“IN HIM WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD,
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS,
ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE
WHICH HE MADE TO ABOUND TOWARD US
IN ALL WISDOM AND PRUDENCE,
HAVING MADE KNOWN TO US
THE MYSTERY OF HIS WILL...
THAT IN THE DISPENSATION OF
THE FULLNESS OF THE TIMES
HE MIGHT GATHER TOGETHER IN ONE
ALL THINGS IN CHRIST,
BOTH WHICH ARE IN HEAVEN
AND WHICH ARE ON EARTH -- IN HIM.
IN HIM ALSO
WE HAVE OBTAINED AN INHERITANCE,
BEING PREDESTINED ...
THAT WE WHO FIRST TRUSTED IN CHRIST
SHOULD BE TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY.
IN HIM YOU ALSO TRUSTED,
AFTER YOU HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH,
THE GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION...”

Eph. 1:7-12

3. ELOHIM (THE ALMIGHTY SPIRIT)

“IN WHOM ALSO, HAVING BELIEVED,
YOU WERE SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE,
WHO IS THE GUARANTEE OF OUR INHERITANCE
UNTIL THE REDEMPTION OF
THE PURCHASED POSSESSION,
TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY.”

Eph. 1:13-14

EPHESIANS

1. In this opening chapter of Ephesians we find a systematic revelational statement of Divine blessings and revealed purposes that God the Father expresses toward all of redeemed mankind. This is a further detailed commitment to what was stated initially in Genesis by the Almighty Godhead of “Elohim”:

“Let **US** make man
in **OUR** image,
after **OUR** likeness.”

2. Reversing the initial sinful fall of mankind in Genesis was achieved by sacrificing the blood of an innocent lamb and covering Adam and Eve’s shame with its skin. So likewise do we find that God the Son is the real Lamb of God that provides “redemption through His blood-the forgiveness of sins.”

Paul goes on to state what will become “the mystery of His will”, “to gather all things in one that are in Christ” and thereby provide an eternal inheritance to all who by faith that accept His sacrificial work on earth.

This message is the gospel of salvation that causes mankind who first trusted in Christ to inherit the praise of His glory in eternity!

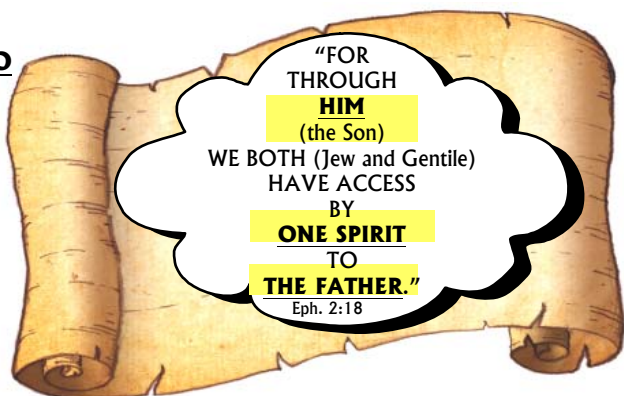
3. The third statement of Paul in these opening verses from Ephesians introduce the third member of the Almighty Godhead to the believer. This is “the Holy Spirit of Promise” sent forth as the guarantee of our inheritance until it is time for the redemption of the purchased possession to occur!

We have seen how Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians opened by revealing each of the three Divine personages of the Almighty Godhead (Elohim) in their proper order as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:1-14).

In

EPHESIANS CHAPTER TWO

there is a vivid unfolding of how all three Divine Personages work together: This Divine Godhead always functions together in demonstration of "Plurality in Unity."



Consider also Paul's climatic prayer in **EPHESIANS CHAPTER THREE:**

Again, as throughout this epistle, we find Paul always pointing us to the unified function of Elohim the Almighty Godhead, always at work in every yielded member of the family of God on earth with this clearly stated purpose in mind:

"...that you may be filled with all **THE FULLNESS OF GOD.**"

"For this reason I bow my knees to **THE FATHER** of our Lord **JESUS CHRIST,**



from whom **THE WHOLE FAMILY IN HEAVEN AND EARTH**

is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through **HIS SPIRIT** in the inner man, that **CHRIST** may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height -- to know the love of **CHRIST** which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all **THE FULLNESS OF GOD.**

Now **TO HIM** (the Father) who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, **TO HIM** (the Father) be glory in the church **BY CHRIST JESUS** to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Eph 3:14-21

In bible numerics the number three represents "Divine completion." Even man was created as a threefold being consisting of spirit, soul and body. Elohim the Almighty Godhead is no exception. There are three Personages comprising the Almighty Godhead. They are NOT "co-equal" as many theologians profess. The Bible states God the Father is the greater personage of the Godhead. Ephesians states this truth about the supreme Personage of God the Father in **EPHESIANS CHAPTER FOUR:**

"...THERE IS ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT ... ONE LORD, ONE FAITH... **ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL,** WHO IS ABOVE ALL, AND THROUGH ALL, AND IN YOU ALL."

Eph. 4:1-2

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN
COLOSSIANS

1. ELOHIM (THE ALMIGHTY FATHER)

"WE GIVE THANKS TO THE GOD AND FATHER
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
PRAYING ALWAYS FOR YOU,
SINCE WE HEARD OF
YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS
AND OF YOUR LOVE
FOR ALL THE SAINTS;
BECAUSE OF THE HOPE WHICH IS LAID UP
FOR YOU IN HEAVEN,
OF WHICH YOU HEARD BEFORE
IN THE WORD OF THE TRUTH
OF THE GOSPEL...

Col. 1:1-5

2. ELOHIM (THE ALMIGHTY SPIRIT)

FOR THIS REASON WE ALSO...
DO NOT CEASE TO PRAY FOR YOU
AND TO ASK THAT YOU MAY BE FILLED WITH THE
KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL IN ALL WISDOM AND
SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING;
THAT YOU MAY WALK WORTHY OF THE LORD,
FULLY PLEASING HIM,
BEING FRUITFUL IN EVERY GOOD WORK AND
INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD;
STRENGTHENED WITH ALL MIGHT,
ACCORDING TO HIS GLORIOUS POWER,
FOR ALL PATIENCE AND
LONGSUFFERING WITH JOY...

Col. 1:6-11

3. ELOHIM (THE ALMIGHTY SON)

GIVING THANKS TO THE FATHER
WHO HAS QUALIFIED US TO BE PARTAKERS OF
THE INHERITANCE OF THE SAINTS ...
HE HAS DELIVERED US FROM THE POWER OF
DARKNESS AND CONVEYED US INTO
THE KINGDOM OF THE SON OF HIS LOVE,
IN WHOM WE HAVE REDEMPTION
THROUGH HIS BLOOD,
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS."

Col. 1:12-14

COLOSSIANS

Paul's epistle to the Ephesians is not the only epistle in which he elaborated about what constitutes the Almighty Godhead. Consider his revelational prayer found in the first and second chapters of the epistle to the Colossians.

As in Ephesians, so likewise does Paul open this epistle with reference to "God the Father" as being the supreme member of the Godhead.

Paul then switches in his prayer to the Divine personage of the Holy Spirit of the Godhead at work in the life of the believer. We know this to be the Holy Spirit although not specifically stated because it mentions several fruits of the Holy Spirit at work in the believer such as "patience, longsuffering and joy" causing the believer to become one who is known to be "fruitful in every good work." Likewise, we can see reference to the ministry of the Holy Spirit as the one imparting to the believer the ability "to be strengthened with all might according to His glorious power."

Paul once again gives thanks to God the Father who has enabled the repentant believer to become "partakers of the inheritance of the saints."

Paul now introduces us to the work of the Almighty Divine Son found in the initial deliverance of the believer from the power of darkness which is followed by the placing of the believer into the "Kingdom of the Son" through His act of providing "redemption through His blood."

Paul now states the fundamental truths pertaining to the work of God the Son:

3. ELOHIM (THE ALMIGHTY SON)

"HE (the Son) IS THE IMAGE
OF THE INVISIBLE GOD,
THE FIRSTBORN OVER ALL CREATION
FOR BY HIM ALL THINGS WERE CREATED
THAT ARE IN HEAVEN AND THAT ARE ON
EARTH, VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE,
WHETHER THRONES OR DOMINIONS OR
PRINCIPALITIES OR POWERS.
ALL THINGS WERE CREATED THROUGH HIM
AND FOR HIM.
AND HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS, AND IN HIM
ALL THINGS CONSIST. AND HE IS THE HEAD
OF THE BODY, THE CHURCH,
WHO IS THE BEGINNING,
THE FIRSTBORN FROM THE DEAD, THAT
IN ALL THINGS
HE MAY HAVE THE PREMINENCE.
FOR IT PLEASED **THE FATHER**
THAT **IN HIM ALL THE FULLNESS**
(of the Godhead) **SHOULD DWELL...**"

Col. 1:15-20

COLOSSIANS

First of all, the one who forgives our sin is also stated to be the Creator of all things, including all principalities and powers. He also is stated to be "the image of the invisible God." Jesus clarifies this statement:

"He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"
Jn. 14:9-10

Note well that Jesus is identified as "The **FIRSTBORN** over all creation" and "The **FIRSTBORN** from the dead."

These two titles speak of the Son of God in His earthly status as "the only **BEGOTTEN** Son of God." This statement does NOT imply that Jesus became a created being by the Father in eternity past, but rather that He was begotten when He became man as "God manifest in the flesh."

"...**CHRIST JESUS**, WHO,
BEING **IN THE FORM OF GOD**
DID NOT CONSIDER IT ROBBERY
TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD
BUT MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION,
TAKING THE FORM OF A BONDSERVANT,
AND **COMING IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN...**"
Phil. 2:5-11

"AND WITHOUT CONTROVERSY **GREAT**
IS THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS* (mystery of God)
GOD WAS MANIFESTED IN THE FLESH,
JUSTIFIED IN THE SPIRIT, SEEN BY ANGELS,
PREACHED AMONG THE GENTILES,
BELIEVED ON IN THE WORLD, RECEIVED UP IN GLORY."
1 Tim 3:16

"AND **THE WORD BECAME FLESH**
AND DWELT AMONG US,
AND WE BEHELD HIS GLORY, THE GLORY AS OF
THE ONLY BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER...
THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON
WHO IS IN THE BOSOM OF THE FATHER,
HE HAS DECLARED HIM..." John 1:14-18

"...TO THOSE WHO ARE THE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE. FOR WHOM HE FOREKNEW,
HE ALSO PREDESTINED TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON,
THAT HE (Jesus) MIGHT BE **THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN...**" Rom. 8:29

"I HAVE GLORIFIED YOU ON THE EARTH. I HAVE FINISHED THE WORK WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN ME TO DO.
AND NOW, O FATHER, GLORIFY ME TOGETHER WITH YOURSELF,
WITH THE GLORY WHICH I HAD WITH YOU BEFORE THE WORLD WAS." Jn. 17:4-5

"...HAS IN THESE LAST DAYS **SPOKEN TO US BY HIS SON**, WHOM HE HAS APPOINTED HEIR OF ALL
THINGS, THROUGH WHOM ALSO HE MADE THE WORLDS;
WHO BEING THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY AND THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF HIS PERSON...
WHEN HE HAD BY HIMSELF PURGED OUR SINS,
SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH..."
Heb. 1:1-3

I encourage you to ponder carefully the content found in the above bevy of scriptures for they confirm the validity of "God the Son" as part of the Almighty Godhead. The Son of God is NOT a created being as was the archangel Lucifer. "God the Son" is as much God as is "God the Father" and "God the Spirit." When scripture describes Jesus as "the only begotten Son of the Father" it refers to the immaculate conception of His mother Mary by the Holy Spirit and the physical birthing of baby Jesus as a human being. God becomes a man. Then, after "He had by Himself purged our sins" on the cross, He returned to Heaven, an event witnessed by over five hundred that preceded Jesus' return to Heaven to "sit down at the Right Hand of the Majesty on High."

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN

1 TIMOTHY

**"AND
WITHOUT CONTROVERSY
GREAT**

**IS THE MYSTERY
OF
GODLINESS**

(*"mystery of God"*)

**GOD
WAS MANIFESTED
IN THE FLESH,**

**JUSTIFIED
IN THE SPIRIT,
SEEN BY ANGELS,
PREACHED
AMONG THE GENTILES,
BELIEVED ON
IN THE WORLD,
RECEIVED UP IN GLORY."**

1 Tim 3:16

1 TIMOTHY

The **APOSTLE Paul:**

**"GOD
WAS MANIFESTED
IN THE FLESH"**

1 Tim. 3:16

In the midst of this instructional letter to Timothy by the apostle Paul, we find this phenomenal revelational statement as a validation of Jesus stated to be a Divine Personage, "God the Son."

Note that it does not say "the Son of God" (the Father) here in these verses, but rather states, "**GOD** [Himself] was manifest in the flesh." Who is this "God" that was manifest in the flesh"? It is Jesus Christ!

When we see the words "the Son of God", we tend to think it implies Jesus is the Son **OF** God (the Father) rather than seeing it to be a direct confirmation of Jesus Christ the Son as "**GOD** manifest in the flesh."

Paul the **APOSTLE** declares of Jesus, "**GOD WAS MANIFEST IN THE FLESH.**"

Consider yet another witness, the **APOSTLE John**, who also states the same truth as Paul:

**"IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD,
AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD,
AND THE WORD WAS GOD.**

HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD...

**AND THE WORD
BECAME FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US**

AND WE BEHELD HIS GLORY,
THE GLORY AS OF

THE ONLY BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER...

THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,

WHO IS IN THE BOSOM OF THE FATHER,
HE HAS DECLARED HIM."

John 1:1-14 excerpts

The **APOSTLE John:**

**"THE WORD WAS GOD...
THE WORD BECAME FLESH
AND DWELT AMONG US"**

John 1:1-14

Who was Paul stating to be "God manifest in the flesh"? Without question, the context says it was Jesus Christ! Who was John stating "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us"? Again, the context reveals it is Jesus Christ! The apostle John takes the revelation into even deeper truths. The context of John's words tie together, "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" to the revelation that this Jesus is "the only begotten of the Father-the only begotten Son." When then did Jesus Christ become "the only begotten of the Father-the only begotten Son"? It was when He became "manifest in the flesh"! It was not in "eternity past" but rather after the Divine conception of infant Jesus by the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the virgin Mary! "The begotten Son of the Father" speaks of Jesus birthed as a human being to bear the sins of the world! He is NOT "a created being" of the Father from eternity past, He is rather God "the Creator"!

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN

HEBREWS

(Hebrews 1:1-4)

"GOD,
WHO AT VARIOUS TIMES
AND IN VARIOUS WAYS
SPOKE IN TIME PAST
TO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS,
HAS IN THESE LAST DAYS
SPOKEN TO US
BY HIS SON,
WHOM HE HAS
APPOINTED
HEIR OF ALL THINGS,
THROUGH WHOM
ALSO
HE MADE THE WORLDS;
WHO BEING
THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY
AND
THE EXPRESS IMAGE
OF HIS PERSON,
AND
UPHOLDING ALL THINGS
BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER,
WHEN HE
HAD BY HIMSELF
PURGED
OUR SINS,
(He Jesus)
SAT DOWN
AT
THE RIGHT HAND
OF
THE MAJESTY
ON HIGH..."
Hebrews 1:1-4

HEBREWS

GET THE THEME OF HEBREWS:

Paul opened Ephesians, Colossians and Hebrews with various depictions of Elohim the Almighty Godhead. This is the prevalent message on the heart and mind of the apostle Paul:

To reveal the authority, ministry and character of the Divine Godhead of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the triune Almighty Godhead.

Paul opens Hebrews with homage to the supreme headship of Elohim the Father followed by the revelation of His Almighty Son, as "the heir of all things."

As in Ephesians and Colossians, Paul also singles out here in Hebrews that the Son is the Divine agent through whom He (the Father) also "made the worlds." Read these amazing statements carefully for they are describing One who is not only Savior, but is part of the Almighty Godhead itself!

Jesus Christ, as the Son of the Father is now greatly compared to the Father in stating that He is "the brightness of His glory" and "the express image of His Person, which means as the old adage states, "Like Father like Son."

Paul now switches to the self-sacrificial earthly mission of the Son who "by Himself purged our sins." The One who "made the worlds", the "Heir of all things", ascended back to Heaven and resumed His rightful place sitting next to His Father, He "sat down at the Right Hand of the Majesty on High."

This Jesus, savior of the world, the "Son of God" is in reality
"GOD the Son."

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN

HEBREWS

(Hebrews 1:5-14)

**"...HAVING BECOME
SO MUCH BETTER THAN THE ANGELS
AS HE HAS BY INHERITANCE**

OBTAINED A MORE EXCELLENT NAME
THAN THEY.

FOR TO WHICH OF THE ANGELS DID HE EVER SAY:

**"YOU ARE MY SON,
TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU?"**
AND AGAIN:

**"I WILL BE TO HIM A FATHER,
AND HE SHALL BE TO ME A SON?"**
BUT WHEN HE AGAIN

BRINGS **THE FIRSTBORN INTO THE WORLD,**
HE SAYS:

"LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."

AND OF THE ANGELS HE SAYS:
**"WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS SPIRITS
AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."**

BUT TO THE SON HE SAYS:
"YOUR THRONE, O GOD,
IS FOREVER AND EVER;

A SCEPTER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IS THE SCEPTER OF
YOUR KINGDOM. YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS
AND HATED LAWLESSNESS;

THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD,
HAS ANOINTED YOU

WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS
MORE THAN YOUR COMPANIONS

AND:

"YOU, LORD,

IN THE BEGINNING

LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH,
AND THE HEAVENS ARE
THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS.

THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN;
AND THEY WILL ALL GROW OLD LIKE A GARMENT;
LIKE A CLOAK YOU WILL FOLD THEM UP,
AND THEY WILL BE CHANGED.

BUT YOU ARE THE SAME,
AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT FAIL."

BUT TO WHICH OF THE ANGELS
HAS HE EVER SAID:

**"SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,
TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL?"**
ARE THEY NOT ALL MINISTERING SPIRITS
SENT FORTH TO MINISTER FOR
THOSE WHO WILL
INHERIT SALVATION?"

Heb. 1:5-14

HEBREWS

Devout Jews in Paul's day had a strong propensity to make angels the object of their worship instead of Almighty God Himself. Therefore the apostle Paul begins to address this error by comparing the angels of God ("sons of God") to the Personage of "God the Son." In doing so, Paul will now unfold the revelation that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, is in essence "God the Son." Jesus Christ is not a created being, but rather is the eternal, pre-existent God the Son.

Note he is "the firstborn into the world" which means the ever-existent Son became "God manifest in the flesh" (I Tim.3:16) via the immaculate conception of The Holy Spirit upon the virgin Mary. God is now able to be seen on earth in human flesh as becoming "the firstborn into the world."

Paul now records the very words the Father speaks toward His Son in saying, "But to the Son He (the Father) says: 'Your Throne, O GOD is forever and ever' and 'therefore GOD, (Jesus) Your GOD, (the Father) has anointed you'".

Jesus Christ the Son is called "God" twice in these passages!

Note God the Father also confirms the "God" who was the Creator in Genesis is verified to be the one who: "In the beginning" laid the foundation of the Earth as well as the Heavens themselves!

All of Creation is "the work of Your hands." Notice too that "God the Son" inherits an eternal praise from the Father:

**"BUT YOU ARE THE SAME,
AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT FAIL."**

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN

PHILIPPIANS

"LET THIS MIND
BE IN YOU WHICH WAS ALSO
IN CHRIST JESUS,
WHO,
BEING IN THE FORM OF GOD
DID NOT CONSIDER IT ROBBERY
TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD
BUT MADE HIMSELF
OF NO REPUTATION,
TAKING THE FORM OF A BONDSERVANT,
AND **COMING IN**
THE LIKENESS OF MEN.
AND BEING FOUND IN
APPEARANCE AS A MAN,
HE HUMBLING HIMSELF
AND BECAME OBEDIENT
TO THE POINT OF DEATH,
EVEN THE DEATH OF THE CROSS.

THEREFORE
GOD
(the Father)
ALSO HAS HIGHLY EXALTED HIM
AND GIVEN HIM
THE NAME
WHICH IS
ABOVE EVERY NAME,
THAT AT
THE NAME OF JESUS
EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW,
OF THOSE IN HEAVEN,
AND OF THOSE ON EARTH,
AND OF THOSE
UNDER THE EARTH,
AND THAT EVERY TONGUE
SHOULD CONFESS
THAT
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD,
TO THE GLORY OF
GOD THE FATHER."

Phil. 2:5-11

PHILIPPIANS

In this epistle of the apostle Paul we are exhorted to follow the mindset of our Master, the Lord Jesus Christ.

In setting this pattern for us to emulate we are given great revelation about who this Jesus is and where He came from prior to His birth on this earth as "the Son of Man."

Prior to His appearance as a man we find that He was
"IN THE FORM OF GOD"

His Heavenly Father and that He
**"DID NOT CONSIDER IT ROBBERY
TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD."**

This is a bold declaration of the Divinity of Jesus Christ prior to coming to earth via physical birth.

Rather Paul states that Jesus
"CAME IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN"

and bore Himself
the **"APPEARANCE AS A MAN."**

In First Timothy we saw that Paul
stated it to be

**"THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS in
which "GOD WAS MANIFEST
IN THE FLESH"**

(1 Tim 3:16)

You may remember
that the opening theme of the first
chapter of the book you are
presently reading is
"What's in a Name?"

These verses from Philippians
Chapter Two are revealing what is
contained within the Name
"Jesus." This inherited Name is
proclaimed to be "the Name above
every Name." It is the Name that
will force "every knee to bow"
in submission.

It is the Name that governs all
those who are in Heaven,
all those who live on earth,
and all those who are abiding in
torment under the earth
in Hell itself! All tongues will
willingly or unwillingly confess that
"Jesus Christ is Lord!"

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN

CORINTHIANS

**"...THEN COMES THE END,
WHEN HE (the Son)
DELIVERS THE KINGDOM
TO**

**GOD THE FATHER,
WHEN HE (the Son)
PUTS AN END TO ALL RULE
AND ALL AUTHORITY
AND POWER.**

**FOR HE
(the Son)
MUST REIGN TILL
HE (the Son)
HAS PUT ALL ENEMIES UNDER
HIS FEET.**

**THE LAST ENEMY THAT WILL BE
DESTROYED IS DEATH.
FOR "HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS
UNDER HIS FEET."**

**BUT
WHEN HE SAYS
"ALL THINGS
ARE PUT UNDER HIM,"
IT IS EVIDENT THAT
HE (the Father)
WHO PUT ALL THINGS UNDER
HIM (the Son)
IS EXCEPTED.**

**NOW WHEN ALL THINGS ARE
MADE SUBJECT TO
HIM (the Father),
THEN THE SON HIMSELF
WILL ALSO BE SUBJECT TO
HIM (the Father)
WHO PUT ALL THINGS UNDER
HIM,
THAT GOD (the Father)
MAY BE ALL IN ALL."**

1 Cor. 15:24-28

1 CORINTHIANS

Paul briefly speaks of the Almighty Godhead in yet another of his epistles, that of First Corinthians.

Take time to carefully ponder the submissive relationship Paul describes between The Almighty Father and His Almighty Son, for they are **NOT** of co-equal status as many mainstream theologians are inerrant in conveying. The basis of their error traces back to the Constantine and Athanasian Creed birthed by Catholicism in the 3rd and 5th Century(see page 41). It states:

**"WE WORSHIP ONE GOD IN TRINITY...
THE FATHER IS GOD, THE SON IS GOD,
AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD;
AND YET THEY ARE NOT THREE GODS,
BUT ONE GOD...NONE IS GREATER
OR LESS THAN ANOTHER...
THE WHOLE THREE PERSONS
ARE CO-EQUAL"**

(the Constantine Creed of Catholicism 3rd Century-
Athanasius Creed of Catholicism 5th Century)

Although the Athanasian Creed does not get as much publicity in Protestant churches, the orthodox doctrines of this Catholic version of the Trinity have been, and still are, affirmed by virtually every historic Protestant church. Such is the power of handed-down tradition! It is important to see that according to the Scripture the Personages of the Triune Godhead are **NOT** "coequal" as stated.

I first raised this issue with the Assemblies of God back in 1980 while seeking their ordination as a certified teacher. This very verse from First Corinthians was my doctrinal rebuttal to their stated "co-equal" status of the Trinity. Obviously, it is clear that the apostle Paul of the Scriptures also disagrees with that inerrant "co-equal" philosophy. God the Father being greater than God the Son is a concept often stated by Jesus Himself:

"...FOR MY FATHER IS GREATER THAN I."
Jn. 14:28

**"...NOR IS HE WHO IS SENT GREATER
THAN HE WHO SENT HIM."**
Jn. 13:16

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PAUL IN
TITUS

"PAUL, A BONDSERVANT OF GOD
AND AN APOSTLE OF JESUS CHRIST...
...ACCORDING TO
THE COMMANDMENT
1. OF GOD OUR SAVIOR;
TO TITUS, A TRUE SON IN
OUR COMMON FAITH: GRACE, MERCY,
AND PEACE FROM GOD THE FATHER
AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR."

Titus 1:1-4

"FOR THE GRACE OF GOD
THAT BRINGS SALVATION
HAS APPEARED TO ALL MEN, TEACHING US THAT,
DENYING UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS, WE
SHOULD LIVE SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND
GODLY IN THE PRESENT AGE, LOOKING
FOR THE BLESSED HOPE AND
GLORIOUS APPEARING OF
2. OUR GREAT GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST,
WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR US,
THAT HE MIGHT REDEEM US
FROM EVERY LAWLESS DEED
AND PURIFY FOR HIMSELF
HIS OWN SPECIAL PEOPLE,
ZEALOUS FOR GOOD WORKS."

Titus 2:11-14

3. WHEN THE KINDNESS AND THE LOVE OF GOD OUR SAVIOR
TOWARD MAN APPEARED,
NOT BY WORKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
WHICH WE HAVE DONE,
BUT ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY
HE SAVED US, THROUGH THE WASHING
OF REGENERATION AND
RENEWING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
WHOM HE POURED OUT
ON US
ABUNDANTLY THROUGH
JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR,
THAT HAVING BEEN JUSTIFIED
BY HIS GRACE WE SHOULD BECOME
HEIRS ACCORDING TO
THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE."

Titus 3:4-7

PAUL TO TITUS

Titus
is among
Paul's tiniest
of epistles
but is power-packed
with irrefutable proof of
all three
Divine Personages
of the
Triune Godhead.

It is within
this little epistle
that Paul reveals
THREE TIMES
that Jesus Christ,
the Son of God,
is called "God"
Himself.
Jesus is not only
stated to be
"the Lord Jesus Christ
our Savior"
but He also bears
the title,

**"OUR
GREAT GOD
AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST."**

The
third witness
to the Lord
Jesus Christ
being
"God our
Savior"
is found in the
Third Chapter
of Titus
in which Jesus is
once again
identified as
**"GOD
OUR
SAVIOR."**

So far we have examined the Triune Almighty Godhead as revealed by the apostle Paul in seven of his epistles: Ephesians, Colossians, Hebrews, Philippians, First Corinthians, Titus and First Timothy.

**"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE JOHN IN
THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN**

**"IN THE BEGINNING
WAS THE WORD,
AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD,
AND THE WORD WAS GOD.**

**HE WAS
IN THE BEGINNING
WITH GOD.
ALL THINGS WERE
MADE THROUGH HIM,
AND WITHOUT HIM
NOTHING
WAS MADE THAT WAS MADE.**

**IN HIM
WAS LIFE,
AND THE LIFE
WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN.
AND THE LIGHT SHINES
IN THE DARKNESS,
AND THE DARKNESS DID NOT
COMPREHEND IT...**

**HE WAS IN THE WORLD,
AND THE WORLD
WAS MADE THROUGH HIM,**

**AND THE WORLD
DID NOT KNOW HIM..**

**AND THE WORD
BECAME FLESH
AND DWELT AMONG US,
AND WE BEHELD HIS GLORY,
THE GLORY AS OF
THE ONLY BEGOTTEN
OF THE FATHER,
FULL OF GRACE
AND TRUTH."**

Jn. 1:1-14

GOSPEL OF JOHN

Let us now consider the prolific writings of the apostle John. He too gives us much insight into the Triune Godhead in his Gospel account, in the First Epistle of John, and in the conclusion to the Bible, the Book of Revelation, which was also authored by the apostle John.

We have previously considered a portion of what John recorded of the Almighty Godhead in John 1:1-14.

You will remember I pointed out to you (page 49) that Exegete Herb Jahn purposely placed the Gospel of John in his "Exegeses Parallel Bible" as being more properly how the

New Testament should begin.

He labeled the Gospel of John as "the Genesis of the New Testament" since both Genesis and John begin with the the same phrase,

"In the beginning"
and both unfold details of the original Creation story.

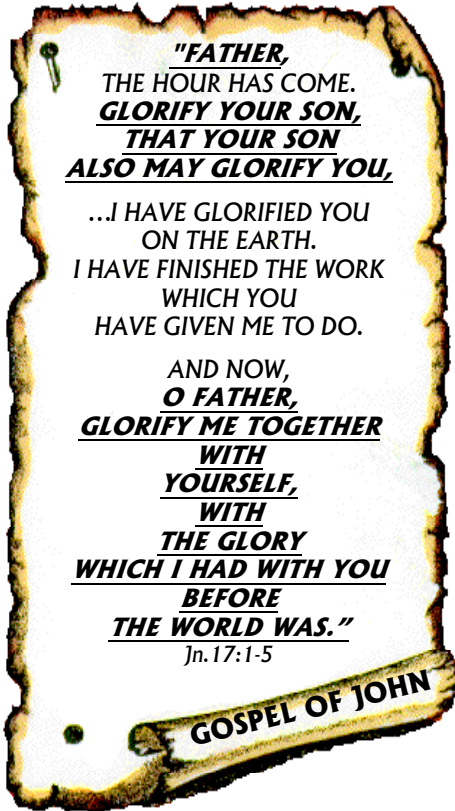
The Gospel of John is the continuation of the Creation story found initially in Genesis.

However, the "in the beginning" account found in the gospel of John is far more detailed and revelational than the Genesis account of Creation seeing that John identifies Jesus as being the Creator, the Son of God, and also identifies Jesus as being "the Word of God."

John's gospel reveals that "the Word" (which is Jesus-Rev. 19:13) was "with God" and "was God."

"The Word" (Jesus) who was "in the beginning" is also the Creator as "all things were made through Him" and "nothing was made that was made" apart from Jesus the Creator, the Son of the Father.

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE JOHN IN
**THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN**



Further on
in the Gospel of John we come
to these statements in Chapter 17 in
which Jesus prays a very illuminating
prayer to His Father just prior to
His death on the Cross.
It is filled with revelation pertaining
to the Son's special relationship
to His Father!

Jesus' prayer begins
with a request for the Father to
"glorify the Son" in order that the
Son may also "glorify the Father."

Where are
these two acts of glorification
to take place? Jesus is quite clear in
saying that both the Father and the
Son will be glorified together
AFTER Jesus' ascension
off of the earth.

However,
note well that Jesus wants that
glorification to return to the same
level that He possessed with the
Father "before the world was."

Jesus just stated for us
His pre-existence even before the
world was made. It is a return back
to this eternal state of pre-existent
glory that Jesus requests of His
Father. Remember, Jesus is not a
created being, but is rather the very
Creator of all things.

What is the major theme of Jesus in John's gospel? You may be shocked
by the answer. On the next page is a brief sample of passages spanning just four
of the 21 chapters found in the gospel of John that reveals to us the
main message Jesus bears in this gospel.

In these four chapters Jesus speaks of "the Father" over thirty times!
(nearly every verse) Within the total twenty-one chapters of the gospel of
John, Jesus refers to "the Father" 129 times!

If you were to take a yellow marker and underline every one of the 129
references Jesus makes of "the Father" or "My Father" in the Gospel of John
you would clearly see that this is the major purpose that Jesus constantly has
on His mind in His first coming, He came to earth to reveal the supreme
Personage of "the Father."

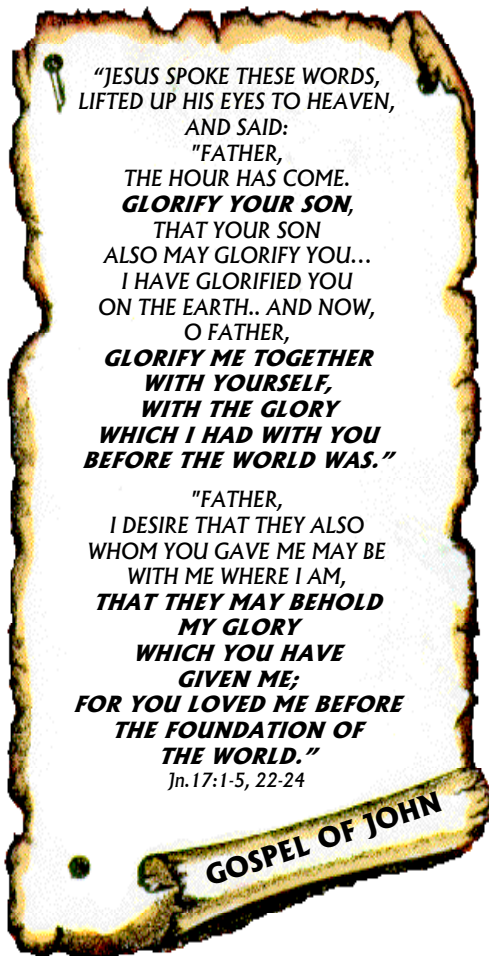
REVEALING "THE FATHER" IS THE MAIN MESSAGE OF JESUS IN JOHN!

John 5:19	of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son
John 5:20	For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself
John 5:21	For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to <i>them</i> , even so the Son
John 5:22	For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,
John 5:23	honor the Son just as they honor the Father . He who does not honor the So
John 5:23	He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.
John 5:26	For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life
John 5:30	because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.
John 5:36	than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish -- the
John 5:36	very works that I do -- bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me.
John 5:37	And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have
John 5:45	think that I shall accuse you to the Father ; there is <i>one</i> who accuses you --
John 6:27	of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."
John 6:32	you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from
John 6:37	All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to
John 6:39	This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I
John 6:44	No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I
John 6:45	everyone who has heard and learned* from the Father comes to Me.
John 6:46	Not that anyone has seen the Father , except He who is from God; He has
John 6:46	has seen the Father , except He who is from God; He has seen the Father .
John 6:57	As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father , so he who
John 6:57	sent Me, and I live because of the Father , so he who feeds on Me will live
John 6:65	no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father ."
John 8:16	judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I <i>am</i> with the Father who sent Me
John 8:18	who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness o
John 8:19	they said to Him, "Where is Your Father ?" Jesus answered, "You know
John 8:19	"You know neither Me nor My Father . If you had known Me, you would
John 8:19	Father . If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also."
John 8:27	They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father .
John 8:28	and <i>that</i> I do nothing of Myself, but as My Father taught Me, I speak the
John 8:29	And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I
John 8:38	I speak what I have seen with My Father , and you do what you have seen

The theme of John's gospel is NOT about Jesus revealing Himself to mankind, is it? Nor is it about the sending of the Holy Spirit to earth. It is a message centered primarily upon revealing the existence of the Divine Personage of the Almighty Father!

The above example of Scripture bears witness to the fact that the Triune Almighty Godhead, although all three Personages are Divinely identified as being "God", they are NOT ever or anywhere in Scripture shown as being "co-equal" as most theologians present them. God the Father is always presented as being GREATER than God the Son!

"ELOHIM",
 THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
 AS REVEALED BY
 THE APOSTLE JOHN IN
THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN



In this prayer request Jesus utters before His heavenly Father He tables a startling fact we need to really ponder carefully which is:

THE PRE-EXISTENCE OF CHRIST

"before the world was", and that God the Father loved His Son "before the foundation of the world" ever came into existence.

There are two wide-spread misconceptions that many believers tend to think to be true, but are **NOT** correct theology according to the teachings of the **PROPHETS** and the **APOSTLES**:

1) That Jesus only came into existence as "the Son of God" after being supernaturally conceived by the Holy Spirit, and then physically birthed into the world by the God-chosen vessel, the virgin Mary. In this scenario, it is concluded that the "Son of God" did not exist prior to His conception and birth via Mary.

2) That Jesus, although properly called "the Son of God" is not considered to actually Himself be "God", but rather is a supernatural created being, but still is called "the Son of God."

Friend, you need to really think through that concept.

"The Son of God" means "He must also be God"

(as in "like father, like son.")

Remember we just examined the passage that stated Jesus is "the express image of the Father."

We also saw in Hebrews that Jesus, as the "Son of God", after He had "purged our sins", He **"SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH."**

We must ask the question, is this the place of a created being, to "sit at the right hand of the Majesty on High?" I think not.

Remember Philippians just told us that Jesus, the Son of God, "did not consider it robbery to be EQUAL WITH GOD." We just considered Paul's epistle to Titus in which he stated THREE TIMES that Jesus is not only our Savior, but is singled out as being our "GOD and Savior."

How much evidence do you need, dear reader? Jesus Christ is an intragal part of the Triune Godhead!

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE JOHN IN
THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN

"IN THE BEGINNING
WAS

THE WORD,

AND

THE WORD

WAS WITH GOD,
AND

THE WORD

WAS GOD.

HE WAS

IN THE BEGINNING
WITH GOD.

ALL THINGS WERE
MADE THROUGH **HIM**,
AND WITHOUT **HIM**
NOTHING WAS MADE
THAT WAS MADE.

IN **HIM** WAS LIFE...

...**HE** WAS

IN THE WORLD,
AND THE WORLD
WAS MADE THROUGH **HIM**,
AND THE WORLD
DID NOT KNOW **HIM**..

AND

THE WORD

BECAME FLESH AND DWELT
AMONG US,
AND WE BEHELD **HIS** GLORY,
THE GLORY AS OF THE ONLY
BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER,
FULL OF GRACE
AND TRUTH."

Jn. 1:1-17

GOSPEL OF JOHN

I would like to stress that the subject matter John is addressing in these verses is NOT a "book" called "the Word", but rather it is a DIVINE PERSON whose Name is called, "the Word." Eight times in these verses John states that what he is referring to as "the Word" is in reality a Personage identified by the repeated use of the pronouns "He, Him and His", He is not a book called, "the Word," but is rather the Person called "the Word of God" (see Rev. 19:13)

Understanding that contextual emphasis upon "the Word" being a Divine Person, we can conclude that the Apostle John is clearly stating that Jesus Christ, the Son of God the Almighty Father, is the Person called "the Word", who was "with God" and "was God" way back "in the beginning" of Creation itself.

It was "Him" who John says, "all things were made through Him" and "the world was made through Him."

Then John states "He" who is called "the Word" was the One who "became flesh and dwelt among us" as "the only begotten of the Father."

Dear reader, Jesus Christ became "begotten of the Father" by means of a supernatural conceived birth from a virgin! Jesus Christ is as much "God" as is "Father God." The Son of God is NOT a created being like man!

Consider the apostle Paul's clarification:

"...CHRIST JESUS,
WHO

BEING IN **THE FORM OF GOD,**
DID NOT CONSIDER IT ROBBERY
TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD,
...AND COMING

IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN.
AND BEING FOUND

IN APPEARANCE AS A MAN,
HE HUMBLING HIMSELF AND BECAME
OBEDIENT TO THE POINT OF DEATH,
EVEN THE DEATH OF THE CROSS.

THEREFORE GOD

ALSO HAS HIGHLY EXALTED HIM
AND GIVEN HIM THE NAME
WHICH IS ABOVE EVERY NAME..."

Phil. 2 :5-9

**"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE JOHN IN
THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN**

"...AND I WILL PRAY
THE FATHER, AND HE WILL
GIVE YOU **ANOTHER HELPER**,
THAT **HE** MAY ABIDE WITH YOU
FOREVER, **THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH**,
WHOM THE WORLD CANNOT RECEIVE,
BECAUSE IT NEITHER SEES **HIM**
NOR KNOWS **HIM**; BUT YOU KNOW **HIM**,
FOR **HE** DWELLS WITH YOU
AND WILL BE IN YOU..
John 14:15-18

"...BUT **THE HELPER**,
THE HOLY SPIRIT,
WHOM **THE FATHER**
WILL SEND IN **MY NAME**,
HE WILL TEACH YOU ALL THINGS,
AND BRING TO YOUR REMEMBRANCE
ALL THINGS THAT **I SAID** TO YOU."
John 14:25-27

"BUT WHEN **THE HELPER** COMES,
WHOM **I SHALL SEND** TO YOU
FROM THE FATHER, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH
WHO PROCEEDS FROM
THE FATHER, HE WILL TESTIFY OF **ME**."
John 15:26-27

"WHEN **HE, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH**, HAS COME,
HE WILL **GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH**;
FOR **HE WILL NOT SPEAK ON**
HIS OWN AUTHORITY,
BUT WHATEVER **HE HEARS HE** WILL SPEAK;
AND **HE** WILL TELL YOU **THINGS TO COME**.
HE WILL **GLORIFY ME**,
FOR **HE** WILL **TAKE OF WHAT IS MINE** AND
DECLARE IT TO YOU.
ALL THINGS THAT THE FATHER HAS ARE
MINE. THEREFORE I SAID THAT **HE** WILL TAKE OF
MINE AND DECLARE IT TO YOU."

...BUT NOW
I GO AWAY TO HIM WHO SENT ME...
...FOR IF I DO NOT GO AWAY,
THE HELPER WILL NOT COME TO YOU,
BUT
IF I DEPART, I WILL SEND **HIM** TO YOU.
AND WHEN **HE** HAS COME, **HE** WILL **CONVICT**
THE WORLD OF SIN, AND OF **RIGHTEOUSNESS**,
AND OF **JUDGMENT...**
John 16:5-11

GOSPEL OF JOHN

**THE APOSTLE JOHN
TESTIFIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**
(John 14, 15, 16)

As we saw in the opening Chapter of the Gospel of John, there are clear references to this being the third **DIVINE PERSON** of the Godhead. As it referred to the Personage of Jesus Christ as being "the Word" in Chapter One, here in these three Chapters (14, 15, and 16) we are shown a Divine Person called "the Holy Spirit."

Notice that the Holy Spirit is sent to "teach you all things" and "bring to remembrance all things" that Jesus has said to you.

There are **TWENTY** specific uses of the pronoun, "He and Him" applied to the Holy Spirit in these three Chapters. This is not a nebulous "spiritual force" at work but rather a person, a **DIVINE PERSON**, Christ Himself.

In these Chapters the Holy Spirit is also called, "the Spirit of Truth" and also identified as "another Comforter" coming in the pattern of Jesus Christ. It is Jesus Christ Himself that speaks of the Holy Spirit in twenty pronoun uses of "He and Him" descriptions, and it is Jesus who identifies the Holy Spirit as "another Comforter" that is sent by the Father at the request of the Son. The Holy Spirit takes the things that are of Christ and declares them to the believer.

"He", the Holy Spirit will carry out the Father's desire to "convict men of sin, of the need of righteousness and of the Judgment which is to come" in eternity.

Who is this Holy Spirit?
The **APOSTLE** Luke tells us plainly that the Holy Spirit is also "God."

"ANANIAS,
WHY HAS SATAN
FILLED YOUR HEART TO
LIE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT? ...
YOU HAVE NOT LIED TO MEN
BUT TO GOD."
Acts 5:4

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE JOHN IN
THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN

"I WILL PRAY
THE FATHER,
AND
HE WILL GIVE YOU
ANOTHER HELPER,
THAT HE MAY
ABIDE WITH YOU FOREVER --
THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH,

... YOU KNOW **HIM,**
FOR **HE DWELLS WITH YOU**
AND WILL BE IN YOU.

... I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU
ORPHANS;
HE WHO LOVES ME
WILL BE LOVED BY MY FATHER,
AND I WILL LOVE HIM AND
MANIFEST MYSELF TO HIM...
IF ANYONE LOVES ME,
HE WILL KEEP MY WORD;
AND MY FATHER WILL LOVE HIM,
AND WE WILL COME
TO HIM
AND MAKE OUR HOME
WITH HIM.

...AND THE WORD
WHICH YOU HEAR IS
NOT MINE
BUT THE FATHER'S
WHO SENT ME."

John 14:16-23

GOSPEL OF JOHN

Jesus,
in the Gospel of John,
does not limit His message solely
to revealing the Personage
of the Father.

Consider carefully this fuller
revelation Jesus presents of the
complete Triune Godhead that will
abide **INSIDE** the believer
all the while he/she dwells on
this present earth.

This is not a distant far-off
promise for the future
Millennium or for Eternity that
is to follow afterward.

This is a three-fold
Divine promise for
"the nasty here and now"
in which we presently dwell.

It is a practical promise
for this present wicked time
in which we currently live,
a wicked world that
functions completely
"under the sway of
the Wicked One" (1 Jn. 5:19).

It is within the confines of this
earthly wickedness that the
Triune Godhead of the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
make this solemn promise to
the faithful saints on earth:

"AND WE WILL COME
TO HIM
AND MAKE OUR HOME
WITH HIM."

John 14:23

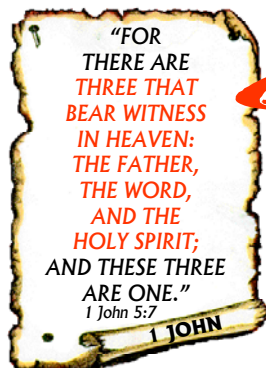
These words in John are similar in commitment to those given in Genesis
Chapter One in which this very same Triune Godhead gave this initial promise:

"LET US MAKE MAN IN OUR IMAGE, AFTER OUR LIKENESS."

Gen. 1:27

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE JOHN IN

FIRST EPISTLE OF JOHN



"AVOIDING THE PITFALLS OF CONTROVERSY"

"The Johannine Comma, a passage in 1 John 5:7-8 that is often used to support the doctrine of the Trinity, is problematic because it lacks substantial textual support in early Greek manuscripts. Most scholars believe it was likely added to the Latin Vulgate later in the 16th century and was added into some Greek texts."

Wikipedia Encyclopedia

If it were valid, this single verse would be able to be freely used as a "plain Jane", a single validation, an "in-your-face proof text" for the existence of the Triune Godhead of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but enough historians and language experts have labeled this verse to be corrupted due to some early manuscripts that did not contain those added words.

However, not all scholars agree that "the Johannine Comma" was a corrupting phrase added to this verse. Earlier, on page 3, I recommended to you the scholarly work of the Late Exegete Herb Jahn's "Exegeses Parallel Bible" who spent seventeen years of his life in authenticating the proper translations of Hebrew and Greek words found in the Scriptures. I find it interesting that this learned scholar printed this controversial verse just as it is found in the original 1611 King James Version with no reference of controversy singled out at all:

"For Because there are three that bear record witness in heaven the heavens, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost Spirit: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree are in one. If we receive take the witness of men humanity, the witness of God Elohim is greater"

Page 1845 of Exegeses Parallel Bible

For the sake of avoiding controversy, let us assume that this verse is NOT authenticated as "sacred Scripture." However, can we validate from OTHER PLACES in Scripture that this is a valid statement of all three, "Father, Son and Holy Spirit" abiding together in a place called Heaven? If this verse is not "sacred Scripture", is the statement it makes supported by the Scriptures?

**THERE ARE THREE THAT BEAR WITNESS IN HEAVEN:
THE FATHER, THE WORD, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Way back on page 46 I gave you the biblical pattern that we must use in establishing what is biblical truth. Here is what we must do:

**"NOT AS MAN'S WISDOM TEACHES
BUT AS THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES
COMPARING SPIRITUAL
THINGS WITH SPIRITUAL."**

1 Cor 2:12-14



**"BY THE MOUTH OF
TWO OR THREE WITNESSES
EVERY WORD
SHALL BE ESTABLISHED."**

2 Cor 13:1-2

We are assuming the premise that this verse is NOT valid in Scripture but was indeed added by a zealous scribe. However, we are pursuing the idea that this statement can still be supported from other Scriptures making this to be a valid statement of truth teaching the existence of all three Divine personages, "God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit" all functioning and abiding together from a place called Heaven. If this verse is no longer to be considered as sacred Scripture, is the statement itself supported by other places in the Scriptures?

EVIDENCE THAT DEMANDS A VERDICT:

Let us begin with the easiest statement of all, "God the Father." The first verse below that we all have memorized as a prayer should be sufficient evidence bearing witness from Heaven that "God is our Father":

"IN THIS MANNER, THEREFORE, PRAY:
'OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME...'
Matt 6:8-9

"BLESSED ARE YOU, **LORD GOD OF ISRAEL, OUR FATHER**
FOREVER AND EVER." 1 Chron 29:10

"DOUBTLESS YOU ARE **OUR FATHER...YOU, O LORD, ARE OUR FATHER...**
OUR REDEEMER **FROM EVERLASTING IS YOUR NAME.**" Isa 63:16

"BUT NOW, **O LORD, YOU ARE OUR FATHER...**" Isa 64:8

It is evident from the above sampling that God the Father is indeed one of those "three that bear witness" functioning from Heaven itself. Let us now consider the scriptural support for the premise that "the Son of God" is also stated to be "God." Here is Paul's testimony we considered earlier:

"AND WITHOUT CONTROVERSY **GREAT** IS THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS ("mystery of God")
GOD WAS MANIFESTED IN THE FLESH,
JUSTIFIED IN THE SPIRIT, SEEN BY ANGELS,
PREACHED AMONG THE GENTILES, BELIEVED ON IN THE WORLD,
RECEIVED UP IN GLORY." 1 Tim. 3:16

Who does this verse plainly speak of as being "God manifest in the flesh"? It can be no one but "God the Son", Jesus Christ! The Father sent His Son to earth with a commission that "by Himself He purged our sins" and "After He had offered one sacrifice for sins" He then returned to Heaven and "Sat down at the Right Hand of the Majesty on High", "He sat down at the Right hand of God." Here is the evidence:

"GOD [the Father], WHO AT VARIOUS TIMES AND IN VARIOUS WAYS SPOKE IN TIME PAST TO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS, HAS IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN TO US BY HIS SON... WHO BEING THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY AND THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF HIS PERSON ...

WHEN HE HAD BY HIMSELF PURGED OUR SINS,
SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH..."

Heb 1:2-4

"BUT THIS MAN, **AFTER HE HAD OFFERED ONE SACRIFICE FOR SINS** FOREVER,
SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD..."

Heb 10:12-13

**"TO HIM WHO OVERCOMES I WILL GRANT TO SIT WITH ME ON MY THRONE,
AS I ALSO OVERCAME AND *SAT DOWN WITH MY FATHER ON HIS THRONE.*"**

Rev 3:21

In the passage above Jesus Himself bears witness that when He returned to Heaven after redeeming man from their sins, that He sat down with His Father on His throne. This passage proves that there are at least two Divine Personages in Heaven, God the Father and God the Son, evidenced by BOTH now sitting on their own individual thrones. Get the picture: Recorded pictures of Heaven do NOT depict that there is only "one God sitting on one throne." Both the Father and the Son are enthroned in Heaven because they are BOTH Divine Personages!

Also we have this hard-core evidence found three times stated in the apostle Paul's epistle to Titus that "God the Son" is identified as being not only "our Savior" but is also called "our God":

1. **"GOD OUR SAVIOR..."** Titus 1:1

2. "OUR GREAT **GOD** AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST..." Titus 2:12

3. **"GOD OUR SAVIOR..."** Titus 3:4

Another vision of Heaven is shown to us by the apostle John which depicts BOTH the presence of God the Father sitting on His throne and God the Son next to Him as "a Lamb though it had been slain."

**"...IN THE MIDST OF THE THRONE ...
STOOD *A LAMB AS THOUGH IT HAD BEEN SLAIN...*
THEN HE CAME AND TOOK THE SCROLL OUT OF THE RIGHT HAND OF HIM
WHO SAT ON THE THRONE...SAYING: "YOU ARE WORTHY...
*FOR YOU WERE SLAIN,
AND HAVE REDEEMED US TO GOD BY YOUR BLOOD.*"**

Rev 5:1-7

As further evidence of Jesus being "God the Son" the Scriptures bear witness that prior to coming to earth to redeem sinful man, Jesus was in Heaven, "in the form of God", and was stated to be "equal with God", but came to earth "in the likeness of men-in the appearance as a man.":

**"CHRIST JESUS WHO,
*BEING IN THE FORM OF GOD,
DID NOT CONSIDER IT ROBBERY TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD
... AND COMING IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN,
AND BEING FOUND IN *APPEARANCE AS A MAN...*"***

Phil 2:5-6

**"I HAVE FINISHED THE WORK WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN ME TO DO.
*AND NOW, O FATHER,
GLORIFY ME TOGETHER WITH YOURSELF,
WITH THE GLORY WHICH I HAD WITH YOU
BEFORE THE WORLD WAS.*"**

Jn. 17:5

Jesus reveals that "in eternity past", even "before the world was", He was "glorified together with the Father." These are not the words of a "created being" but of the eternal pre-existence of "God the Son" before the world was even formed. Jesus Christ is just as much "God" as is "God the Father"!

What of the third Personage of the Godhead? Does the Holy Spirit also meet this criteria of being one of these three Divine Personages functioning from Heaven? Let us weigh the evidence. Here are three scriptural witnesses that prove the Holy Spirit is also stated to be God:

1. TO LIE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TO LIE TO GOD:

*"BUT PETER SAID, "ANANIAS, WHY HAS SATAN FILLED YOUR HEART
TO LIE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT..."*

*WHY HAVE YOU CONCEIVED THIS THING IN YOUR HEART?
YOU HAVE NOT LIED TO MEN, BUT TO GOD."*

Acts 5:3-44

The apostle Luke, recorded in the Book of Acts, charges Ananias with the sin of having "lied to the Holy Spirit" which is the same as "lying to God." These are interchangeable truths expressed by Luke proving the Holy Spirit is God. He is not a mere man and neither is He just a spiritual force at work. The Holy Spirit is God as much as is "God the Father" and "God the Son."

2. TO BLASPHEME THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TO BLASPHEME GOD:

*"THEREFORE I SAY TO YOU, EVERY SIN AND BLASPHEMY WILL BE FORGIVEN MEN,
BUT **THE BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE SPIRIT** WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN MEN.*

*ANYONE WHO SPEAKS A WORD AGAINST THE SON OF MAN,
IT WILL BE FORGIVEN HIM; BUT WHOEVER **SPEAKS AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT,**
IT WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN HIM, EITHER IN THIS AGE OR IN THE AGE TO COME."*

Matt 12:31-32

To understand the above scripture spoken by Jesus we need to first define the meaning of "Blasphemy." Here is the sober meaning of that word:

*"**Blasphemy** is making public offensive or mocking statements about God...**Blasphemy** is a sin committed directly against God, is more grave than murder, which is a sin against one's neighbor. **Blasphemy** is to be considered as "the greatest sin that can be outwardly committed". (Wikipedia Encyclopedia)*

In light of the above, consider these prophetic passages from the prophet Daniel and from the apostle John pertaining to the coming of the Antichrist:

OLD TESTAMENT:

*"...HE SHALL EXALT AND MAGNIFY
HIMSELF ABOVE EVERY GOD,
SHALL **SPEAK BLASPHEMIES**
AGAINST **THE GOD OF GODS...**"*

Dan 11:36

NEW TESTAMENT:

*"AND HE WAS GIVEN A MOUTH SPEAKING
GREAT THINGS AND **BLASPHEMIES**
...THEN HE OPENED HIS MOUTH IN
BLASPHEMY AGAINST GOD..."*

Rev 13:5-6

Blasphemy is a sin that can only be committed against God. According to the prophet and the apostle, the Antichrist himself will commit such major acts of blasphemy against God. Jesus states that "blasphemy against the Holy Spirit", this vile act of "speaking against the Holy Spirit" will NEVER be forgiven in this age or in the age to come. I believe that Jesus, in speaking in this manner in Matthew 12:31-32, is directly addressing what is prophetically stated in Daniel 9 and in Revelation 13 pertaining to the Antichrist's blasphemy against God will never be forgiven! Men doing this in ignorance God will forgive, but the Antichrist sins willfully and purposely against God (see Isaiah 14:13-14). The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, will be in direct opposition to the lies of the Antichrist. This "man of sin" knows well what he is doing and his intentional blasphemies will not be forgiven him!

3. THE AUTHOR OF ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD, THE HOLY SPIRIT:

**"ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD,
AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION,
FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, THAT THE MAN OF GOD
MAY BE COMPLETE, THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK."**

2 Tim. 3:16

**"...NO PROPHECY OF SCRIPTURE IS OF ANY PRIVATE INTERPRETATION,
FOR PROPHECY NEVER CAME BY THE WILL OF MAN,
BUT HOLY MEN OF GOD SPOKE AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT."**

2 Peter 1:20-21

Then too, we have Jesus Himself, in speaking of the sending of the Holy Spirit, identifies Him as "ANOTHER Helper" besides Himself. Note well that this opening statement of "another Helper" is followed with five pronoun expressions of "He and Him" by Jesus proving that the Holy Spirit is a PERSON and not just some kind of "spiritual force" that is at work. The Holy Spirit, like God the Father, and like God the Son, is a Person! "He" is God the Spirit!

**"AND I (Jesus the Son) WILL PRAY THE FATHER, AND HE WILL GIVE YOU
ANOTHER HELPER, THAT HE (the Spirit) MAY ABIDE WITH YOU FOREVER --
THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, WHOM THE WORLD CANNOT RECEIVE,
BECAUSE IT NEITHER SEES HIM NOR KNOWS HIM; BUT YOU KNOW HIM,
FOR HE DWELLS WITH YOU AND WILL BE IN YOU."** John 14:16-18

Friend, we don't object to God the Father being expressed by personal pronouns such as "He and Him." The same phraseology is often used for "God the Son", then why do we seem to overlook the "He and Him" pronouns being applied to the Holy Spirit? As further proof the the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person rather than a "force" at work, we find Him speaking verbal commands:

**"AS THEY MINISTERED TO THE LORD AND FASTED,
THE HOLY SPIRIT SAID, 'NOW SEPARATE TO ME BARNABAS AND SAUL
FOR THE WORK TO WHICH I HAVE CALLED THEM.'" Acts 13:2**

**"...THEY TRIED TO GO INTO BITHYNIA,
BUT THE SPIRIT DID NOT PERMIT THEM."** Acts 16:7-8

**"...THEN THE SPIRIT SAID TO PHILIP,
'GO NEAR AND OVERTAKE THIS CHARIOT.'" Acts 8:29**

Consider this proof that the Holy Spirit must also be God: The apostle Paul states that the Holy Spirit is the One who actually "raised Jesus from the dead" after His death on the Cross and He will be the same Divine Person who will raise up the physical body of the believer after death:

**"BUT IF THE SPIRIT OF HIM WHO RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD
DWELLS IN YOU, HE WHO RAISED CHRIST FROM THE DEAD
WILL ALSO GIVE LIFE TO YOUR MORTAL BODIES
THROUGH HIS SPIRIT WHO DWELLS IN YOU."** Rom. 8:11

The evidence is overwhelming! God the Father is God, Jesus Christ the Son is also God, and so must we concede that the Scriptures bear witness that the Holy Spirit is also an expression of God Almighty!

**"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE JOHN IN
REVELATION**

**"THE REVELATION
OF JESUS CHRIST,
WHICH GOD (The Father)
GAVE HIM (The Son)
TO SHOW HIS SERVANTS...**

Rev 1:1-2

**"...FROM THE SEVEN SPIRITS
(Holy Spirit)**

WHO ARE BEFORE

**HIS (the Father's) THRONE,
AND**

**FROM JESUS CHRIST, (the Son)
THE FAITHFUL WITNESS,
THE FIRSTBORN FROM THE DEAD...**

**TO HIM WHO LOVED US
AND WASHED US FROM OUR SINS
IN HIS OWN BLOOD (the Son) ..."**

Rev. 1:4-6

**"BEHOLD,
HE (the Son) IS COMING
WITH CLOUDS,
AND EVERY EYE
WILL SEE HIM, (the Son)
EVEN THEY WHO PIERCED HIM.**

**AND ALL THE TRIBES
OF THE EARTH WILL MOURN
BECAUSE OF HIM. (the Son)
EVEN SO, AMEN.**

**'I AM (the Son)
THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA,
THE BEGINNING AND THE END,'
SAYS THE LORD,
'WHO IS AND WHO WAS
AND WHO IS TO COME,
THE ALMIGHTY**

(the Son)' "

Rev 1:7-8

REVELATION

The Book of Revelation
also was authored by
the apostle John and bears the same
opening message as found in the
Gospel of John as well as the First
Epistle of John.

All three have this in common:
the initial chapter of each book opens
with a threefold revelation of
"Elohim, the Almighty Godhead."
(Father, Son and Holy Spirit.)

Just like John's gospel and epistle,
Revelation singles out the supreme
authority of **GOD THE FATHER**.
The revelation given to Jesus Christ
the Son was given to Him
by His Father.

The **HOLY SPIRIT** is identified as
consisting of the "Seven Spirits of the
Lord" enumerated in
Isaiah 11:2-3.

GOD THE SON is identified
by these two marks:

(1) He is the firstborn from the
Dead" and (2) the One who "washed
us from our sins in His own Blood."
Both of these events took place at His
First Coming. John now switches to
the signs that will mark His Second

Coming to the earth:

(1) Every eye will see Him in
His glorious Second Coming
(2) and especially those "who pierced
Him" (the Jewish people).

The Jews who rejected Him will now
mourn because of what they
did to Him at His First Coming.

Jesus now claims the titles of
"Alpha and Omega",
"the beginning and the end."

These two titles mark Him as
"The Creator of all things"
which includes the Genesis Creation
as well as the "New Creation" spelled
out in Revelation Chapter 21.

Finally, don't miss the title that **GOD THE SON** claims
for Himself in the above conclusion to Chapter One:
Jesus, like His Father, lays hold of the great title of God
as **"WHO IS TO COME...THE ALMIGHTY"**!

"ELOHIM",
THE ALMIGHTY GODHEAD,
AS REVEALED BY
THE APOSTLE PETER IN

FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER

"PETER AN APOSTLE
OF JESUS CHRIST...
ACCORDING TO
THE FOREKNOWLEDGE OF
GOD THE FATHER,
IN SANCTIFICATION OF THE SPIRIT,
FOR OBEDIENCE AND SPRINKLING OF
THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST..."
1 Pet. 1:1-2

"BLESSED BE
THE GOD AND FATHER
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
WHO ACCORDING TO HIS ABUNDANT MERCY HAS
BEGOTTEN US AGAIN
TO A LIVING HOPE THROUGH
THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST
FROM THE DEAD..."
1 Pet. 1:3

"...JESUS CHRIST,
WHOM HAVING NOT SEEN YOU LOVE. THOUGH
NOW YOU DO NOT SEE HIM, YET BELIEVING,
YOU REJOICE WITH JOY INEXPRESSIBLE AND FULL
OF GLORY...OF THIS SALVATION THE PROPHETS
HAVE INQUIRED AND SEARCHED CAREFULLY,
WHO PROPHESED OF THE GRACE THAT WOULD
COME TO YOU...
THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST...
TESTIFIED BEFOREHAND
THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST
AND THE GLORIES
THAT WOULD FOLLOW...
THROUGH THOSE WHO
HAVE PREACHED THE GOSPEL TO YOU
BY THE HOLY SPIRIT
SENT FROM HEAVEN --
THINGS WHICH ANGELS
DESIRE TO LOOK INTO."
1 Pet. 1:8-12

FIRST PETER

Although more
brief in content, Peter's First
Epistle also opens with the same
repetitive themes we found in
the opening chapters of the
apostle Paul and of the
apostle John.

Peter's epistle opens with
homage to God the Father as
the supreme Personage of the
Triune Godhead immediately
followed by the sanctifying
work of the Holy Spirit to
produce obedience in the life
of the believer. Also singled
out is the ongoing action
of the sprinkling of the Blood
of Christ as needed
in the life of the believer.

Verse Three
again pays homage due to the
mercy of the Father in bringing
the believer into the new birth
experience through the
resurrection of the Son.

Peter now focuses in on
the full salvation work of
Jesus Christ in the life of the
believer as well as the amazing
grace that would be
accomplished by the Spirit .

Peter marvels
at how much the prophets
spoke of so great a salvation
coming to mankind through
the sufferings of Christ on
their behalf.

Peter closes out this
first chapter by giving emphasis
to "the Gospel" being
preached to mankind by the
Holy Spirit sent from Heaven.
Such wonderful mysteries of
which, even the angels
desired to understand
more fully.

"HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE?"

Francis Schaeffer

"THEREFORE
GIRD UP THE LOINS OF YOUR MIND,
BE SOBER,
AND REST YOUR HOPE FULLY UPON THE
GRACE THAT IS TO BE BROUGHT TO YOU
AT THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST;
AS OBEDIENT CHILDREN, NOT CONFORMING
YOURSELVES TO THE FORMER LUSTS, AS IN
YOUR IGNORANCE; BUT AS HE WHO CALLED
YOU IS HOLY, YOU ALSO BE HOLY IN ALL YOUR
CONDUCT, BECAUSE IT IS WRITTEN,
"BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

AND IF YOU CALL ON THE FATHER,
WHO WITHOUT PARTIALITY JUDGES
ACCORDING TO EACH ONE'S WORK,
CONDUCT YOURSELVES THROUGHOUT THE
TIME OF YOUR STAY HERE IN FEAR; KNOWING
THAT YOU WERE NOT REDEEMED WITH
CORRUPTIBLE THINGS,
LIKE SILVER OR GOLD, FROM YOUR AIMLESS
CONDUCT RECEIVED BY TRADITION FROM
YOUR FATHERS, BUT WITH
THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST,
AS OF A LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH AND
WITHOUT SPOT. HE INDEED WAS
FOREORDAINED BEFORE
THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD,
BUT WAS MANIFEST IN
THESE LAST TIMES FOR YOU
WHO THROUGH HIM BELIEVE IN GOD,
WHO RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD AND GAVE
HIM GLORY, SO THAT YOUR FAITH
AND HOPE ARE IN GOD.

SINCE YOU HAVE PURIFIED YOUR SOULS
IN OBEYING THE TRUTH
THROUGH THE SPIRIT ...
HAVING BEEN BORN AGAIN,
NOT OF CORRUPTIBLE SEED BUT
INCORRUPTIBLE, THROUGH THE WORD OF
GOD WHICH LIVES AND ABIDES FOREVER...
NOW THIS IS THE WORD WHICH BY
THE GOSPEL WAS PREACHED
TO YOU."

1 Pet. 1:13-25

FIRST PETER

This exhortative quote from activist Francis Schaeffer in the early seventies becomes an appropriate challenge to every follower of Christ in light of what we just considered about the Triune Godhead in the first twelve verses of First Peter.

Considering what the Godhead has done for us, we too must ask ourselves,

"How then shall we live?"

The answer is found in the remaining verses of First Peter.

The apostle Paul stated a similar challenging question to believers in his epistle to the Hebrews:

"How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?"

Heb.2:3

Today's watered-down version of Christianity favors support for only embracing half the truth.

What is written in 1 Peter 1:1-12 is widely accepted by all believers but verses 13-25 of

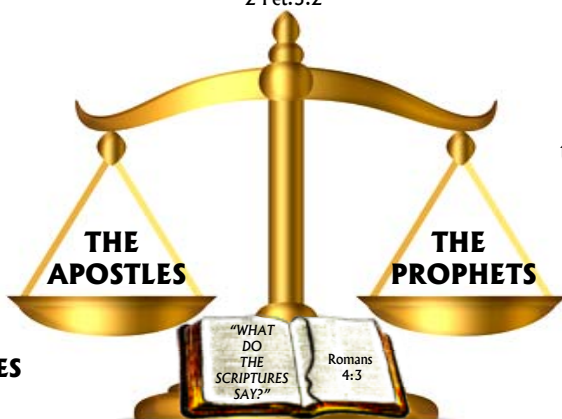
First Peter are not so favorably received but rather tend to be ignored as pertinent truth.

What God does for us is well liked.

However, what we are to do in response to the initial truth is lacking equal emphasis in today's tepid theology.

“BELOVED, I NOW WRITE TO YOU IN WHICH
I STIR UP YOUR PURE MINDS BY WAY OF REMINDER,
THAT YOU MAY BE MINDFUL OF THE WORDS WHICH WERE SPOKEN BEFORE
BY **THE HOLY PROPHETS** AND OF US **THE APOSTLES**
OF THE LORD...”
2 Pet.3:2

In the first half of this Chapter I have presented to you the weight of the scriptures that were spoken by **THE APOSTLES** of the Lord.”



In this second half of this Chapter I want to present to you the weight of the scriptures that depict the Heavenly visions recorded by the Almighty's Holy **PROPHETS**.

The APOSTLE
IS OFTEN A
“CLARIFIER AND AMPLIFIER”
OF VISIONS AND DOCTRINAL TRUTHS.

The PROPHET
IS OFTEN A
“SEER OF THE UNSEEN”,
FUTURE THINGS YET TO OCCUR.

I pray that you were greatly impacted by the degree of clarification and amplification that **THE APOSTLES** of the New Testament revealed pertaining to the Triune Godhead consisting of three divine Personages, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Truly, the bulk of what **THE APOSTLES** recorded in their epistles centered upon unfolding various aspects of what constitutes “the fullness of the Godhead.”

THE APOSTLES did not teach at all what is widely presented today under the banner of a trinity consisting of a “three-in-one God.” Rather, all three Personages form a Godhead, a Divine family consisting of our Heavenly Father, His Divine Son and the Holy Spirit.

The second half of this chapter should be equally as illuminating for **THE PROPHETS** cause us to virtually ascend into Heaven itself that we may “see the unseen” through the recorded visions that were shown to them, from the beginning Book of Genesis and the Creation story, and ending in the culmination of all things, the final prophetic unfolding of the Book of Revelation.

A special blessing is pronounced upon those who read and keep what is recorded in this Book given to Jesus by His Father to be given to all who “have ears to hear” what is the message that the Holy Spirit speaks to the churches:

“THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST, WHICH GOD GAVE HIM TO SHOW HIS SERVANTS --
THINGS WHICH MUST SHORTLY TAKE PLACE. AND HE SENT AND SIGNIFIED IT BY HIS ANGEL TO
HIS SERVANT JOHN, WHO BORE WITNESS TO THE WORD OF GOD,
AND TO THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST, TO ALL THINGS THAT HE SAW.
BLESSED IS HE WHO READS AND THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORDS OF THIS PROPHECY,
AND KEEP THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN IT;
FOR THE TIME IS NEAR.”

Rev. 1:1-3

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN

THE TESTIMONY OF HEAVEN SHOWN TO **ISAIAH** (Acts 7:55-56)

1)

“...I SAW **THE LORD** SITTING ON **A THRONE**,
HIGH AND LIFTED UP,
AND THE TRAIN OF HIS ROBE FILLED THE TEMPLE.
ABOVE IT STOOD SERAPHIM;
...AND ONE CRIED TO ANOTHER AND SAID...
“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY IS THE LORD OF HOSTS...”

MY EYES HAVE SEEN **THE KING**, THE LORD OF HOSTS...
ALSO I HEARD THE VOICE OF **THE LORD**, SAYING:

“...WHO WILL GO FOR **US?**”

Isaiah 6:1-3 excerpts



Let us begin our look at what the Word records as visions of Heaven with this often used verse from Isaiah which indeed presents the picture of “one God sitting on a throne.” This verse is often used as a proof text of Heaven consisting of only “one God sitting on a throne.” However, if this were the ONLY verse found in all the Bible of Heaven then the “three-in-one” theologians would have proof-positive for their premise of Heaven only consisting of “one God sitting on a throne.” However, there are eight more recorded visions of Heaven showing various depictions of a PLURAL Godhead existing in Heaven with more than one throne. Isolate this verse by itself and you may prove a point, but we have been told before that to “rightly divide the Word of truth” we must (1) “compare spiritual with spiritual” (1 Cor. 2:12) and (2) show that “in the mouth of two or three witnesses every truth is established” (2 Cor. 13:2).

Consider the doctrine of water baptism for the point of illustration. In Matthew 28:19 Jesus tells his disciples to baptize converts “in the Name of the God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.”

However, there are multiple passages in the Book of Acts which state that baptism is to use some form of “the Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 2:38, Acts 8:16, Acts 10:48, Acts 19:5). Which formula is right? The answer is, “either one” because both are recorded in scripture. In Matthew 28 it is “the Name” of the threefold Godhead (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). It is the conviction of this teacher that there is one Name repeated 2,197 times in scripture, the Name “Elohim”, the Name of the triune Godhead consisting of the God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit! Therefore you can baptize in the Name of Elohim and fulfill Matthew 28:19 to the full! However, scripturally you can ALSO baptize using the singular Name of Jesus Christ for it is His death, burial and resurrection that you are identifying with!

What is true of water baptism is also true of visions of Heaven. In Isaiah Chapter Six, we are shown “God” to be a singular figure sitting on a throne. However, don’t assume that this is the only visible vision of God. Search the scriptures and you will find “God” is also shown as a triune Godhead!

"...I SAW
THE LORD
SITTING
ON
A THRONE,
 HIGH AND LIFTED UP,
 AND THE TRAIN OF HIS
 ROBE FILLED
 THE TEMPLE.
 ABOVE IT STOOD
 SERAPHIM;
 ...AND ONE CRIED TO
 ANOTHER
 AND SAID...
 "HOLY,
 HOLY,
 HOLY
 IS THE LORD
 OF HOSTS...

...MY EYES HAVE
 SEEN
THE KING,
THE LORD
 OF HOSTS...
 ALSO I HEARD
 THE VOICE OF
THE LORD,
 SAYING:
 "...WHO WILL GO
 FOR
US?"

Isaiah 6:1-3 excerpts

There are other nuggets of truth hidden in these verses from Isaiah Chapter Six that are worthy of our consideration. This single illustration of "God" found in Isaiah can be better understood when we consider that this verse depicts a very different Name for "God" than the 2,197 times "God" appears under the plural Godhood Name of "Elohim." The Name Isaiah uses for "God" in Isaiah Chapter Six is "Adonay". In our list of Names for "God" found on page 24 you will find this definition:

ADONAY
 "YAH VEH OUR RULER"
 (Gen. 15:2)

"ADONAY" is one of those
 "forbidden to pronounce"
 Hebrew Names of God that
 have been freely substituted
 with the generic name
 "the Lord" (see page 19).

Here is the proper translation as given by
 The Late Herb Jahn, Exegeses Parallel Bible:



"In the year that
 king Uzziah died,
 I saw also
 (the Lord) **Adonay**
 sitting upon a throne,
 high and lifted up..."



Isaiah 6:1

Perhaps you have heard the old secular song, "I Only Have Eyes For You." This limited phraseology could be placed over the contents of the Book of Isaiah simply because whenever Isaiah prophetically recorded visions in which he could proclaim, "I saw the Lord", it was always a unique vision of "the Lord Adonay-Yah Veh our Ruler." Simply stated, "Adonay is The Lord Jesus the Christ, the Son of God the Father." I don't want this to become an in-depth study of the Book of Isaiah, but at least consider reading through this list of eight prophetic visionary themes in which Isaiah was shown various prophetic visions depicting the life and ministry of Jesus the Lord (Adonay):



THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



2)

THE TESTIMONY OF HEAVEN
SHOWN TO
STEPHEN
(Acts 7:55-56)

**"BUT HE BEING FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
GAZED INTO HEAVEN AND SAW THE GLORY OF GOD,
AND JESUS STANDING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,
AND SAID, "LOOK! I SEE THE HEAVENS OPENED
AND THE SON OF MAN STANDING
AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD!"**

Acts 7:55-56

Stephen is about to be martyred for the summary of the historical testimony he gives of the various acts of the Triune Godhead recorded in Acts Chapter Seven. Just prior to being stoned for his piercing words, he, being "full of the Holy Spirit", then "gazes into Heaven" and is shown "the Glory of God" which he describes in plural form as "Jesus standing at the right hand of God." What he sees in Heaven is plainly declared in verse 56: "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." Notice Stephen does NOT see only "one God sitting on a Throne" in Heaven but rather he is shown plurality displayed in Heaven of the second personage of the Godhead, "the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." What Stephen sees PRIOR to being martyred is two persons of the Triune Godhead in Heaven, (1) the Father on His throne and (2) the Son of the Father standing at His right hand beside Him. Skeptics may say, "But the Son is not sitting on a throne." The issue is not whether Jesus is sitting or standing before the throne, but rather that the vision depicts two members of the Godhead, both in Heaven at the same time. This vision dispels the erroneous theory of only seeing "one God on one throne." For the point of illustration let us "compare spiritual with spiritual":

**"BUT HE
BEING FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
GAZED INTO HEAVEN
AND SAW THE GLORY OF GOD,
AND JESUS STANDING
AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,
AND SAID,
"LOOK! I SEE THE HEAVENS OPENED
AND THE SON OF MAN
STANDING AT THE RIGHT
HAND OF GOD!"**

Acts 7:55-56

**"GOD, WHO AT VARIOUS TIMES AND IN VARIOUS
WAYS SPOKE IN TIME PAST TO THE FATHERS BY
THE PROPHETS, HAS IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN
TO US BY HIS SON, WHOM HE HAS APPOINTED
HEIR OF ALL THINGS, THROUGH WHOM ALSO HE
MADE THE WORLDS; WHO BEING THE BRIGHTNESS
OF HIS GLORY AND THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF HIS
PERSON, AND UPHOLDING ALL THINGS
BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER,
WHEN HE HAD BY HIMSELF PURGED OUR SINS,
SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND
OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH..."**

Heb. 1:1-3

When we properly "compare spiritual to spiritual" (as above) we can see the two passages taken together give a complete picture of the PLURAL Divinity of Jesus along side that of the Divinity of the Father rather than "one God on one throne." Hebrews plainly states that Jesus the Son "made the worlds" and bears "the brightness of the Father's Glory" as well as being "the express image of His Person" and therefore qualifies to "sit down at the right hand of the Majesty on High." What will you see when you get to Heaven? Just what Stephen saw in Acts and just what Paul states in Hebrews Chapter One. You will see PLURALITY in the Godhead plainly manifested!

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



3) THE TESTIMONY OF HEAVEN SHOWN TO **JOHN** in Revelation (Rev. Chapters 4-5 excerpts)

"...BEHOLD,
A DOOR STANDING OPEN IN HEAVEN...
IMMEDIATELY I WAS IN THE SPIRIT;
AND BEHOLD, **A THRONE SET IN HEAVEN,**
AND **ONE SAT ON THE THRONE.**
...SEVEN LAMPS OF FIRE WERE BURNING BEFORE THE THRONE,
WHICH ARE **THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD...**

...GIVE GLORY AND HONOR AND THANKS TO **HIM WHO SITS ON THE THRONE,**
WHO LIVES FOREVER AND EVER ...SAYING:

"YOU ARE WORTHY, O LORD ...
FOR YOU CREATED ALL THINGS, AND BY YOUR WILL THEY EXIST AND WERE CREATED...

AND I LOOKED, AND BEHOLD, **IN THE MIDST OF THE THRONE**
...STOOD **A LAMB AS THOUGH IT HAD BEEN SLAIN...**

HAVING SEVEN HORNS AND SEVEN EYES, WHICH ARE
THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD SENT OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH...

...YOU ARE WORTHY ...FOR **YOU WERE SLAIN,**
AND HAVE **REDEEMED US TO GOD** BY YOUR BLOOD
OUT OF EVERY TRIBE AND TONGUE AND PEOPLE AND NATION...

THEN I LOOKED, AND I HEARD THE VOICE OF MANY ANGELS AROUND **THE THRONE...**
SAYING: "WORTHY IS **THE LAMB WHO WAS SLAIN** TO RECEIVE POWER AND RICHES AND WISDOM,
AND STRENGTH AND HONOR AND GLORY AND BLESSING!"... "BLESSING AND HONOR AND GLORY AND POWER
BE TO HIM WHO **SITS ON THE THRONE,** AND **TO THE LAMB,**
FOREVER AND EVER!" THEN THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES SAID, "AMEN!"
...AND WORSHIPED HIM WHO LIVES FOREVER AND EVER."

Revelation 4&5 excerpts

Chapter 4 of Revelation opens with a vision of Heaven in which John is shown
"a throne set in Heaven" and "One who sat on the throne."

However, The vision is not limited to "one God sitting on one throne" as some portray God, for we are immediately shown "seven lamps of fire burning before the throne" which are stated to be "the seven spirits of God" that are "sent out into all the earth." (Isaiah Chapter 11:1-4 will enumerate them for you.) This is a depiction of the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Triune Godhead.

You will notice that the Spirit has no throne upon which He sits but is depicted rather as being seen as "before the throne." In scripture we find that The Father has His throne, and the Son also has a throne (Rev. 3:21), but the Spirit is not shown to be on a Heavenly throne (Rev. 4:5) which proves a hierarchy of delegated authority exists in the authoritative structure of the Almighty Godhead of Father (first) the Son (second) and the Spirit (third). John is shown Jesus, the Son of the Father "as a Lamb having been slain" while on earth. The vision goes on to show this "slain Lamb" has provided fallen man on earth to be able to become redeemed back to God the Father "by Your (the Son's shed) Blood."

This Heavenly vision shown to John depicts a complete portrayal of "the Almighty Godhead" (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), as it now exists in Heaven.

Dear friend, what took place on earth is borne witness to within Heaven itself! Remember, "what you see is what you get" when you get to Heaven!

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



4) THE TESTIMONY OF HEAVEN SHOWN TO **DANIEL** Daniel Chapter 7:1-27 excerpts)

"I WATCHED TILL **THRONES** WERE PUT IN PLACE,
AND **THE ANCIENT OF DAYS** WAS SEATED;
HIS GARMENT WAS WHITE AS SNOW,
AND THE HAIR OF HIS HEAD WAS LIKE PURE WOOL.
HIS THRONE WAS A FIERY FLAME...

A THOUSAND THOUSANDS MINISTERED TO HIM;
TEN THOUSAND TIMES TEN THOUSAND STOOD BEFORE HIM.
THE COURT WAS SEATED, AND THE BOOKS WERE OPENED....

...I WAS WATCHING IN THE NIGHT VISIONS, AND BEHOLD,
ONE LIKE **THE SON OF MAN**,
COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN!
HE CAME TO **THE ANCIENT OF DAYS**,
AND THEY BROUGHT **HIM** NEAR BEFORE **HIM**.
THEN TO HIM WAS GIVEN DOMINION AND GLORY AND A KINGDOM,
THAT ALL PEOPLES, NATIONS, AND LANGUAGES SHOULD SERVE HIM.
HIS DOMINION IS AN EVERLASTING DOMINION,
WHICH SHALL NOT PASS AWAY,
AND HIS KINGDOM THE ONE WHICH SHALL NOT BE DESTROYED...

...BUT THE SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH
SHALL RECEIVE THE KINGDOM,
AND POSSESS THE KINGDOM FOREVER,
EVEN FOREVER AND EVER.'

...THEN THE KINGDOM AND DOMINION,
AND THE GREATNESS OF THE KINGDOMS
UNDER THE WHOLE HEAVEN, SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE,
THE SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH.

**HIS KINGDOM IS AN EVERLASTING KINGDOM,
AND ALL DOMINIONS SHALL SERVE AND OBEY HIM."**

Dan. 7:1-27 excerpts

Daniel's vision above of Heaven has many parallels to the previous vision shown to John in Revelation. Actually, these are the two greatest detailed visions of Heaven recorded in the Word of God, one was given to the beloved prophet Daniel and the other to the beloved apostle John. If you really want to know what Heaven is like, look to the recorded writings of the apostles and prophets of scripture for they are stated to be the very foundations upon which the church institution itself was built:

"NOW, THEREFORE,
YOU ARE...FELLOW CITIZENS ...
WITH THE SAINTS
AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD,
**HAVING BEEN BUILT ON THE FOUNDATION
OF THE APOSTLES AND PROPHETS,
JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE,**
IN WHOM THE WHOLE BUILDING, BEING FITTED TOGETHER,
GROWS INTO A HOLY TEMPLE IN THE LORD,
IN WHOM YOU ALSO ARE BEING BUILT TOGETHER
**FOR A DWELLING PLACE
OF GOD IN THE SPIRIT.**"

Eph. 2:19-22

Daniel's vision stated in our opening above, is just like John's vision in Revelation, a depiction of "a throne in Heaven, and One sitting on that throne." Daniel calls the One sitting on the throne, "the Ancient of Days."

The added description of the Throne of God in Daniel is very parallel in content to what John was shown in Revelation Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5.

"OLD"

Let us make a brief comparison:

"NEW"

"I WATCHED TILL THRONES WERE
PUT IN PLACE, AND THE ANCIENT
OF DAYS WAS SEATED;
HIS GARMENT WAS WHITE AS
SNOW, AND THE HAIR OF HIS HEAD
WAS LIKE PURE WOOL. HIS THRONE
WAS A FIERY FLAME.....

I WAS WATCHING IN THE NIGHT
VISIONS, AND

BEHOLD,

ONE LIKE THE SON OF MAN,
COMING WITH

THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN!

HE CAME TO **THE ANCIENT OF
DAYS, AND THEY BROUGHT**

HIM NEAR BEFORE HIM.

THEN TO HIM WAS GIVEN
DOMINION AND GLORY AND
A KINGDOM..."

Daniel 7 excerpts



Nearly
700 years
separate these
two visions
of Heaven
that are nearly
identical in
content!

"AND BEHOLD, A THRONE
SET IN HEAVEN,
AND ONE SAT ON THE THRONE.
AND IN THE MIDST OF THE
THRONE... **ONE LIKE THE
SON OF MAN,** CLOTHED WITH
A GARMENT DOWN TO THE
FEET AND GIRDED ABOUT THE
CHEST WITH A GOLDEN BAND.
HIS HEAD AND HAIR WERE
WHITE LIKE WOOL, AS WHITE AS
SNOW, AND HIS EYES LIKE A
FLAME OF FIRE; HIS FEET WERE
LIKE FINE BRASS, AS IF REFINED
IN A FURNACE...

...**AND BEHOLD, IN THE
MIDST OF THE THRONE...
STOOD A LAMB AS THOUGH
IT HAD BEEN SLAIN... ..**
WORTHY IS THE LAMB WHO
WAS SLAIN..."

Rev. 1:13, 4-5 excerpts

639 B.C....



67 A.D....

Both Heavenly visions depicted above present two distinct Divine persons of the Almighty Godhead namely, (1) "the Ancient of Days" sitting on His Throne and (2) "One like the Son of Man" brought before that very same Heavenly Throne. The distinction between the two visions is that the visible appearance of the latter "One like the Son of Man" now bears the resemblance of "a Lamb as though it had been slain." The Book of Hebrews will pungently clarify that for us:

"GOD, WHO AT VARIOUS TIMES AND IN VARIOUS WAYS SPOKE IN TIME
PAST TO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS,
HAS IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN TO US BY HIS SON,
WHOM HE HAS APPOINTED HEIR OF ALL THINGS,
THROUGH WHOM ALSO HE MADE THE WORLDS;
WHO BEING THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY
AND THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF HIS PERSON,
AND UPHOLDING ALL THINGS BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER,
WHEN HE HAD BY HIMSELF
PURGED OUR SINS,
SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF
THE MAJESTY ON HIGH... "

Heb 1:1-4

Jesus, as "the Son of Man" or "the Son of God", was sent by the Father to earth to accomplish this Divine mission: "By Himself He purged our sins." After being "like a lamb that was slain", The Son of God returned to God the Father who sent Him and afterwards "sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on High." Think about this dear reader! God the Son sat down next to God the Father, the "Majesty on High."

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



5) THE TESTIMONY OF HEAVEN AS TAUGHT BY PAUL IN HEBREWS (Hebrews Chapter 1)

"GOD, WHO AT VARIOUS TIMES AND IN VARIOUS WAYS SPOKE IN TIME PAST TO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS, HAS IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN TO US BY HIS SON,

WHOM HE HAS APPOINTED HEIR OF ALL THINGS...

THROUGH WHOM ALSO HE MADE THE WORLDS;

WHO BEING THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY AND THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF HIS PERSON,

AND UPHOLDING ALL THINGS BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER,

WHEN HE HAD BY HIMSELF PURGED OUR SINS,

SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH...

...HAVING BECOME
SO MUCH BETTER THAN
THE ANGELS,
AS **HE HAS BY INHERITANCE
OBTAINED A MORE
EXCELLENT NAME THAN THEY.**
FOR TO WHICH OF
THE ANGELS
DID HE EVER SAY:

**"YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY
I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU?"**

AND AGAIN:

**"I WILL BE TO HIM A FATHER,
AND HE SHALL BE
TO ME A SON?"**

BUT WHEN HE AGAIN
BRINGS

**THE FIRSTBORN
INTO THE WORLD,**

HE SAYS:

"LET ALL THE ANGELS
OF GOD WORSHIP HIM....

...BUT **TO THE SON** HE SAYS:

**"YOUR THRONE, O GOD,
IS FOREVER AND EVER;
A SCEPTER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
IS THE SCEPTER OF
YOUR KINGDOM....**

THEREFORE

GOD, (the Son)

YOUR GOD, (the Father)

HAS ANOINTED YOU....

AND: **"YOU, LORD,
IN THE BEGINNING
LAID THE FOUNDATION
OF THE EARTH,
AND THE HEAVENS ARE
THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS...**

BUT TO WHICH OF THE ANGELS
HAS HE EVER SAID:

**"SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,
TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES
YOUR FOOTSTOOL"?**...

Hebrews Chapter 1 excerpts

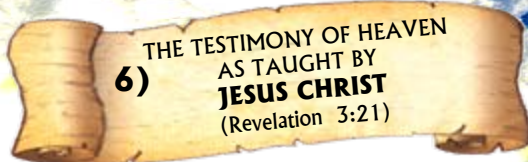
The context of Hebrews Chapter 1 sets out to make a stark contrast between the Angels of God and Jesus Christ who is the Son of God. The Jews were by faulty tradition steeped in the pitfalls of angel worship. Paul sets out to establish the superiority of focusing worship upon the Almighty Godhead (Elohim) instead of lesser angelic beings that were created by God to carry out the will and purpose of Almighty God. Angels were created to serve, not to be worshiped.

In the opening verses above Paul enumerates that the Son of God is "the Creator of the Heavens and the earth." Paul also shows that it was the Son Himself that "purged our sins" prior to returning to Heaven to once again "sit down at the Right Hand of the Majesty on High." In this statement Paul declares Jesus Christ to be Divinity worthy to sit next to His Father as **GOD THE SON.**

The verses on the left further contrast how much more worthy is the Son than created angels. Therefore the Son qualifies to be worshiped as God right beside God the Father.

Note well it is **"GOD, YOUR GOD"** that has anointed (You) the Son. It is "to the Son" that God the Father says, "Your Throne, **O GOD,** is forever and ever", and that is why we are shown that the Son "sits at the Right Hand of the Majesty on High." It is **GOD THE FATHER** and **GOD THE SON** sitting side by side that presently rule over all Creation!

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



**"...TO HIM WHO OVERCOMES
I WILL GRANT TO
SIT WITH ME ON MY THRONE,
AS I ALSO OVERCAME AND
SAT DOWN WITH MY FATHER ON HIS THRONE."**
Rev.3:21

In making a great promise to all overcomers found within the Churches of Jesus Christ, there is a revelation of Heaven contained within that promise that needs to be equally emphasized. First of all, Jesus uses His own testimony as a personal example of being one who was found to be an overcomer. His stated reward was that He "sat down with My Father on His Throne." This reward was confirmed by Paul in Hebrews:

***"WHEN HE HAD BY HIMSELF PURGED OUR SINS,
SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH..."***

Heb 1:1-4

Jesus, in our opening text in Revelation, extends a similar reward promised to every overcoming believer:

***"...TO HIM WHO OVERCOMES
I WILL GRANT TO SIT WITH ME ON MY THRONE,
AS I ALSO OVERCAME
AND SAT DOWN WITH MY FATHER ON HIS THRONE."***

Rev.3:21

Dear reader, don't miss the hidden sublime message above due to the magnitude of the obvious one of inheriting a position of "Sitting on Christ's Throne with Him." The hidden truth also contained in this statement is the dual confirmation that (1) God the Father has His own Throne in Heaven, and (2) Jesus His Son ALSO has His own Throne in Heaven! Actually, considering all the "throne" passages that we have examined, we can see that The Father's Throne is right next to the Throne of His Son-at the Right hand of the Majesty on High!"

Why is this important? Because the church is being taught by "3-in-1" theologians that when you get to Heaven you will only be able to see "One God sitting on one Throne." The truth is that this premise is contrary to every vision of Heaven given in God's Word. I have labored to reveal that Heaven is always shown to us as a "pluralistic vision" of the Godhead consisting of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit." So far we have considered five of those glimpses into Heaven and all five have shown the presence in Heaven of the Father and the Son together. What we have NOT been shown is the image of "One God on one Throne" as the "3-in-1 theologians" keep telling us is what we will see in Heaven. The very opposite scenario permeates every recorded vision we have of Heaven.

There is a parable Jesus told which begins with "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son" (Matt. 22:3). I expect to see with my eyes that marriage take place, don't you? The Father will visibly be there, the Son will visibly there, as well as all those invited to the Wedding. I don't expect to only see "one God sitting on one throne" when this event takes place. SELAH! (think on this!)

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



THE TESTIMONY OF HEAVEN AS SHOWN TO **ZECHARIAH** (Zechariah 3 & 4)

"THEN HE SHOWED ME
JOSHUA THE HIGH PRIEST
STANDING BEFORE THE ANGEL OF THE LORD,
AND SATAN STANDING AT HIS RIGHT HAND
TO OPPOSE HIM.

AND **THE LORD** SAID TO SATAN,
"**THE LORD** REBUKE YOU, SATAN!
THE LORD WHO HAS CHOSEN JERUSALEM REBUKE YOU!
IS THIS NOT A BRAND PLUCKED FROM THE FIRE?"

NOW JOSHUA
WAS CLOTHED
WITH FILTHY GARMENTS,
AND WAS STANDING BEFORE THE ANGEL. THEN
HE ANSWERED AND SPOKE TO THOSE WHO
STOOD BEFORE HIM, SAYING,
"TAKE AWAY THE FILTHY GARMENTS FROM
HIM." AND TO HIM HE SAID, "SEE, I HAVE
REMOVED YOUR INIQUITY FROM YOU,
AND I WILL CLOTHE YOU WITH RICH ROBES."
AND I SAID, "LET THEM PUT A CLEAN TURBAN
ON HIS HEAD." SO THEY PUT A CLEAN TURBAN
ON HIS HEAD, AND THEY PUT THE CLOTHES ON
HIM.

AND THE ANGEL OF THE LORD
STOOD BY. THEN THE ANGEL OF THE LORD
ADMONISHED JOSHUA, SAYING,
"THUS SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS:
'IF YOU WILL WALK IN MY WAYS,
AND IF YOU WILL KEEP MY COMMAND, THEN
YOU SHALL ALSO JUDGE MY HOUSE, AND
LIKEWISE HAVE CHARGE OF MY COURTS;
I WILL GIVE YOU PLACES TO WALK AMONG
THESE WHO STAND HERE.' HEAR, O JOSHUA,
THE HIGH PRIEST, YOU AND YOUR COMPANIONS
WHO SIT BEFORE YOU,
FOR THEY ARE A WONDROUS SIGN;
FOR **BEHOLD, I AM BRINGING FORTH
MY SERVANT THE BRANCH...**

NOW THE ANGEL... SAID TO ME,
"WHAT DO YOU SEE?" SO I SAID,
"I AM LOOKING, AND THERE IS A LAMPSTAND OF
SOLID GOLD... AND ON THE STAND SEVEN LAMPS
... SO I ANSWERED AND SPOKE TO THE ANGEL WHO
TALKED WITH ME, SAYING, "WHAT ARE THESE, MY
LORD?" THEN THE ANGEL WHO TALKED WITH ME
ANSWERED AND SAID TO ME, :

**"THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD...
'NOT BY MIGHT NOR BY POWER,
BUT BY MY SPIRIT,
SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS.'**

WHO ARE YOU, O GREAT MOUNTAIN? ...
YOU SHALL BECOME A PLAIN! AND HE SHALL
BRING FORTH THE CAPSTONE WITH SHOUTS OF
"GRACE, GRACE TO IT!"
MOREOVER THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO
ME, SAYING: ... THEN YOU WILL KNOW THAT THE
LORD OF HOSTS HAS SENT ME TO YOU...
THEY ARE **THE EYES OF THE LORD**, WHICH
SCAN TO AND FRO THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE
EARTH."

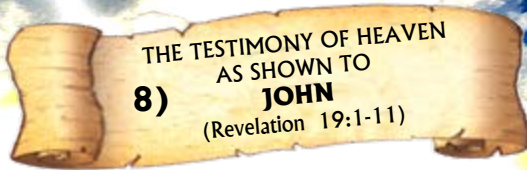
Wow! What vision of Heaven we have
here in Zechariah! We find God's High
Priest standing before the Throne of the
Lord and he is covered in filthy
garments! We are quickly shown those
"filthy garments" depict iniquity
of the people upon the High Priest.
The High Priest bears the iniquity of His
people (the Jews) upon him. The Lord is
quick to point out that this High Priest is
a chosen vessel that has been "plucked
out of the fire." Satan, the accuser of
the brethren is right there to accuse
Joshua of his sinful condition.

It is no accident that "Joshua" in the
Hebrew language is the same as "Jesus"
in the Greek language. Nor is it
accidental that Joshua is the High Priest
for Jesus is our "High Priest" as clearly
presented in the book of Hebrews.
Then the prophetic announcement
comes: "Behold, I am bringing forth My
Servant the Branch."

As this vision proceeds we are
introduced to "a lampstand of solid gold
with seven lamps." You will find this
elaborated on in Isaiah 11 which bring
forth "the Branch" as well as "the seven
Spirits of the Lord."

Zechariah now states the power of the
Holy Spirit in saying, "not by might, nor
by power, but by My Spirit, says the
Lord." What is that power to overcome
mountains of opposition? It is "Shouts of
Grace, Grace to it!" "Grace" is Jesus!
"Grace" is the Spirit of grace!
Wow! What a vision!

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



"AFTER THESE THINGS I HEARD
A LOUD VOICE OF A GREAT MULTITUDE IN HEAVEN,
SAYING,
"ALLELUIA! SALVATION AND GLORY AND HONOR
AND POWER BELONG TO **THE LORD OUR GOD!**"

AND THE TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS AND THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES FELL DOWN AND
WORSHIPED **GOD** WHO SAT ON **THE THRONE**, SAYING, "AMEN! ALLELUIA!"

THEN A VOICE CAME FROM **THE THRONE**,
SAYING, "PRAISE **OUR GOD**, ALL YOU HIS SERVANTS AND THOSE WHO FEAR HIM,
BOTH SMALL AND GREAT!" AND I HEARD, AS IT WERE, THE VOICE OF A GREAT MULTITUDE,
AS THE SOUND OF MANY WATERS AND AS THE SOUND OF MIGHTY THUNDERINGS, SAYING,
"ALLELUIA! FOR **THE LORD GOD** OMNIPOTENT REIGNS!
LET US BE GLAD AND REJOICE AND GIVE HIM GLORY, FOR THE MARRIAGE OF **THE LAMB**
HAS COME, AND HIS WIFE HAS MADE HERSELF READY." AND TO HER IT WAS GRANTED TO BE
ARRAYED IN FINE LINEN, CLEAN AND BRIGHT, FOR THE FINE LINEN IS
THE RIGHTEOUS ACTS OF THE SAINTS.

THEN HE SAID TO ME, "WRITE:
'BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE CALLED TO
THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB!'"
AND HE SAID TO ME, "THESE ARE THE TRUE SAYINGS OF GOD."
Rev. 19:1-11

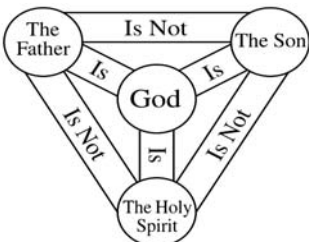
What is stated above is a detailed vivid expression of a prophetic event that is to take place in Heaven. Unlike the other visions of Heaven we have examined this one has not yet taken place. However, it is recorded for us above in great vivid detail. Many, many, will be present to witness this great event. God the Father will be there as well as Jesus His Son who is the Bridegroom. Let us remember that it is "the Spirit and the Bride that says, Come!" (Rev.22:17). The Bride of Christ will be there and a "great multitude" that have been invited to attend "the Marriage Supper of the Lamb."

This is not a lone vision of "one God sitting on one Throne", is it? No, we shall rather see God the Father giving a prepared Bride to God the Son. This is the fulfillment of the parable Jesus presented of, "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for His Son" (Matt. 22:3).

Dear reader, believe that this is an event that you will see when you get to Heaven. These are "the true sayings of God." Truth consists of only what is plainly recorded in God's Word!

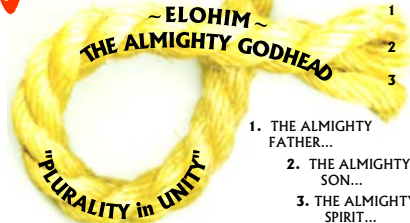
**THIS IS NOT
THE VISION OF "GOD"
FOUND IN GOD'S WORD!**

(a 3-in-1 God)



**THIS IS
THE VISION OF THE GODHEAD
FOUND IN GOD'S WORD!**

(a Triune Godhead)



1. THE ALMIGHTY FATHER...
2. THE ALMIGHTY SON...
3. THE ALMIGHTY SPIRIT...

THE PROPHETS VISION OF HEAVEN



THE TESTIMONY OF HEAVEN AS SHOWN IN **PSALM 45**

9) (Psalm 45 excerpts)

"MY HEART IS OVERFLOWING WITH A GOOD THEME;
I RECITE MY COMPOSITION CONCERNING

THE KING;

MY TONGUE IS THE PEN OF A READY WRITER.
YOU ARE FAIRER THAN THE SONS OF MEN;
GRACE IS POURED UPON YOUR LIPS;
THEREFORE **GOD HAS BLESSED YOU FOREVER.**

GIRD YOUR SWORD UPON YOUR THIGH, O MIGHTY ONE,
WITH YOUR GLORY AND YOUR MAJESTY.
AND IN YOUR MAJESTY RIDE PROSPEROUSLY BECAUSE OF TRUTH...

... **YOUR THRONE, O GOD,**
IS FOREVER AND EVER;

A SCEPTER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IS THE SCEPTER OF YOUR KINGDOM.

YOU LOVE RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATE WICKEDNESS;
THEREFORE **GOD, YOUR GOD,** HAS ANOINTED YOU
WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS MORE THAN YOUR COMPANIONS.
ALL YOUR GARMENTS ARE SCENTED WITH MYRRH AND ALOES AND CASSIA...
...AT YOUR RIGHT HAND STANDS **THE QUEEN** IN GOLD FROM OPHIR...

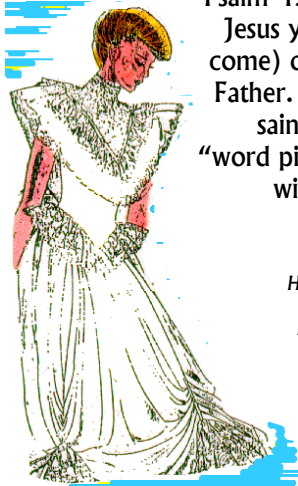
...**THE ROYAL DAUGHTER** IS ALL GLORIOUS WITHIN THE PALACE;
HER CLOTHING IS WOVEN WITH GOLD.

SHE SHALL BE BROUGHT TO THE KING

IN ROBES OF MANY COLORS; THE VIRGINS, HER COMPANIONS WHO FOLLOW HER,
SHALL BE BROUGHT TO YOU. WITH GLADNESS AND REJOICING THEY SHALL BE BROUGHT;
THEY SHALL ENTER THE KING'S PALACE...I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME TO BE REMEMBERED IN ALL
GENERATIONS; THEREFORE THE PEOPLE SHALL PRAISE YOU FOREVER AND EVER."

Psm. 45:1-9

If some of what is stated above by the psalmist (David the prophet) sounds familiar, it is because it is also the focus of the apostle Paul in Hebrews Chapter One that we considered earlier (page 69) in which he made a comparison between the superiority of "God the Son" to that of created angelic beings. The exact same phraseology of "Your Throne, O God" and "God, Your God" is found in Paul's epistle as well as being stated here in Psalm 45. However, this time it is the prophet that gives added revelation to these passages rather than the apostle.



Psalm 45 is prophetically describing the coordination of King Jesus yet-to-come and the revelation of "the Bride (yet-to-come) of Christ", the "Royal Daughter" (in-law) of God the Father. Take time to ponder the scene described above dear saint! Try to visualize in your mind the magnitude of the "word picture" the Psalmist is painting because some day you will see it take place with your own eyes! Look again at "the Royal Daughter":

"...THE ROYAL DAUGHTER IS ALL GLORIOUS WITHIN THE PALACE;
HER CLOTHING IS WOVEN WITH GOLD. SHE SHALL BE BROUGHT TO THE
KING IN ROBES OF MANY COLORS; THE VIRGINS,
HER COMPANIONS WHO FOLLOW HER, SHALL BE BROUGHT TO YOU.
WITH GLADNESS AND REJOICING THEY SHALL BE BROUGHT;
THEY SHALL ENTER THE KING'S PALACE...
I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME TO BE REMEMBERED IN ALL GENERATIONS;
THEREFORE THE PEOPLE SHALL PRAISE YOU FOREVER AND EVER."

THE CONTINUITY OF THE SCRIPTURES:

1,078 YEARS

separate
the writings
of these two
messengers of
God,
but the continuity
of message is one
and
the same theme.
The choice of
descriptive words
change,
but the message is
one and the
same.

Both speak
descriptively of
the glorious
majesty bestowed
upon God,
the anointed
Divine Son,
the majestic
Bridegroom,
the King of
the Kingdom of
God. Both
also speak of the
glorious revealed
beauty of the
Bride-to-be,
the Queen,
the Royal
Daughter,
the Lamb's Wife.
Revelation speaks
a special blessing
upon those
"called to the
marriage supper
of the Lamb."

What
a word picture
the Holy Spirit
is giving of this
great event that
will fill
the Heavens
forever!

"MY HEART
IS OVERFLOWING
WITH A GOOD THEME;
I RECITE MY COMPOSITION
CONCERNING THE KING;
MY TONGUE IS THE PEN
OF A READY WRITER.
YOU ARE FAIRER THAN
THE SONS OF MEN.
GRACE IS POURED UPON YOUR LIPS;
THEREFORE GOD HAS
BLESSED YOU FOREVER.

GIRD YOUR SWORD
UPON YOUR THIGH,
O MIGHTY ONE,
WITH YOUR GLORY
AND YOUR MAJESTY.
AND IN YOUR MAJESTY RIDE
PROSPEROUSLY BECAUSE
OF TRUTH...
...YOUR THRONE, O GOD,
IS FOREVER AND EVER;
A SCEPTER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
IS THE SCEPTER OF YOUR KINGDOM.
YOU LOVE RIGHTEOUSNESS AND
HATE WICKEDNESS;
THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD,
HAS ANOINTED YOU
WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS MORE
THAN YOUR COMPANIONS.
ALL YOUR GARMENTS ARE
SCENTED WITH MYRRH ...

AT YOUR RIGHT HAND
STANDS THE QUEEN IN
GOLD FROM OPHIR....
...THE ROYAL DAUGHTER
IS ALL GLORIOUS
WITHIN THE PALACE;
HER CLOTHING IS
WOVEN WITH GOLD.
SHE SHALL BE
BROUGHT TO THE KING IN ROBES
OF MANY COLORS; THE VIRGINS,
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I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME
TO BE REMEMBERED IN ALL
GENERATIONS; THEREFORE
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PRAISE YOU
FOREVER
AND EVER."

Psm. 45

"AFTER THESE THINGS
I HEARD A LOUD VOICE
OF A GREAT MULTITUDE
IN HEAVEN,
SAYING,
"ALLELUIA!
SALVATION AND GLORY
AND HONOR
AND POWER BELONG
TO THE LORD
OUR GOD!..
AND THE
TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS
AND THE FOUR LIVING
CREATURES FELL DOWN
AND WORSHIPED GOD
WHO SAT ON THE THRONE,
SAYING,
"AMEN! ALLELUIA!"
THEN A VOICE CAME FROM
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ALL YOU HIS SERVANTS AND
THOSE WHO FEAR HIM,
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AS THE SOUND OF MANY WATERS
AND AS THE SOUND OF MIGHTY
THUNDERINGS, SAYING,
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FOR THE LORD GOD
OMNIPOTENT REIGNS!

LET US BE GLAD AND REJOICE
AND GIVE HIM GLORY,
FOR THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB
HAS COME, AND HIS WIFE HAS
MADE HERSELF READY."
AND TO HER IT WAS GRANTED TO
BE ARRAYED IN FINE LINEN,
CLEAN AND BRIGHT,
FOR THE FINE LINEN IS
THE RIGHTEOUS ACTS
OF THE SAINTS.
THEN HE SAID TO ME,
'WRITE:
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WHO ARE CALLED TO
THE MARRIAGE SUPPER
OF THE LAMB!'"
AND HE SAID TO ME,
"THESE ARE
THE TRUE SAYINGS
OF GOD."

Rev. 19

"MY HEART
IS OVERFLOWING
WITH A GOOD THEME;
I RECITE MY COMPOSITION
CONCERNING THE KING;
MY TONGUE IS THE PEN
OF A READY WRITER.
YOU ARE FAIRER
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THEY SHALL BE BROUGHT; THEY
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I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME
TO BE REMEMBERED IN ALL
GENERATIONS; THEREFORE
THE PEOPLE SHALL
PRAISE YOU
FOREVER
AND EVER."

Psm. 45

Although a
thousand plus
years separate
these two
passages
penned by
different
authors
and yet,
look at the
absolute
consistency of
the message
they both
bear!

The first half
of each
message
describes
the Majesty
of the Son
of God and
the second
half of each
message
unfolds
the revelation
of the Bride of
Christ
and her
marriage to
God
the Son!
Truly,
the Word of
God
is pure
like silver:

"THE WORDS
OF THE LORD
ARE PURE
WORDS,
LIKE SILVER
TRIED IN A
FURNACE
OF EARTH,
PURIFIED
SEVEN TIMES.
YOU SHALL
KEEP THEM,
O LORD,
YOU SHALL
PRESERVE
THEM ...
FOREVER."
Psm 12:6

"AFTER THESE THINGS
I HEARD A LOUD VOICE
OF A GREAT MULTITUDE
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SHALL ENTER THE KING'S PALACE...
I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME
TO BE REMEMBERED IN ALL
GENERATIONS; THEREFORE
THE PEOPLE SHALL
PRAISE YOU
FOREVER
AND EVER."

Psm. 45

There is
a great
paradigm
shift
revealed
here as
the
emphasis
of
Scripture
swings
from the
revelation
of the
Divine
Son of
God
to that of
the
perfecting
of the
Bride of
Christ
(formed
out of
born-again
saints
of God
that
comprise
the Body
of Christ
on earth)

This
paradigm
shift
will be the
focus of
of
Chapter
Three of
this
book!

Pastor
Randy Shupe

"AFTER THESE THINGS
I HEARD A LOUD VOICE
OF A GREAT MULTITUDE
IN HEAVEN,
SAYING,
"ALLELUIA!
SALVATION AND GLORY
AND HONOR
AND POWER BELONG
TO THE LORD
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TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS
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WHO ARE CALLED TO
THE MARRIAGE SUPPER
OF THE LAMB!'"
AND HE SAID TO ME,
"THESE ARE
THE TRUE SAYINGS
OF GOD."

Rev. 19

"ELOHIM"

The Almighty Godhead



*"...attaining
to the knowledge
of the mystery of God,
both of the Father and of Christ..."*
Col. 2:2

*"For it
pleased
the Father
that in Him
all the fullness
(of the Godhead)
should dwell..."*
Col. 1:19



*"...for
in Him
dwells all
the fullness of
the Godhead
bodily..."*
Col. 2:9

*"...I bow my knees
to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
...that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."*

Eph. 3:14, 19

~ CHAPTER THREE ~

"FOR WHAT PURPOSE
WAS MAN CREATED?"

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words
of
the

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GOD (**ELOHIM**)
SAID, "LET **US** MAKE MAN
IN **OUR** IMAGE, ACCORDING TO **OUR** LIKENESS..."
Gen. 1:26

"WHAT IS MAN

THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM,
AND THE SON OF MAN THAT YOU VISIT HIM? FOR YOU HAVE
MADE HIM A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS, AND YOU HAVE
CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR.
YOU HAVE MADE HIM TO HAVE DOMINION OVER THE WORKS
OF YOUR HANDS; YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET..."
Psalm 8:4-6

"WHAT IS MAN,

THAT YOU TAKE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM? OR THE SON OF MAN,
THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM? MAN IS LIKE A BREATH;
HIS DAYS ARE LIKE A PASSING SHADOW..."
Psalm 144:3

"WHAT IS MAN,

THAT YOU SHOULD EXALT HIM, THAT YOU SHOULD
SET YOUR HEART ON HIM THAT YOU SHOULD VISIT HIM
EVERY MORNING, AND TEST HIM EVERY MOMENT?
HOW LONG?"
Job 7:17-19

"WHAT IS MAN,

THAT HE COULD BE PURE? AND HE WHO IS BORN
OF A WOMAN, THAT HE COULD BE RIGHTEOUS?"
Job 15:14

"HE HAS NOT PUT THE WORLD TO COME,
OF WHICH WE SPEAK,
IN SUBJECTION TO ANGELS. BUT ONE TESTIFIED
IN A CERTAIN PLACE, SAYING:

'WHAT IS MAN

THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM, OR THE SON
OF MAN THAT YOU TAKE CARE OF HIM?
YOU HAVE MADE HIM A LITTLE LOWER THAN
THE ANGELS; YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH
GLORY AND HONOR, AND SET HIM OVER
THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS. YOU HAVE PUT
ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET."
FOR IN THAT HE PUT ALL IN SUBJECTION
UNDER HIM, HE LEFT NOTHING THAT IS NOT
PUT UNDER HIM. BUT NOW WE DO NOT YET SEE
ALL THINGS PUT UNDER HIM, BUT WE SEE JESUS,
WHO WAS MADE A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS,
FOR THE SUFFERING OF DEATH
CROWNED WITH GLORY AND HONOR,
THAT HE, BY THE GRACE OF GOD,
MIGHT TASTE DEATH FOR EVERYONE."
Heb 2:5-9

the
words
of
the

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Let us begin Chapter Three by posing a similar question to the one which I presented to you previously that became a running theme governing the contents of Chapters One and Two.

It was in Chapters One/Two that we considered this profound and prophetic question of scripture:

**WHO IS
THE LORD**
THAT I SHOULD
OBEY HIS VOICE?"
Ex. 5:2

Now in Chapter Three we shall consider this equally profound and prophetic question of scripture:

**WHAT IS
MAN**
THAT YOU ARE
MINDFUL OF HIM?"
Heb.2:6



Over many years of meditation and study it has come to be the conviction of this teacher of God's Word that the above stated two questions constitute the volume of the Bible's content which were written by the **PROPHETS** and the **APOSTLES** of scripture.

In answer to the first profound question we considered the recorded evidence of **THE PROPHETS** of old and **THE APOSTLES** of the New Testament as the sole basis of our definitive answer to "Who is the Lord?" Our guiding banner was, "What do the Scriptures say?" (Rom.4:3) We learned that the names "God" and "The Lord" were actually man's own chosen substitutes used in place of the specific Hebrew Name stated 2,197 times in Hebrew Scripture, "Elohim, the Almighty Godhead" (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.)

This plural Godhead consisting of three Divine Personages comprise the Divine Family of God that has literally always functioned from Heaven itself and will eternally continue to do so-forever!

In Chapter Two we saw that much of the opening content of the New Testament epistles of Paul, Peter and John focused on identifying in detail the authority, the character, and the nature of this Almighty Triune Godhead. The main message of Scripture has always been to answer the question, "Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice?"

Now we have a second profound question tabled above, "What is man?" This too is a question that requires a detailed and thorough definition. So important is this question that it was on the lips of prophets like Job (Job 7:17, 15:14) and the prophet David as well (Psm. 8:4, 144:3). The apostle Paul also stated this very important question in his epistle of Hebrews (Heb. 2:6). This Third and final Chapter I have dedicated to unfolding a biblical answer to the question, "What is man that You are mindful of him?"

"WHAT IS MAN?"

So important is this question that it is stated five times in Scripture by three great men of God:

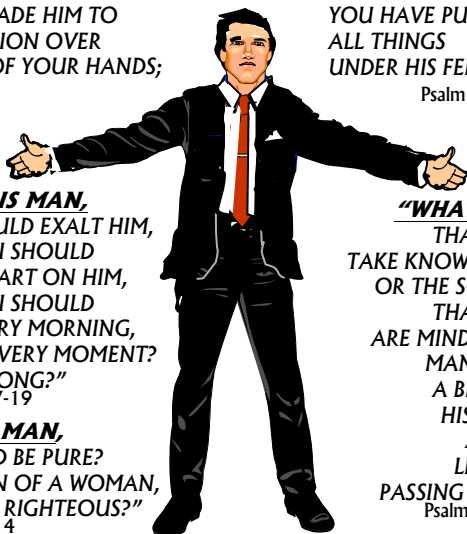
"WHAT IS MAN

THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM,
AND THE SON OF MAN THAT YOU VISIT HIM? FOR YOU HAVE MADE HIM A LITTLE
LOWER THAN THE ANGELS, AND YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR.

YOU HAVE MADE HIM TO
HAVE DOMINION OVER
THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;

YOU HAVE PUT
ALL THINGS
UNDER HIS FEET..."

Psalms 8:4-6



"WHAT IS MAN,

THAT YOU SHOULD EXALT HIM,
THAT YOU SHOULD
SET YOUR HEART ON HIM,
THAT YOU SHOULD
VISIT HIM EVERY MORNING,
AND TEST HIM EVERY MOMENT?

HOW LONG?"

Job 7:17-19

"WHAT IS MAN,

THAT HE COULD BE PURE?
AND HE WHO IS BORN OF A WOMAN,
THAT HE COULD BE RIGHTEOUS?"

Job 15:14

"WHAT IS MAN,

THAT YOU
TAKE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM?
OR THE SON OF MAN,
THAT YOU
ARE MINDFUL OF HIM?

MAN IS LIKE

A BREATH;

HIS DAYS

ARE

LIKE A

PASSING SHADOW..."

Psalms 144:3

"HE HAS NOT PUT THE WORLD TO COME, OF WHICH WE SPEAK,
IN SUBJECTION TO ANGELS. BUT ONE TESTIFIED IN A CERTAIN PLACE, SAYING:

"WHAT IS MAN

THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM,
OR THE SON OF MAN THAT YOU TAKE CARE OF HIM?
YOU HAVE MADE HIM A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS;
YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR,
AND SET HIM OVER THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS.

YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET."

FOR IN THAT HE PUT ALL IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIM, HE LEFT NOTHING THAT IS NOT
PUT UNDER HIM. BUT NOW WE DO NOT YET SEE ALL THINGS PUT UNDER HIM.

BUT WE SEE JESUS, WHO WAS MADE A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS,
FOR THE SUFFERING OF DEATH CROWNED WITH GLORY AND HONOR,
THAT HE, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, MIGHT TASTE DEATH FOR EVERYONE."

Heb 2:5-9

I must say that I have sat long in mediation and scrutiny over every word of the above synopsis of Scripture pertaining to what these three great men of God had to say about the purpose of man's creation and existence on earth. I advise that you do the same if you truly want to understand what purpose and plan that God Almighty has for His primary creation which I believe is man.

God has eternal plans for His creation, man. This is testified of in the verse above from the apostle Paul in Hebrews in which he declares, "He has not put the world to come of which we speak in subjection to angels...what is man that You are mindful of him..." He goes on to expound his thoughts, "...you have made him a little lower than the angels...and set him over the works of your hands..." Do you, dear reader understand all these things? Considering the great emphasis upon man in the Scriptures I believe it is imperative that we seek to fully grasp to understand God's purposes for His creation, man.

Before we examine what these three men of God had to say about man's purpose and destiny as the creation of God, let us consider who these three men were in the sight of the Almighty:



the **PROPHET** Job



the **PROPHET** David



the **APOSTLE** Paul

It is noteworthy to mention that the three authors of this repeated phrase were all devout men documented as having lived lives bearing great testimonies. It has been well said, as even the word "testimony" itself reveals, "A great "TESTimony" often contains a great "TEST." Such was the common factor of these three men, for God Himself bears testimony of how they lived their lives on earth devoted to their Creator:

"Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"
Job 1:8

"I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will."
(Acts 13:22

"...he (Paul) is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the Children of Israel.
For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."
Acts 9:16

Let us begin our examination with Job's bevy of thoughts in defining, "What is man?"



Job

"WHAT IS MAN, THAT YOU SHOULD EXALT HIM, THAT YOU SHOULD SET YOUR HEART ON HIM, THAT YOU SHOULD VISIT HIM EVERY MORNING, AND TEST HIM EVERY MOMENT? HOW LONG?" Job 7:17-19

"WHAT IS MAN, THAT HE COULD BE PURE? AND HE WHO IS BORN OF A WOMAN, THAT HE COULD BE RIGHTEOUS?" Job 15:14

God testifies above of His own various interaction with his creation man, "You exalt him, You set Your heart on him, You visit him every morning" and "You test him every moment." We don't seem to mind when God chooses to "exalt us", or "set His heart on us" or "visit us" but we seem to fall apart when God also proclaims that He "tests us every moment." This fourth latter statement does not seem to be in harmony with the other three good things God performs for His people. However, Job did not seem to be as bothered by it as we are. He summed up man's life on earth with this sober observation:

"MAN WHO IS BORN OF WOMAN IS OF FEW DAYS AND FULL OF TROUBLE."
Job 14:1

Below is a comparison between passages that **THE PROPHET** David spoke pertaining to “What is man?” and what was uttered a thousand years later by **THE APOSTLE** Paul pertaining to the meaning of the very same question, “What is man?”



Keep in mind the principle
we established earlier (pages 55-56)
that the level of revelation given to
THE APOSTLE is always greater and more complete
than that which is given to **THE PROPHET**.
We need both revelations.

the **PROPHET** David:

the **APOSTLE** Paul:

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**“WHAT IS MAN
THAT YOU ARE
MINDFUL OF HIM,
AND THE SON OF MAN
THAT YOU VISIT HIM?
FOR YOU HAVE
MADE HIM
A LITTLE LOWER
THAN THE ANGELS,
AND YOU HAVE
CROWNED HIM
WITH
GLORY
AND HONOR.
YOU HAVE
MADE HIM
TO HAVE
DOMINION
OVER
THE WORKS
OF YOUR HANDS;
YOU HAVE
PUT
ALL THINGS
UNDER HIS FEET...”**

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Psalms 8:4-6

**“HE HAS NOT
PUT THE WORLD TO COME,
OF WHICH WE SPEAK,
IN SUBJECTION TO ANGELS.
BUT ONE TESTIFIED IN
A CERTAIN PLACE (Psm.8), SAYING:
‘WHAT IS MAN
THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM,
OR THE SON OF MAN
THAT YOU TAKE CARE OF HIM?
YOU HAVE MADE HIM
A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS;
YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM
WITH GLORY AND HONOR,
AND SET HIM OVER
THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS.
YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS
IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET.”
FOR IN THAT HE PUT
ALL IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIM,
HE LEFT NOTHING THAT IS
NOT PUT UNDER HIM.
BUT NOW WE DO NOT YET SEE
ALL THINGS PUT UNDER HIM...”**

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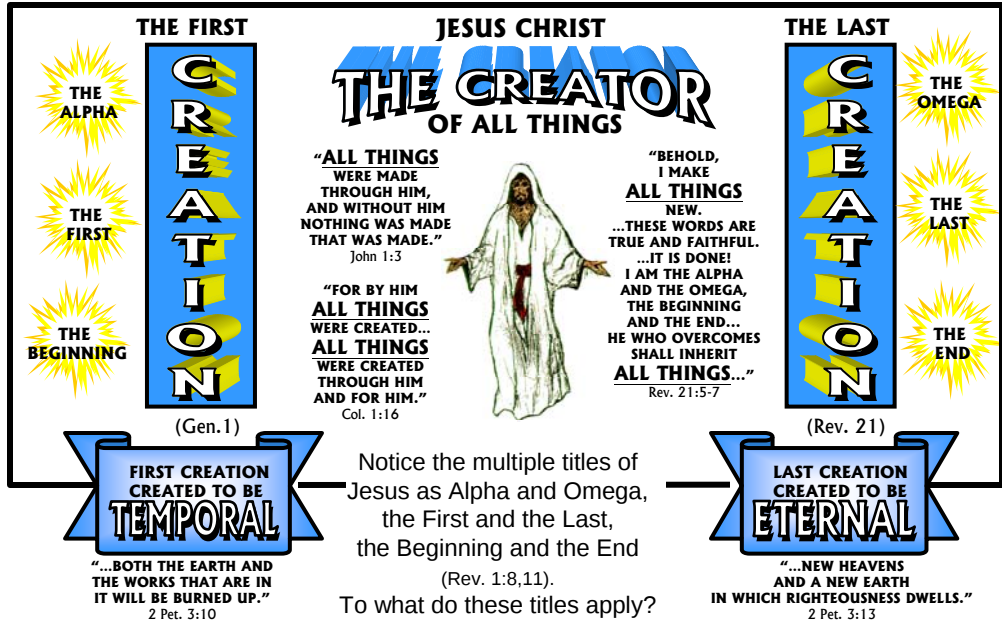
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Heb 2:5-8

A careful scrutiny of these two men’s descriptive words above will show this distinction: the prophet David in Psalm 8 begins with the original creation of man in Genesis commissioned by His Creator to “have dominion over the works of Your hands.” Although the apostle Paul in Hebrews is directly referring to Psalm Eight’s account of the original creation that took place in Genesis, he prefaces his comments here in Hebrews by speaking of a future second act of creation identified as pertaining to “the world to come” that is also to become “in subjection under his feet” (man’s). If you are like most Christians, the Genesis Creation is the only Creation account that you have been taught. However, Paul is speaking above of “the world which is to come” which is also to be placed “under subjection-under his (man’s) feet.”

On the next couple pages I have inserted diagrams of these two creation accounts for your consideration. They are taken from another prophetic book I wrote called “War Against The Saints”. Take time to digest these contrasts of the two Creation accounts. One is a past event-the other is a future event. They both are the work of Jesus Christ, “the Alpha and the Omega”, “the Beginning and the End”, “The First and the Last”. Apart from these two accounts of Creation we do not grasp the significance of these contrasting titles of Jesus Christ.



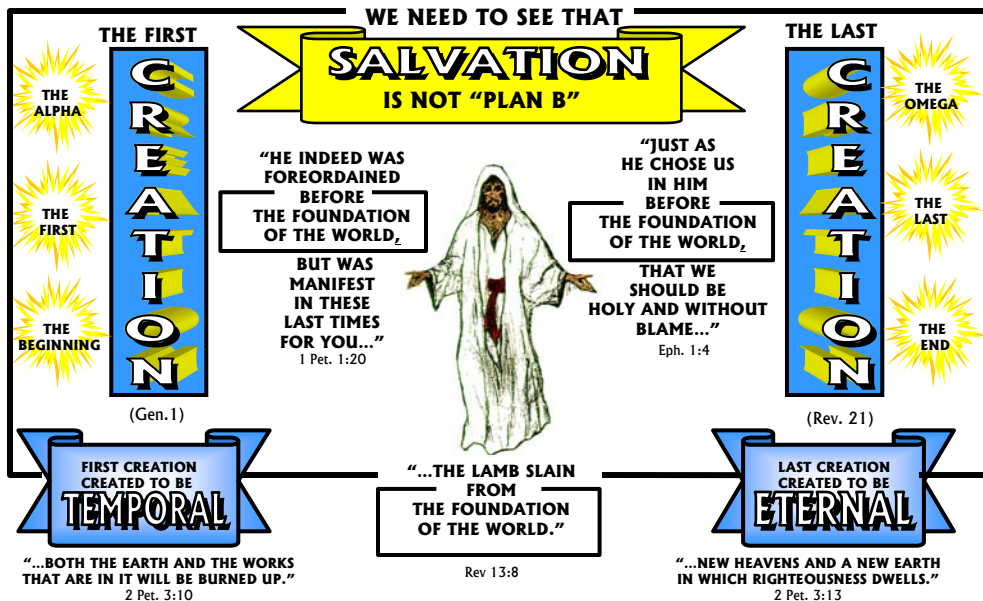
It is said of Jesus, as Melchizedek, that He had neither beginning of days nor end of life (Heb. 7:3). Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. 13:8). In what capacity then is He "Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End"? It can only be in His dual role as **CREATOR OF ALL THINGS**. As "the First", He was the Creator described in the original (first) creation found in Genesis. However, as "the Last", He will be the Creator of the new heavens and new earth described by Peter in 2 Pet. 3:13 and in Revelation 21:5-7. Even the prophet Isaiah prophesied about the coming of a new heavens and new earth:

**"FOR BEHOLD, I CREATE NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH;
AND THE FORMER SHALL NOT BE REMEMBERED OR COME TO MIND.
BUT BE GLAD AND REJOICE FOREVER IN WHAT I CREATE..."** Isa. 65:17-18

So then, we find in scripture two separate acts of creation by Jesus Christ. I would like to convince you that the first creation was **TEMPORARY**, ("the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up"- 2 Pet. 3:10), but the second (last) creation is **ETERNAL** ("new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells"- 2 Pet. 3:13). The purposes of God for the temporal creation are not the same as the eternal creation. Unless we make a clear distinction between the two, we shall fail to understand all the evil and injustice that God allows to take place during this temporal creation. Righteousness will not dominate this first creation. Rather, it is singled out as the distinct mark of the second creation to come (2 Pet. 3:13). By ignoring the revelation of the second creation to come, some have developed the warped view that God institutes a "plan B" when events don't go as first planned. Supposedly, God plants Adam and Eve in the Garden, but due to their sin, then "plan B" is birthed for Jesus to die for Adam's descendants since the sin nature is passed down to all mankind. However, scripture states the very opposite is true:

"...REDEEMED...WITH THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST, AS OF A LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH AND WITHOUT SPOT. HE INDEED WAS FOREORDAINED BEFORE THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE WORLD BUT WAS MANIFEST IN THESE LAST TIMES FOR YOU." 1 Peter 1:18-21

If it is pre-planned, it cannot be "plan B" but remains still "plan A" Before the foundation of the world was created, Christ was ordained to die to rescue mankind from sin. God, who possesses foreknowledge, therefore knew when He created Adam and Eve that they would bring sin to all of mankind, but He still created them in spite of that painful and disturbing foreknowledge of the outcome. **110**



The scriptures clearly teach that one of God's divine attributes is that He possesses foreknowledge:

**"...ELECT
ACCORDING TO
THE
FOREKNOWLEDGE
OF GOD THE FATHER..."**
1 Pet. 1:2

**"...BEING DELIVERED BY
THE DETERMINED PURPOSE
AND FOREKNOWLEDGE
OF GOD,
YOU HAVE TAKEN BY
LAWLESS HANDS..."**
Acts 2:23-24

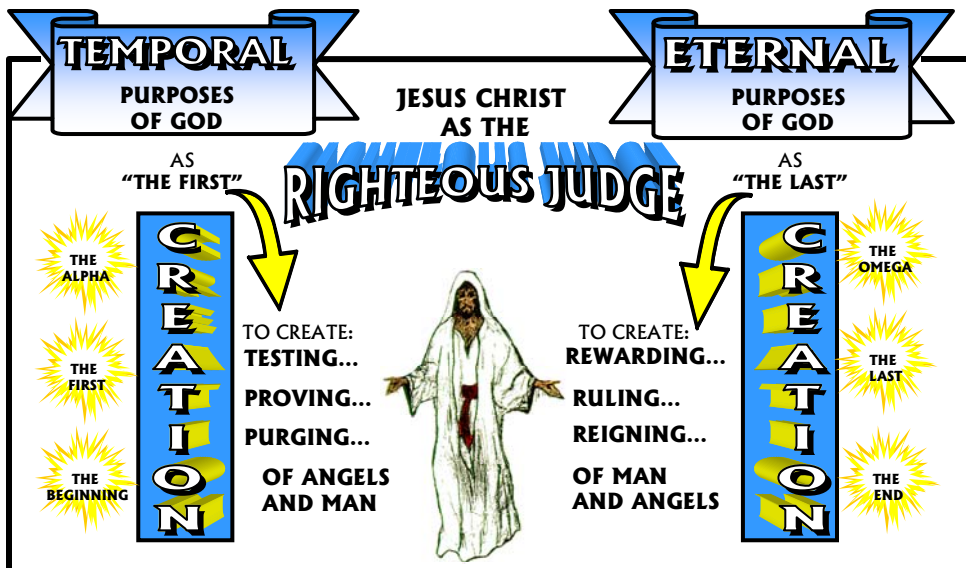
**"...THE CALLED
ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.
FOR WHOM HE FOREKNEW,
HE ALSO PREDESTINED
TO BE CONFORMED TO
THE IMAGE OF HIS SON."**
Rom. 8:29

When there is foreknowledge at play, there cannot be any such thing as "plan B". Rather, what God allows is subject to His foreknowledge. When God created Lucifer as the highest archangel among the angels, He did so with the foreknowledge that he would become lifted up with pride causing God to turn him into a horror. Likewise, God also foreknew that Satan would become the downfall of Adam and Eve:

"YOU WERE THE SEAL OF PERFECTION, FULL OF WISDOM AND PERFECT IN BEAUTY. YOU WERE IN EDEN, THE GARDEN OF GOD; EVERY PRECIOUS STONE WAS YOUR COVERING... YOU WERE THE ANOINTED CHERUB WHO COVERS, I ESTABLISHED YOU, YOU WERE ON THE MOUNTAIN OF GOD...YOU WERE PERFECT IN YOUR WAYS FROM THE DAY YOU WERE CREATED, TILL INIQUITY WAS FOUND IN YOU...THEREFORE I CAST YOU AS AS PROFANE THING OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN OF GOD... I DESTROYED YOU O COVERING CHERUB...YOUR HEART WAS LIFTED UP BECAUSE OF YOUR BEAUTY...YOU HAVE BECOME A HORROR..."
excepts Ezk. 28:12-19

"NOW THE SERPENT WAS MORE CUNNING THAN ANY BEAST OF THE FIELD WHICH THE LORD GOD HAD MADE...AND THE WOMAN SAID, 'THE SERPENT DECEIVED ME, AND I ATE...' "
Gen. 3:1, 13

By means of foreknowledge, God knew these things would happen before creating Lucifer and before creating Adam and Eve. It was God who purposely planted Adam and Eve in the Garden where this fallen serpent already lived. God, in His foreknowledge, was already aware of the ramifications of the sin nature being passed from Adam down to all his descendants. This is why, in His foreknowledge, God can state that Jesus was foreordained before the foundation of the world to become the sacrificial Lamb of God pre-destined to take away the sins of the world (1 Pet.1:20). He knew where all this would lead and yet He went ahead with the creation of Lucifer as well as Adam and Eve. He knew they would fail, both angel and man. However, by means of divine foreknowledge, God ordained the first creation as a testing ground for angels and man. This is no plan B.



The first creation has but one main purpose-the TESTING, PROVING and PURGING of God's created beings, both angels and mankind. There is no other purpose for the first creation. When the Righteous Judge has accomplished these goals, the temporal creation will be replaced by the eternal one. For this present time, Jesus functions as The Righteous Judge testing the hearts of all creatures (men and angels) that He has created:

**"THE REFINING POT
IS FOR SILVER
AND THE FURNACE FOR GOLD,
BUT
THE LORD
TESTS THE HEARTS."**

Prov. 17:3

**"I, THE LORD,
SEARCH THE HEART,
I TEST THE MIND,
EVEN TO GIVE
EVERY MAN
ACCORDING TO HIS WAYS,
ACCORDING TO
THE FRUIT OF HIS DOINGS."**

Jer. 17:10

**"THE LORD
SHALL
JUDGE THE PEOPLES...
FOR THE RIGHTEOUS GOD
TESTS THE HEARTS
AND MINDS..."**

GOD IS A JUST JUDGE..."

Ps. 7:8-11

**"THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE, THE LORD'S THRONE IS IN HEAVEN;
HIS EYES BEHOLD, HIS EYELIDS TEST THE SONS OF MEN. THE LORD TESTS THE RIGHTEOUS,
BUT THE WICKED AND THE ONE WHO LOVES VIOLENCE HIS SOUL HATES.
UPON THE WICKED HE WILL RAIN COALS; FIRE AND BRIMSTONE AND A BURNING WIND
SHALL BE THE PORTION OF THEIR CUP. FOR THE LORD IS RIGHTEOUS,
HE LOVES RIGHTEOUSNESS..."**

Ps. 11:4-7

IMPORTANT:

The second creation has a different purpose-the REWARDING, RULING and REIGNING of those of God's created beings who have passed the test, both the host of faithful angels that remained with God from the first creation and the redeemed of mankind who have chosen God over the evil principalities and powers serving Satan, the prince and power of the air. Temporally, God is allowing evil to exist and even triumph in this first creation. This is not the appointed time for righteousness and justice to prevail. Only when we grasp this truth can we understand why God allows evil to continue to manifest in an increasing manner on earth. Consider even the time period of the millennial reign of Christ on earth in which wickedness is merely suppressed by Christ's rod of iron with which He rules. What happens at the end of that thousand year reign? Satan will be loosed for a little while in order to round up the rebellious who hate the reign of Christ. Fire will come from Heaven and consume them all, and then, we shall enter the second creation in which righteousness dwells (Rev. 20:7-11 21:1-7).

TEMPORAL PURPOSES OF GOD

THE FIRST



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ENDS

"NOW WHEN THE THOUSAND YEARS HAVE EXPIRED, SATAN WILL BE RELEASED FROM HIS PRISON AND WILL GO OUT TO DECEIVE THE NATIONS WHICH ARE IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH, GOG AND MAGOG, TO GATHER THEM TOGETHER TO BATTLE, WHOSE NUMBER IS AS THE SAND OF THE SEA. THEY WENT UP ON THE BREADTH OF THE EARTH AND SURROUNDED THE CAMP OF THE SAINTS AND THE BELOVED CITY. AND FIRE CAME DOWN FROM GOD OUT OF HEAVEN AND DEVoured THEM. THE DEVIL, WHO DECEIVED THEM, WAS CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE AND BRIMSTONE WHERE THE BEAST AND THE FALSE PROPHET ARE. AND THEY WILL BE TORMENTED DAY AND NIGHT FOREVER AND EVER."

Rev. 20:7-10

ETERNAL PURPOSES OF GOD

THE LAST



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BEGINS

"NOW I SAW A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH, FOR THE FIRST HEAVEN AND THE FIRST EARTH HAD PASSED AWAY... THEN I, JOHN, SAW THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM, COMING DOWN OUT OF HEAVEN FROM GOD, PREPARED AS A BRIDE ADORNED FOR HER HUSBAND... 'BEHOLD, THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IS WITH MEN, AND HE WILL DWELL WITH THEM, AND THEY SHALL BE HIS PEOPLE... THERE SHALL BE NO MORE DEATH, NOR SORROW, NOR CRYING. THERE SHALL BE NO MORE PAIN, FOR THE FORMER THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY...' THEN HE WHO SAT ON THE THRONE SAID, 'BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW... I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA, THE BEGINNING AND THE END HE WHO OVERCOMES SHALL INHERIT ALL THINGS...'

Rev. 21:1-7

Revelation 20:7-10 is the closing out of the final stage of the first creation and Revelation 21:1-7 is the beginning of the eternal creation. The first creation unfolds with the testing of Lucifer and the third of the angels that fell with him. The initial creation also marks the testing of man made in the image of God. The rest of the Bible records ages of mankind being tested by God. The first creation ends with the final judgment of Satan and all of mankind who have rejected God. Note well that it is God Himself who lets loose Satan from captivity having kept him locked up for the last 1,000 years. Why does God let him loose? It is so that He may test the hearts of all on the earth prior to proceeding with the creation of a new heavens and a new earth. Now opens a whole new creation! Do you think that this eternal creation shall exceed the temporal creation in magnitude and beauty? God said of His first creation, "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Gen. 1:31). Consider the magnitude of what is yet to come:

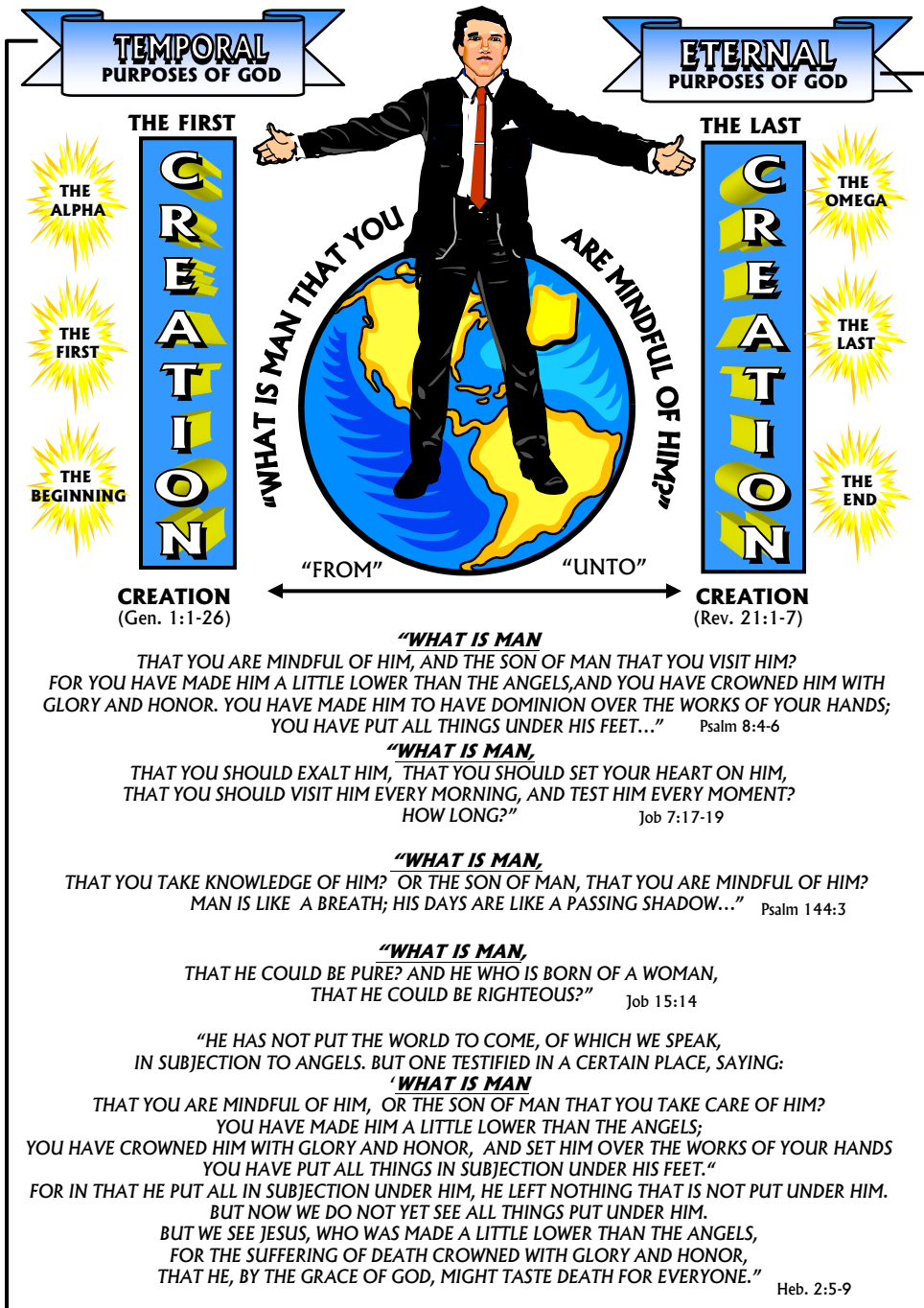
"EYE HAS NOT SEEN, NOR EAR HEARD, NOR HAVE ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, THE THINGS WHICH GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM." 1 Cor. 2:9

**"FOR BEHOLD, I CREATE NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH;
AND THE FORMER SHALL NOT BE REMEMBERED OR COME TO MIND.
BUT BE GLAD AND REJOICE FOREVER IN WHAT I CREATE..."** Isa. 65:17-18

We talk about a place called Heaven as if it is to be our home for eternity. However wonderful Heaven might be in its present manifestation, it is not our eternal destination. It, too, is a temporal place that will be replaced by the second creation of a new heaven and a new earth in which righteousness is going to dwell. This is a place containing the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. It is a place eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered the heart of man. It is my great suspicion that the new earth of God's second creation will be the center of the new universe God is going to create. This new earth will be the eternal dwelling place of God's New Jerusalem and the habitation of the Bride of Christ, the Lamb's Wife (Rev. 21:9-10). This is God's ultimate reward for faithful service rendered in this present, nasty here and now. Thus the call to warfare is set before every believer. Christian: know that Satan is well aware of God's plan to produce a Bride for His Son (Matt. 22:2). Satan's ultimate goal is to hinder as many as he can from becoming part of that glorious Bride.

"WHAT IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM?"

The answer to this question is found within the two Creation accounts. It is the conclusion of this Bible teacher that the first account of Creation in Genesis has not been properly understood let alone the future Creation described in Revelation.



THE MAGNITUDE OF THE FALL OF MAN IN THE FIRST CREATION

Genesis Chapter One

HALF THE TRUTH

"THEN GOD
SAID,
"LET US
MAKE MAN
IN OUR IMAGE,
ACCORDING TO
OUR LIKENESS...
**SO GOD
CREATED MAN
IN HIS
OWN IMAGE;
IN THE
IMAGE OF GOD**
HE
CREATED HIM;
MALE AND FEMALE
HE CREATED THEM."

Gen. 1:26-28

Genesis Chapter Five

THE WHOLE TRUTH

"IN THE DAY THAT
GOD CREATED MAN,
HE MADE HIM IN
THE LIKENESS OF GOD.
HE CREATED THEM
MALE AND FEMALE,
AND BLESSED THEM
AND CALLED THEM
MANKIND IN THE DAY
THEY WERE CREATED.
AND
**ADAM...BEGOT
A SON
IN HIS OWN
LIKENESS,
AFTER HIS IMAGE..."**

Gen. 5:1-2

It has been well articulated that "half the truth is no better than a lie." We are well versed in what is stated as truth in Genesis 1:26-28 above, but tend to be totally ignorant of what is also stated to be truth in Genesis 5:1-2. It is true that Adam and Eve initially were created in the image and likeness of God, but it is also painfully true that Adam's children (Cain and Abel), were created in Adam's own likeness, after his fallen image. This new sinful nature was therefore passed on by birth to all of mankind conceived from fallen Adam and Eve. The entire race is contaminated! Down through the ages it has become a more commonly accepted cherished tradition to glowingly say, "All mankind is created in the image of God." However, according to what is plainly stated above in God's Word, it was only Adam and Eve that were created in the image of God. Adam's children were made in Adam's fallen image and likeness AFTER the fall and expulsion from the Garden of Eden.

Between Chapter One and Chapter Five is the account of the fall of Adam and Eve. The consequences were enormous. Adam and Eve went from a state of being blessed by God to being cursed by God. If that is hard to hear then read what is in between Chapters One and Chapter Five. Satan the deceiver is cursed, the ground is cursed with thorns and thistles, childbearing is cursed with severe pain and man is cursed to work the land by the sweat of his brow until the day he dies. From dust he came and back to dust he must go. Death has a stranglehold on mankind. Those are hard words. Here is a terse summary of the magnitude of the fall of Adam and Eve:

"THEN THE LORD GOD SAID,
"BEHOLD, THE MAN HAS BECOME LIKE ONE OF US, TO KNOW GOOD AND EVIL. AND NOW,
**LEST HE PUT OUT HIS HAND AND TAKE ALSO OF THE TREE OF LIFE, AND EAT,
AND LIVE FOREVER"**...
THEREFORE THE LORD GOD
SENT HIM OUT OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN
TO TILL THE GROUND FROM WHICH HE WAS TAKEN.
SO HE **DROVE OUT THE MAN;**
AND HE PLACED CHERUBIM AT THE EAST OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN,
AND A FLAMING SWORD WHICH TURNED EVERY WAY,
TO GUARD THE WAY TO THE TREE OF LIFE."

Gen. 3:22-24

Chapter Three of Genesis ends with the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden as the consequences of their sin. Chapter Four begins with the introduction the first of Adam and Eve's children, Cain and Abel.

***"NOW ADAM KNEW EVE HIS WIFE,
AND SHE CONCEIVED AND BORE CAIN,***

AND SAID, "I HAVE ACQUIRED A MAN FROM THE LORD." THEN SHE BORE AGAIN, THIS TIME HIS BROTHER ABEL. NOW ABEL WAS A KEEPER OF SHEEP, BUT CAIN WAS A TILLER OF THE GROUND. AND IN THE PROCESS OF TIME IT CAME TO PASS THAT CAIN BROUGHT AN OFFERING OF THE FRUIT OF THE GROUND TO THE LORD.

ABEL ALSO BROUGHT OF THE FIRSTBORN OF HIS FLOCK AND OF THEIR FAT.

AND THE LORD RESPECTED ABEL AND HIS OFFERING,

BUT HE DID NOT RESPECT CAIN AND HIS OFFERING.

AND CAIN WAS VERY ANGRY, AND HIS COUNTENANCE FELL.

SO THE LORD SAID TO CAIN,

"WHY ARE YOU ANGRY? AND WHY HAS YOUR COUNTENANCE FALLEN? IF YOU DO WELL, WILL YOU NOT BE ACCEPTED? AND IF YOU DO NOT DO WELL, SIN LIES AT THE DOOR. AND ITS DESIRE IS FOR YOU, BUT YOU SHOULD RULE OVER IT."

NOW CAIN TALKED WITH ABEL HIS BROTHER; AND IT CAME TO PASS,

WHEN THEY WERE IN THE FIELD,

THAT ***CAIN ROSE UP AGAINST ABEL HIS BROTHER AND KILLED HIM.***"

Genesis 4:1-8

The first needful point I want to stress to you about Cain as the "firstborn son of Adam" is that he murdered his brother! I ask you, is this the expected fruit of "man created in the likeness and image of God"? God forbid!

Notice also that it is God Himself that confronts Cain before he murdered his brother giving him this stern warning, "Sin lies at the door and its desire is for you, but you should rule over it." Cain didn't listen to his God and proceeded with his own evil plans to murder his brother.

It gets even worse concerning the testimony of mankind that continues to descend from fallen Adam. Just two chapters later in Genesis Chapter Six we find the fruit of mankind that has descended from Adam and Eve bear this sin laden testimonial conclusion:

***"NOW IT CAME TO PASS,
WHEN MEN BEGAN TO MULTIPLY ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH...***

AND THE LORD SAID,

"MY SPIRIT SHALL NOT STRIVE WITH MAN FOREVER...

FOR HE IS INDEED FLESH...

THEN THE LORD SAW THAT

THE WICKEDNESS OF MAN WAS GREAT IN THE EARTH,

AND THAT

***EVERY INTENT OF THE THOUGHTS OF HIS HEART
WAS ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY.***

AND ***THE LORD WAS SORRY THAT HE HAD MADE MAN ON THE EARTH,***

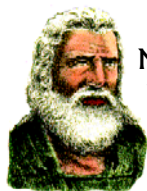
AND HE WAS GRIEVED IN HIS HEART.

SO THE LORD SAID,

"I WILL DESTROY MAN WHOM I HAVE CREATED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH, BOTH MAN AND BEAST, CREEPING THING AND BIRDS OF THE AIR,

FOR I AM SORRY THAT I HAVE MADE THEM."

Gen 6:6-7



**MOSES
THE PROPHET
DEPICTS THE SINFUL
CHARACTER OF
ALL MANKIND:**

"NOW IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN MEN BEGAN TO MULTIPLY ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH... AND THE LORD SAID, 'MY SPIRIT SHALL NOT STRIVE WITH MAN FOREVER... FOR HE IS INDEED FLESH... THEN THE LORD SAW THAT THE WICKEDNESS OF MAN WAS GREAT IN THE EARTH, AND THAT EVERY INTENT OF THE THOUGHTS OF HIS HEART WAS ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY. AND THE LORD WAS SORRY THAT HE HAD MADE MAN ON THE EARTH, AND HE WAS GRIEVED IN HIS HEART. SO THE LORD SAID, 'I WILL DESTROY MAN WHOM I HAVE CREATED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH, BOTH MAN AND BEAST, CREEPING THING AND BIRDS OF THE AIR, FOR I AM SORRY THAT I HAVE MADE THEM.'"

Gen 6:6-7

It is evident from the testimonies of these two great men of God that neither one endorses the handed-down cherished concept that "all mankind is created in the image of God." Rather, we see that mankind from fallen Adam began with his firstborn "murdering his brother" and as Moses further testifies, "the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" leading to Paul's detailed account in Romans of the depth of that sordid wickedness. All mankind is NOT created in the image and likeness of God!

**PAUL
THE APOSTLE
DEPICTS THE SINFUL
CHARACTER OF
ALL MANKIND:**



We have made stark comparisons before between the levels of revelation given by God to his **PROPHETS** and to his **APOSTLES**.

You will remember that the **PROPHET** speaks briefly and in generic terms but the **APOSTLE** gives very graphic and detailed depictions of the same events. Consider how Moses the **PROPHET** and Paul the **APOSTLE** described these same events:



"...ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW GOD, THEY DID NOT GLORIFY HIM AS GOD, NOR WERE THANKFUL, BUT BECAME FUTILE IN THEIR THOUGHTS, AND THEIR FOOLISH HEARTS WERE DARKENED. PROFESSING TO BE WISE, THEY BECAME FOOLS, AND CHANGED THE GLORY OF THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD INTO AN IMAGE MADE LIKE CORRUPTIBLE MAN ...THEREFORE GOD ALSO GAVE THEM UP TO UNCLEANNESS, IN THE LUSTS OF THEIR HEARTS, TO DISHONOR THEIR BODIES AMONG THEMSELVES, WHO EXCHANGED THE TRUTH OF GOD FOR THE LIE, AND WORSHIPED AND SERVED THE CREATURE RATHER THAN THE CREATOR, WHO IS BLESSED FOREVER. AMEN. FOR THIS REASON GOD GAVE THEM UP TO VILE PASSIONS. FOR EVEN THEIR WOMEN EXCHANGED THE NATURAL USE FOR WHAT IS AGAINST NATURE. LIKEWISE ALSO THE MEN, LEAVING THE NATURAL USE OF THE WOMAN, BURNED IN THEIR LUST FOR ONE ANOTHER, MEN WITH MEN COMMITTING WHAT IS SHAMEFUL, AND RECEIVING IN THEMSELVES THE PENALTY OF THEIR ERROR WHICH WAS DUE. AND EVEN AS THEY DID NOT LIKE TO RETAIN GOD IN THEIR KNOWLEDGE, GOD GAVE THEM OVER TO A DEBASED MIND, TO DO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE NOT FITTING; BEING FILLED WITH ALL UNRIGHTeousNESS, SEXUAL IMMORALITY, WICKEDNESS, COVETOUSNESS, MALICIOUSNESS; FULL OF ENVY, MURDER, STRIFE, DECEIT, EVIL-MINDEDNESS; THEY ARE WHISPERERS, BACKBITERS, HATERS OF GOD, VIOLENT, PROUD, BOASTERS, INVENTORS OF EVIL THINGS, DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, UNDISCERNING, UNTRUSTWORTHY, UNLOVING, UNFORGIVING, UNMERCIFUL; WHO, KNOWING THE RIGHTeous JUDGMENT OF GOD, THAT THOSE WHO PRACTICE SUCH THINGS ARE DESERVING OF DEATH, NOT ONLY DO THE SAME BUT ALSO APPROVE OF THOSE WHO PRACTICE THEM."

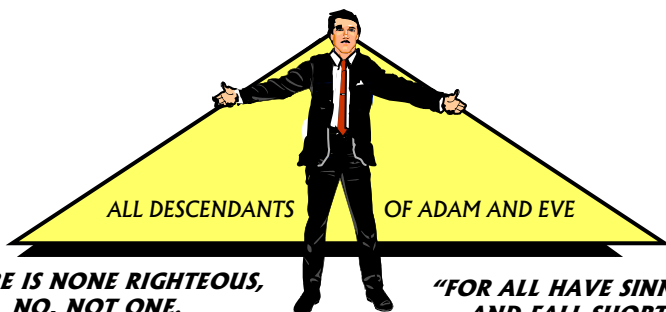
Rom. 1:19-30

"ALL MANKIND IS CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD?"

Rather than endorsing the preferred cherished tradition of, "All mankind is created in the image of God", it would be far better to face the sober truth as expressed in the Word of God through the mouth of His **PROPHETS** and **APOSTLES**, which is:

**"BEHOLD,
I WAS BROUGHT FORTH IN INIQUITY,
AND IN SIN MY MOTHER CONCEIVED ME."**

Psm. 51:5



**"THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS,
NO, NOT ONE.
THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS."**

Rom. 3:10-11

**"FOR ALL HAVE SINNED
AND FALL SHORT
OF THE GLORY OF GOD."**

Rom. 6:23

There are no exceptions to the above. Why have "all sinned and fall short of the Glory of God?" Because all of us are descendants of fallen Adam—we have a sin nature handed down from Adam. Why is there "none righteous, no not one"? Because we are all descendants of fallen Adam—we have a sin nature handed down from Adam. Why is it that David claims to be "brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me"? Because the entire race of mankind was conceived and birthed with the fallen sin nature inherited from Adam. We are doomed from birth being from the lineage of fallen Adam!

What mankind needs is to be rescued from this unsolvable entrapment. What is needed is for God to send to mankind a completely "new Adam" that is not linked to fallen mankind from the first Adam. Consider the words of the apostle Paul describing just how God would deliver mankind:

**"THEREFORE, AS THROUGH ONE MAN'S OFFENSE (Adam)
JUDGMENT CAME TO ALL MEN, RESULTING IN CONDEMNATION.
EVEN SO THROUGH ONE MAN'S RIGHTEOUS ACT (Jesus)
THE FREE GIFT CAME TO ALL MEN, RESULTING IN JUSTIFICATION OF LIFE.
FOR AS BY ONE MAN'S DISOBEDIENCE (Adam)
MANY WERE MADE SINNERS,
SO ALSO BY ONE MAN'S OBEDIENCE (Jesus)
MANY WILL BE MADE RIGHTEOUS."**

Rom. 5:18-19

Paul the apostle states rather plainly that through Adam's sinful fall we find "judgment (condemnation) came to ALL men" and that is why Paul in this very same epistle concludes, "ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 6:23). All mankind is not viewed by the apostle Paul as being "created in the image of God", is it?

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH OF JESUS

**"BEHOLD, *THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON,*
AND SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL."** Isa 7:14-15

**"...*BY THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST...THERE IS NO OTHER NAME
UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN AMONG MEN BY WHICH WE MUST BE SAVED.*"**

Acts 4:10-12

Why is it that there is "no other name given among men" that can offer salvation to the human race? The answer is profound. All of mankind birthed upon earth by physical birth as descendants of Adam and Eve are under the threefold curse (page 118). Man is no longer "created in the image and likeness of God" but rather is now created in the fallen sinful image and likeness of Adam and Eve (Gen.5:1-2). All of mankind is now "brought forth in iniquity, in sin my mother conceived me" (Psm. 51:5) Only Jesus is an exception. Why so? Because the Scriptures state that only Jesus was exempted from the curse placed on mankind descending from Adam. Here is why:

**PROPHECY STATES THAT JESUS WOULD BE BORN OF A VIRGIN
WHOSE CONCEPTION WOULD BE A SUPERNATURAL EVENT
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND NOT THROUGH THE SEED OF FALLEN ADAM**

**"BEHOLD, *THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON,*
AND SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL."** Isa 7:14-15

**"NOW THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST WAS AS FOLLOWS: AFTER HIS MOTHER MARY WAS
BETROTHED TO JOSEPH, *BEFORE THEY CAME TOGETHER, SHE WAS FOUND WITH
CHILD OF THE HOLY SPIRIT...* BEHOLD, AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO HIM IN A
DREAM, SAYING, "JOSEPH, SON OF DAVID, DO NOT BE AFRAID TO TAKE TO YOU MARY YOUR
WIFE, FOR *THAT WHICH IS CONCEIVED IN HER IS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.***

**AND SHE WILL BRING FORTH A SON, AND YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS, FOR HE WILL
SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS."** SO ALL THIS WAS DONE THAT IT MIGHT BE FULFILLED
WHICH WAS SPOKEN BY THE LORD THROUGH THE PROPHET, SAYING:

**"*BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD,*
AND BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL,"
WHICH IS TRANSLATED, "GOD WITH US."**

Matt.18:21-22

**"...THE ANGEL GABRIEL WAS SENT BY GOD *TO A VIRGIN BETROTHED TO A MAN* WHOSE
NAME WAS JOSEPH...THE VIRGIN'S NAME WAS MARY. AND HAVING COME IN,
THE ANGEL SAID TO HER, "REJOICE, HIGHLY FAVORED ONE, THE LORD IS WITH YOU; BLESSED
ARE YOU AMONG WOMEN!" BUT WHEN SHE SAW HIM, SHE WAS TROUBLED AT HIS SAYING,
AND CONSIDERED WHAT MANNER OF GREETING THIS WAS. THEN THE ANGEL SAID TO HER,
"DO NOT BE AFRAID, MARY, FOR YOU HAVE FOUND FAVOR WITH GOD.
AND BEHOLD, YOU WILL CONCEIVE IN YOUR WOMB AND BRING FORTH A SON, AND SHALL
CALL HIS NAME JESUS. HE WILL BE GREAT, AND WILL BE CALLED THE SON OF THE HIGHEST..**

THEN MARY SAID TO THE ANGEL,

**"*HOW CAN THIS BE, SINCE I DO NOT KNOW A MAN?*" AND THE ANGEL
ANSWERED AND SAID TO HER, "*THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU,*
AND THE POWER OF THE HIGHEST WILL OVERSHADOW YOU; THEREFORE,
ALSO, *THAT HOLY ONE WHO IS TO BE BORN WILL BE CALLED THE SON OF GOD...*"**

Luke 1:26-28

The above detailed account of the immaculate conception of Jesus in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit firmly establishes that Jesus' birth was NOT derived from the sin contaminated lineage handed down through the first Adam! Christ's "virgin birth" exempts Him from the Genesis curse handed down through Adam and Eve! Jesus is not from Adam's contaminated lineage!

THE SUPREME IMPORTANCE OF THE NEW BIRTH:



"MOST ASSUREDLY, I SAY TO YOU, UNLESS ONE IS **BORN AGAIN**, HE CANNOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD." NICODEMUS SAID TO HIM, "HOW CAN A MAN BE BORN WHEN HE IS OLD? CAN HE ENTER A SECOND TIME INTO HIS MOTHER'S WOMB AND BE BORN?" JESUS ANSWERED,

"MOST ASSUREDLY, I SAY TO YOU, UNLESS ONE IS BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT, HE CANNOT ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD. THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE FLESH IS FLESH, AND THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE SPIRIT IS SPIRIT. DO NOT MARVEL THAT I SAID TO YOU, **'YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN.'**"

John 3:3-8

"HAVING BEEN **BORN AGAIN**, NOT OF CORRUPTIBLE SEED BUT INCORRUPTIBLE, THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD...

...NOW THIS IS THE WORD WHICH BY THE GOSPEL WAS PREACHED TO YOU."

1 Peter 1:23-25

It is true that mankind in the form of Adam and Eve were initially created in the "image and likeness of God." However, due to their sinful fall, their children were NOT made in God's image but rather "in his (Adam's) own likeness and after his (Adam's) image" (Gen. 5:1-2). That "image and likeness" was that of a fallen sin nature inherited through the act of conception and physical birth while in a sinful state. That is why Adam taught Cain and Abel the need to offer to God an acceptable sacrifice to cover their sinful condition. What God did for Adam and Eve they too taught their children to ritualistically offer a proper sacrifice to God to cover their sins.

The point that must be grasped is that it was NOT all mankind that was created in the image and likeness of God. That is a serious doctrinal error leading to deceiving conclusions! It is delusional thinking that what we presently see in mankind is "the image and likeness of God." What is true is that Adam's children, Cain and Abel, as well as all their descendants, including all of mankind down through the ages, have this cursed inherited trinity of sinfulness upon them. However, the "good news" of the gospel as Peter states above is the availability of sinful mankind to become "born again" through acknowledgment and repentance of their sinful state received from Adam and Eve. This "new birth" stated above by Peter is by means of an "incorruptible seed" (the Word of God) rather than the now "corrupted seed" of fallen Adam and Eve. Jesus is emphatic in stating the dire need for all descendants of Adam and Eve to embrace the only cure for the curse of sin brought by Adam and Eve:

"THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE FLESH IS FLESH, AND THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE SPIRIT IS SPIRIT. DO NOT MARVEL THAT I SAID TO YOU, **'YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN.'**"

John 3:3-8

In a fallen spiritual state Adam and Eve gave their children "physical birth" (that which is born of the flesh). However, Jesus is not talking about the need for a new physical birth but rather a new required "spiritual birth" (that which is born of the Spirit). Nicodemus had the right perspective in deducing, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

(John 3:3-8).

THE IMPORTANCE OF PAUL'S REVELATION OF **"THE FIRST ADAM" vs. "THE LAST ADAM"**

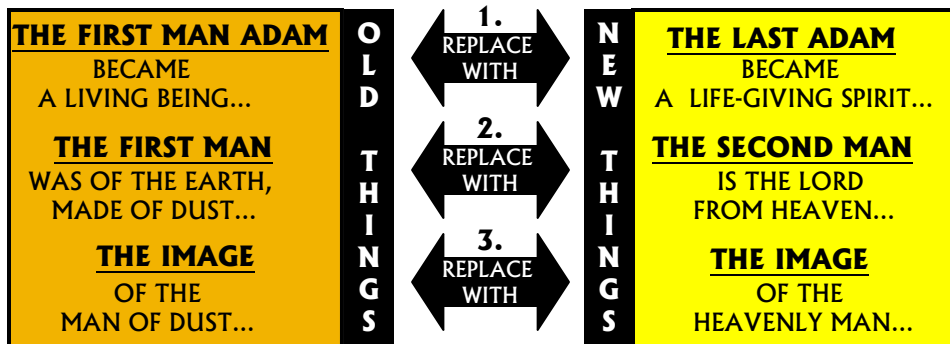
The apostle Paul has more incredible revelation to give us pertaining to the first Creation's account of the fall of man. Consider these prophetic verses from First Corinthians in which he introduces the title of Jesus Christ as "the last Adam":



"AND SO IT IS WRITTEN,
"THE FIRST MAN ADAM BECAME A LIVING BEING.
THE LAST ADAM BECAME A LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT...
THE FIRST MAN WAS OF THE EARTH, MADE OF DUST;
THE SECOND MAN IS THE LORD FROM HEAVEN.
 ...AND AS WE HAVE BORNE **THE IMAGE** OF THE MAN OF DUST,
 WE SHALL ALSO BEAR **THE IMAGE** OF THE HEAVENLY MAN."

1 Cor. 15:45-49

The verses above from First Corinthians in context speaks of the resurrection of the believer's physical body. However, these verses are also very prophetic being applicable to God's plan for the whole man (spirit, soul and body). God created man in Genesis as consisting of a spirit, a soul and a body, therefore it stands to reason that God intends to save the complete man consisting of his spirit, soul and body). To rescue mankind totally from the cost of sin, God singles out these two agents in these prophetic verses as consisting of:



"THEREFORE,
 IF ANYONE IS **IN CHRIST**
 HE IS **A NEW CREATION**;

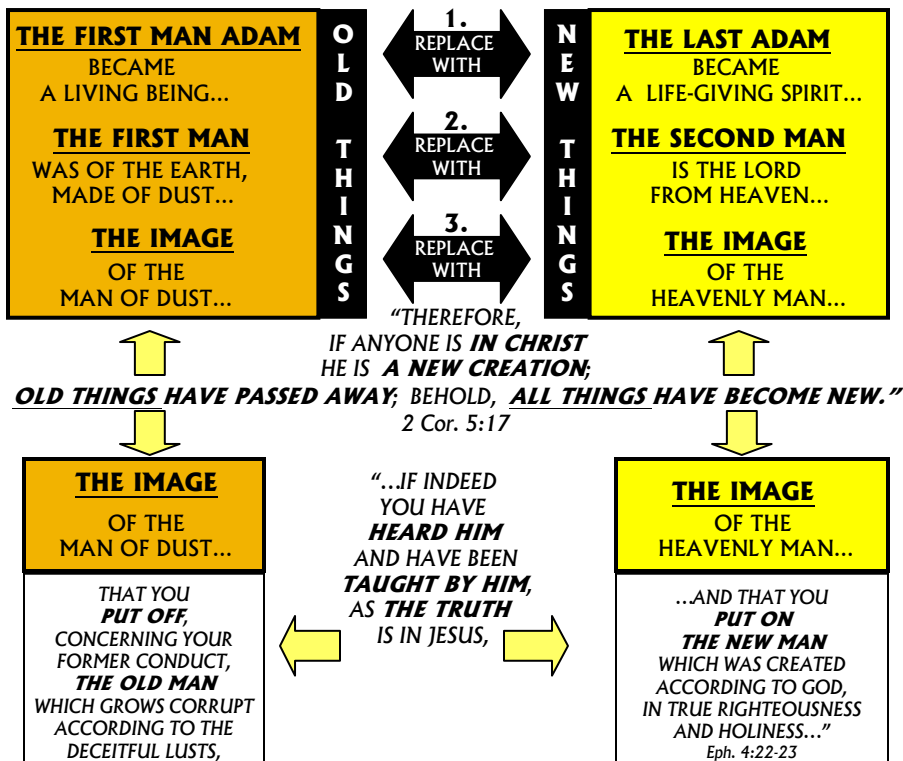
OLD THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD, ALL THINGS HAVE BECOME NEW.
 2 Cor. 5:17

"The first man Adam" began great but fell due to choosing to sin. However, his sin is covered by his God substituting an innocent life sacrificed on behalf of his guilt. Regardless, his children "fall short of the glory of God" and are under the curse of bearing the fallen sin nature received by natural birth from Adam. Their sin is not automatically covered but also requires an acceptable sacrifice. This "old man" of sin must be replaced by means of receiving the gift of a "new creation" sent from God.

Enter "The Last Adam" who is called a "life-giving spirit", the "Second Man", "the Lord from Heaven" who comes bearing "the image of the Heavenly Man." This "Last Adam" opens the life-giving portal of salvation to the spirit, soul and body of sinful man by means of receiving "the New Birth" through the act of repentance and faith in "the Lord from Heaven", the "last Adam." All mankind **MUST** be "born again" for there is no salvation without it!



"AND SO IT IS WRITTEN,
"THE FIRST MAN ADAM BECAME A LIVING BEING.
THE LAST ADAM BECAME A LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT...
THE FIRST MAN WAS OF THE EARTH, MADE OF DUST;
THE SECOND MAN IS THE LORD FROM HEAVEN.
 ...AND AS WE HAVE BORNE **THE IMAGE** OF THE MAN OF DUST,
 WE SHALL ALSO BEAR **THE IMAGE** OF THE HEAVENLY MAN."
 1 Cor. 15:45-49



The above chart is a **MUST** for you dear reader, to totally absorb its prophetic directional content. It goes beyond the concept of just embracing the mandate of "the new birth" received in Christ, but it also leads the believer into a total commitment of living "the new life" in Christ. You who have borne **THE IMAGE** of "the man of dust" (the first Adam) must now set your heart on bearing **THE IMAGE** of "the heavenly man" (the last Adam.)

If you indeed have "heard Him and have been taught by Him" you must now "put off the old man" which "grows corrupt according to its deceitful lusts" and follow by "putting on the new man" which was "created according to God" and manifests a life of "true righteousness and holiness." Those who have embraced Christ need to also project a new image. We cannot continue to project **THE IMAGE** of "the man of dust". Modern-day Christianity only gives emphasis to half the truth. You can readily hear or read the emphasis upon the new birth. However, the conclusion to the matter, the new life, never seems to get equal billing. According to what is presented in the chart above these two events are intricately linked to follow one another. The new birth is to lead one into the new life. The new birth experience is not to be isolated from the mandate to live a new life.

“...**THE FIRST MAN** WAS OF THE EARTH, MADE OF DUST;
THE SECOND MAN IS THE LORD FROM HEAVEN.
 ...AND AS WE HAVE BORNE **THE IMAGE** OF THE MAN OF DUST,
 WE SHALL ALSO BEAR **THE IMAGE** OF THE HEAVENLY MAN.”

1 Cor. 15:46-49

“BUT WE ALL
 WITH UNVEILED FACE,
 BEHOLDING
 AS IN A MIRROR
 THE GLORY
 OF THE LORD,
ARE BEING TRANSFORMED
INTO **THE SAME IMAGE**
 FROM GLORY TO GLORY,
 JUST AS BY
 THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD.”
 2 Cor 3:18

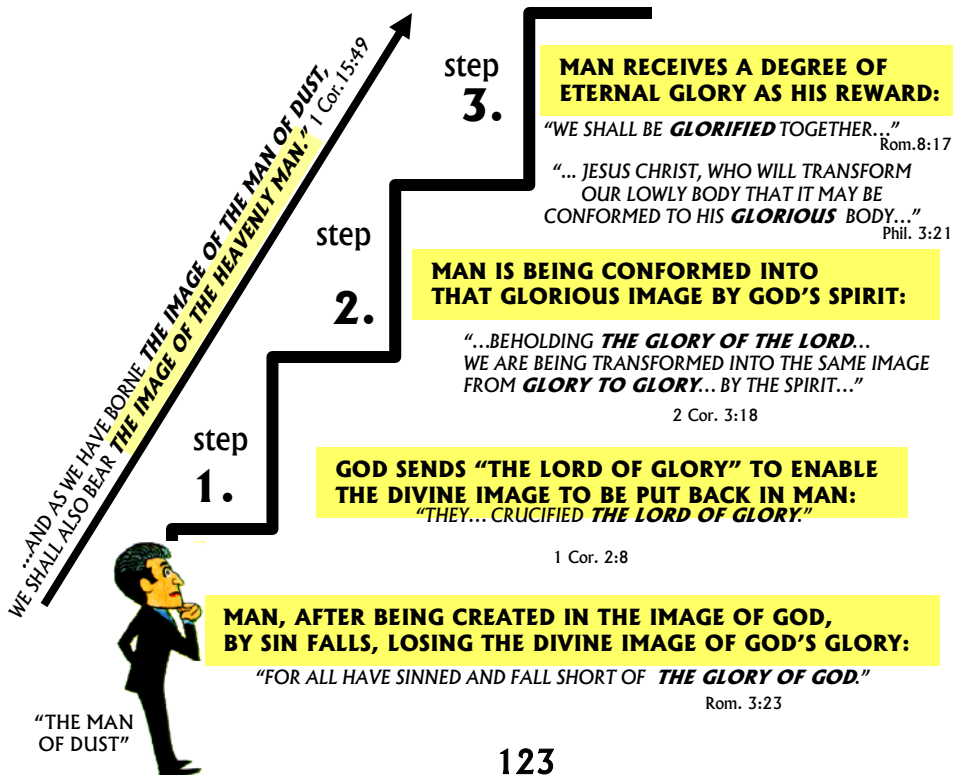


“...ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR
 GOOD TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD,
 TO THOSE WHO ARE
 THE CALLED
 ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.
 FOR WHOM HE FOREKNEW,
 HE ALSO PREDESTINED
TO BE CONFORMED TO
THE IMAGE OF HIS SON,
 THAT HE MIGHT BE
 THE FIRSTBORN
 AMONG MANY BRETHREN.”
 Rom. 8:28-29

FOCUSING UPON THE RIGHT IMAGE

Modern day preaching focuses on believers someday being “instantly transformed into the image of Christ in a twinkling of an eye.” However, if you wait for that kind of instant transformation to make you into the image of Christ you may be too late altogether! The Word of God rather portrays an ongoing life transformation that occurs from one degree of glory to another as we behold the glory of the Lord in the mirror of the Word. Consider the brief outline below as to how we are steadily progressing to becoming conformed into the image of bearing Christ’ glory. The pattern follows the theme of “Glory” in the scriptures, working from the bottom to the top:

THE **IMAGE** OF **THE GLORY** OF GOD





"...THE FIRST MAN
WAS OF THE EARTH, MADE OF DUST;

THE IMAGE OF "THE MAN OF DUST"

"...ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW GOD,
THEY DID NOT GLORIFY HIM AS
GOD, NOR WERE THANKFUL,
BUT BECAME FUTILE IN THEIR
THOUGHTS, AND THEIR FOOLISH
HEARTS WERE DARKENED.

PROFESSING TO BE WISE,
THEY BECAME FOOLS,

**AND CHANGED
THE GLORY
OF THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD
INTO AN IMAGE
MADE LIKE
CORRUPTIBLE MAN**

...THEREFORE GOD ALSO GAVE
THEM UP TO UNCLEANNESS,
IN THE LUSTS OF THEIR HEARTS,
TO DISHONOR THEIR BODIES
AMONG THEMSELVES, WHO
EXCHANGED THE TRUTH OF GOD
FOR THE LIE, AND WORSHIPED
AND SERVED THE CREATURE
RATHER THAN THE CREATOR,
WHO IS BLESSED FOREVER. AMEN.

FOR THIS REASON GOD GAVE
THEM UP TO VILE PASSIONS.
FOR EVEN THEIR WOMEN
EXCHANGED THE NATURAL USE
FOR WHAT IS AGAINST NATURE.

LIKEWISE ALSO THE MEN,
LEAVING THE NATURAL USE OF
THE WOMAN, BURNED IN THEIR
LUST FOR ONE ANOTHER, MEN
WITH MEN COMMITTING WHAT IS
SHAMEFUL, AND RECEIVING IN
THEMSELVES THE PENALTY OF
THEIR ERROR WHICH WAS DUE.
AND EVEN AS THEY DID NOT LIKE
TO RETAIN GOD IN THEIR

KNOWLEDGE, GOD GAVE THEM
OVER TO A DEBASED MIND,
TO DO THOSE THINGS WHICH
ARE NOT FITTING; BEING FILLED
WITH ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS,
SEXUAL IMMORALITY,
WICKEDNESS, COVETOUSNESS,
MALICIOUSNESS; ENVY, MURDER,
STRIFE, DECEIT,

EVIL-MINDEDNESS;
THEY ARE WHISPERERS,
BACKBITERS, HATERS OF GOD,
VIOLENT, PROUD, BOASTERS,
INVENTORS OF EVIL THINGS,
DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS,
UNDISCERNING,
UNTRUSTWORTHY, UNLOVING,
UNFORGIVING, UNMERCIFUL;
WHO, KNOWING
THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT OF
GOD, THAT THOSE WHO
PRACTICE SUCH THINGS ARE
DESERVING OF DEATH ..."

Rom. 1:19-30

"THE SECOND MAN
IS THE LORD FROM HEAVEN."



THE IMAGE OF "THE HEAVENLY MAN"

In his epistle to
the Romans
Paul makes a
stark prophetic
comparison

between
(1) man that
descended from
fallen Adam
who changed
the glory of
the incorruptible
God into

an
"image
made
like
corruptible
man"

(2) man,
choosing
rather
to be
"conformed
to the image of
His Son" as the
"firstborn among
many brethren."

We need to ask
ourselves which of these
two columns from
Romans reveals

THE IMAGE
that we are presently
portraying to the world
in which we live?

If we the Name of
Christ but
still look like
"the man of dust" of
Romans One instead
of

"the Heavenly man"
of Romans Eight,
then we are not
following the mandate
we have received
from God,
are we?

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"...FOR THE EARNEST
EXPECTATION OF THE CREATION
EAGERLY WAITS FOR THE
REVEALING OF THE SONS OF
GOD. FOR THE CREATION WAS
SUBJECTED TO FUTILITY,
NOT WILLINGLY, BUT BECAUSE
OF HIM WHO SUBJECTED IT IN
HOPE BECAUSE THE CREATION
ITSELF ALSO WILL BE DELIVERED
FROM THE BONDAGE OF
CORRUPTION INTO THE
GLORIOUS LIBERTY OF THE
CHILDREN OF GOD. FOR WE
KNOW THAT THE WHOLE
CREATION GROANS AND LABORS
WITH BIRTH PANGS TOGETHER
UNTIL NOW. NOT ONLY THAT,
BUT WE ALSO WHO HAVE THE
FIRSTFRUITS OF THE SPIRIT, EVEN
WE OURSELVES GROAN WITHIN
OURSELVES, EAGERLY WAITING
FOR THE ADOPTION, THE
REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY.
FOR WE WERE SAVED IN THIS
HOPE... AND WE KNOW THAT ALL
THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR
GOOD TO THOSE WHO LOVE
GOD, TO THOSE WHO ARE THE
CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS
PURPOSE. FOR WHOM HE
FOREKNEW, HE ALSO
PREDESTINED

**TO BE CONFORMED
TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON,
THAT HE MIGHT BE
THE FIRSTBORN
AMONG
MANY BRETHREN**

MOREOVER WHOM HE
PREDESTINED, THESE HE ALSO
CALLED; WHOM HE CALLED,
THESE HE ALSO JUSTIFIED;
AND WHOM HE JUSTIFIED,
THESE HE ALSO GLORIFIED..
WHAT THEN SHALL WE SAY TO
THESE THINGS? IF GOD IS FOR US,
WHO CAN BE AGAINST US? HE
WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN
SON, BUT DELIVERED HIM UP FOR
US ALL, HOW SHALL HE NOT
WITH HIM ALSO FREELY GIVE US
ALL THINGS? WHO SHALL BRING
A CHARGE AGAINST GOD'S
ELECT? IT IS GOD WHO JUSTIFIES.
WHO IS HE WHO CONDEMNS?
IT IS CHRIST WHO DIED,
AND FURTHERMORE IS ALSO
RISEN, WHO IS EVEN AT
THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD...
WHO SHALL SEPARATE US FROM
THE LOVE OF CHRIST?..."

Rom. 8:19-35

THE IMPORTANCE OF **THE IMAGE** WE BEAR IN THIS LIFE

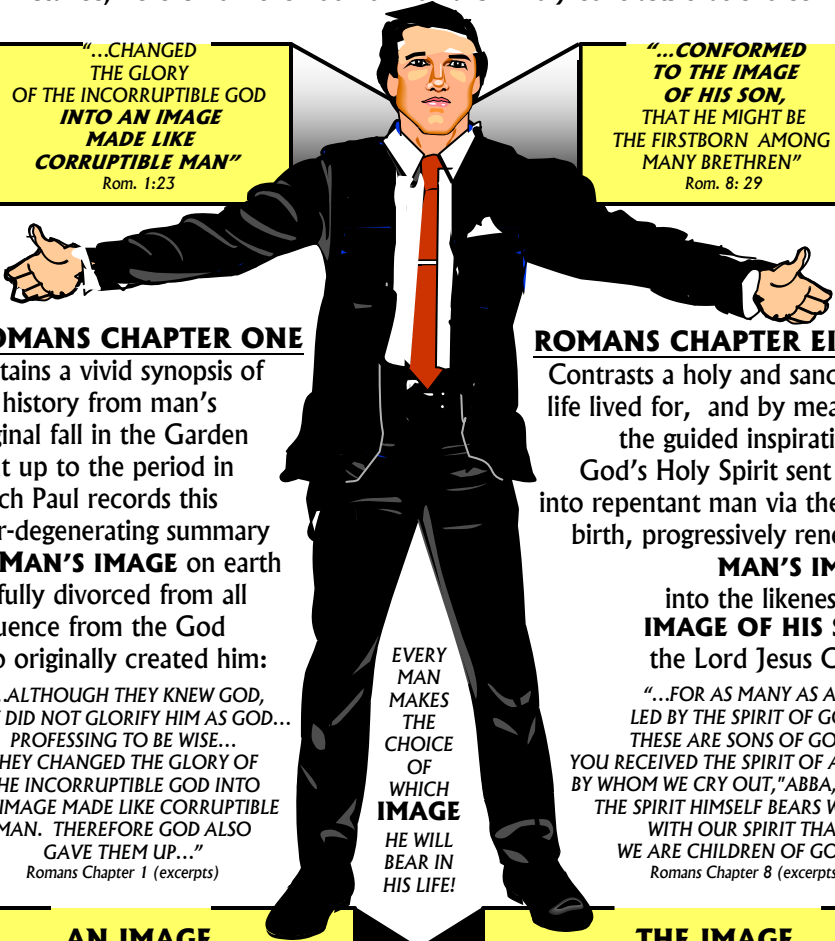
Over the last four pages we have emphasized the biblical significance centered around the concept of **"THE IMAGE"** that man bears in this life. I cannot overstress to you the vital importance of digesting this concept. **"THE IMAGE"** man bears is a running theme of choice set before man throughout the scriptures. For instance, here is how the book of Romans vividly contrasts that choice:

**"...CHANGED
THE GLORY
OF THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD
INTO AN IMAGE
MADE LIKE
CORRUPTIBLE MAN"**

Rom. 1:23

**"...CONFORMED
TO THE IMAGE
OF HIS SON,
THAT HE MIGHT BE
THE FIRSTBORN AMONG
MANY BRETHREN"**

Rom. 8: 29



ROMANS CHAPTER ONE

contains a vivid synopsis of the history from man's original fall in the Garden right up to the period in which Paul records this ever-degenerating summary of **MAN'S IMAGE** on earth willfully divorced from all influence from the God who originally created him:

**"...ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW GOD,
THEY DID NOT GLORIFY HIM AS GOD...
PROFESSING TO BE WISE..."**

**THEY CHANGED THE GLORY OF
THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD INTO
AN IMAGE MADE LIKE CORRUPTIBLE
MAN. THEREFORE GOD ALSO**

GAVE THEM UP..."
Romans Chapter 1 (excerpts)

ROMANS CHAPTER EIGHT

Contrasts a holy and sanctified life lived for, and by means of the guided inspiration of God's Holy Spirit sent forth into repentant man via the new birth, progressively renewing **MAN'S IMAGE** into the likeness and **IMAGE OF HIS SON**, the Lord Jesus Christ:

**"...FOR AS MANY AS ARE
LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD,
THESE ARE SONS OF GOD...
YOU RECEIVED THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION
BY WHOM WE CRY OUT, "ABBA, FATHER."
THE SPIRIT HIMSELF BEARS WITNESS
WITH OUR SPIRIT THAT
WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD..."**

Romans Chapter 8 (excerpts)

AN IMAGE

MADE LIKE CORRUPTIBLE MAN

THE IMAGE

OF GOD THE SON, JESUS CHRIST

"WHAT IS MAN

THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM..." Psalm 8:4

The proper answer to that question can only be found within the contents of Romans Chapter Eight in which Paul introduces repentant man to the "Spirit of Adoption" causing him to cry out, "Abba Father" to his God having now become "Sons of God" and Children of God." It is to these only that "the Spirit Himself bears witness that we are Children of God." Know this: God is NOT mindful of man who chooses to continue to bear the "image made like corruptible man" as described in Romans Chapter One. Salvation is only found in the image of Romans Chapter Eight!

AN IMAGE

MADE LIKE CORRUPTIBLE MAN

THE IMAGE

OF GOD THE SON, JESUS CHRIST

**"...CHANGED
THE GLORY
OF THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD
INTO AN IMAGE
MADE LIKE
CORRUPTIBLE MAN"**

Rom. 1:23

**"...CONFORMED
TO THE IMAGE
OF HIS SON,
THAT HE MIGHT BE
THE FIRSTBORN
AMONG MANY BRETHREN"**

Rom. 8: 29

ROMANS CHAPTER ONE:

"...ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW GOD, THEY DID NOT GLORIFY HIM AS GOD, NOR WERE THANKFUL, BUT BECAME FUTILE IN THEIR THOUGHTS, AND THEIR FOOLISH HEARTS WERE DARKENED. PROFESSING TO BE WISE, THEY BECAME FOOLS, AND CHANGED THE GLORY OF THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD INTO AN IMAGE MADE LIKE CORRUPTIBLE MAN ... THEREFORE GOD ALSO GAVE THEM UP TO UNCLEANNES, IN THE LUSTS OF THEIR HEARTS, TO DISHONOR THEIR BODIES AMONG THEMSELVES, WHO EXCHANGED THE TRUTH OF GOD FOR THE LIE, AND WORSHIPED AND SERVED THE CREATURE RATHER THAN THE CREATOR, WHO IS BLESSED FOREVER. AMEN. FOR THIS REASON GOD GAVE THEM UP TO VILE PASSIONS FOR EVEN THEIR WOMEN EXCHANGED THE NATURAL USE FOR WHAT IS AGAINST NATURE. LIKEWISE ALSO THE MEN, LEAVING THE NATURAL USE OF THE WOMAN, BURNED IN THEIR LUST FOR ONE ANOTHER, MEN WITH MEN COMMITTING WHAT IS SHAMEFUL, AND RECEIVING IN THEMSELVES THE PENALTY OF THEIR ERROR WHICH WAS DUE. AND EVEN AS THEY DID NOT LIKE TO RETAIN GOD IN THEIR KNOWLEDGE, GOD GAVE THEM OVER TO A DEBASED MIND, TO DO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE NOT FITTING; BEING FILLED WITH ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS, SEXUAL IMMORALITY, WICKEDNESS, COVETOUSNESS, MALICIOUSNESS; ENVY, MURDER, STRIFE, DECEIT, EVIL-MINDEDNESS; THEY ARE WHISPERERS, BACKBITERS, HATERS OF GOD, VIOLENT, PROUD, BOASTERS, INVENTORS OF EVIL THINGS, DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, UNDISCERNING, UNTRUSTWORTHY, UNLOVING, UNFORGIVING, UNMERCIFUL; WHO, KNOWING THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT OF GOD, THAT THOSE WHO PRACTICE SUCH THINGS ARE DESERVING OF DEATH ..."

Rom. 1:19-30

ROMANS CHAPTER EIGHT:

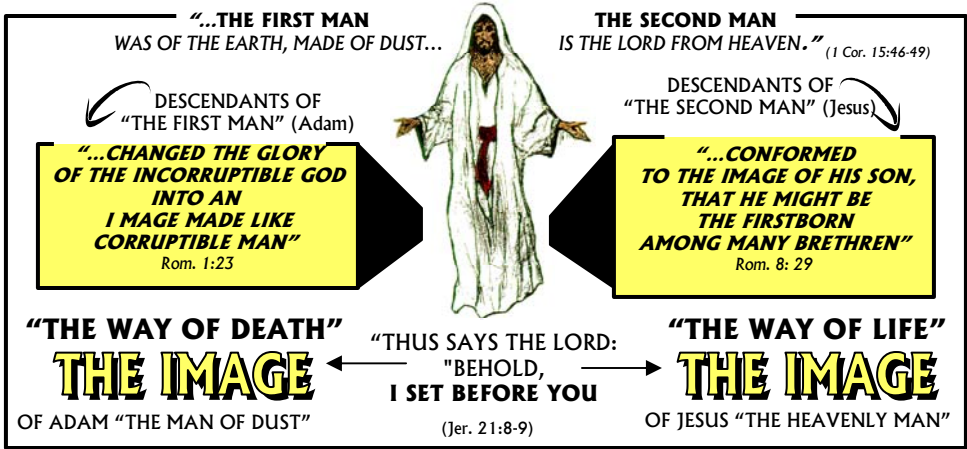
"...FOR THE EARNEST EXPECTATION OF THE CREATION EAGERLY WAITS FOR THE REVEALING OF THE SONS OF GOD. FOR THE CREATION WAS SUBJECTED TO FUTILITY, NOT WILLINGLY, BUT BECAUSE OF HIM WHO SUBJECTED IT IN HOPE BECAUSE THE CREATION ITSELF ALSO WILL BE DELIVERED FROM THE BONDAGE OF CORRUPTION INTO THE GLORIOUS LIBERTY OF THE CHILDREN OF GOD FOR WE KNOW THAT THE WHOLE CREATION GROANS AND LABORS WITH BIRTH PANGS TOGETHER UNTIL NOW. NOT ONLY THAT, BUT WE ALSO WHO HAVE THE FIRSTFRUITS OF THE SPIRIT, EVEN WE OURSELVES GROAN WITHIN OURSELVES, EAGERLY WAITING FOR THE ADOPTION, THE REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY. FOR WE WERE SAVED IN THIS HOPE...AND WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD, TO THOSE WHO ARE THE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE. FOR WHOM HE FOREKNEW, HE ALSO PREDESTINED TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, THAT HE MIGHT BE THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN. MOREOVER WHOM HE PREDESTINED, THESE HE ALSO CALLED; WHOM HE CALLED, THESE HE ALSO JUSTIFIED; AND WHOM HE JUSTIFIED, THESE HE ALSO GLORIFIED.. WHAT THEN SHALL WE SAY TO THESE THINGS? IF GOD IS FOR US, WHO CAN BE AGAINST US? HE WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN SON, BUT DELIVERED HIM UP FOR US ALL, HOW SHALL HE NOT WITH HIM ALSO FREELY GIVE US ALL THINGS? WHO SHALL BRING A CHARGE AGAINST GOD'S ELECT? IT IS GOD WHO JUSTIFIES. WHO IS HE WHO CONDEMNS? IT IS CHRIST WHO DIED, AND FURTHERMORE IS ALSO RISEN, WHO IS EVEN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD..."

Rom. 8:19-35

WHICH IMAGE

WILL
YOU
CHOOSE
TO
FOLLOW?





Elohim, the Almighty Godhead, consisting of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, stated in Genesis what their goal was in creating man, "Let us make man in our image and in our likeness" (Gen. 1:26). As we know from Genesis Adam was initially created in that same image and likeness. However through sinful disobedience he lost that image of God's glory and thereby exchanged it for "an image made like corruptible man." Adam's children were created with that fallen sin nature inherited from Adam (Genesis 5:2 and 1 Jn. 3:12). The cost of Adam's sin was greater than being put out of God's Garden Paradise but rather his fallen sin nature (image and likeness) was passed down to all of mankind as enumerated clearly by the apostle Paul in Romans:

"THEREFORE, AS THROUGH ONE MAN'S OFFENSE (Adam) JUDGMENT CAME TO ALL MEN, RESULTING IN CONDEMNATION... FOR AS BY ONE MAN'S DISOBEDIENCE (Adam) MANY WERE MADE SINNERS, SO ALSO BY ONE MAN'S OBEDIENCE (Jesus) MANY WILL BE MADE RIGHTEOUS."
Romans 5:8-9

Does not Paul the apostle clearly refute the popular but unbiblical saying of presumptuous unregenerate man today that, "we were all created in the image of God?" The above chart also refutes that claim. All of mankind, as descendants of Adam bear the fallen image of Adam. Man is on a course God calls "the Way of Death" because he continues to bear the **IMAGE** of the man of dust, fallen Adam." Man cannot be saved by continuing to follow conformity into an "image made like corruptible man." Man needs to embrace "the (only) Way of Life" offered through "Jesus the Heavenly Man." Man needs to focus upon a different **IMAGE** to follow:

**"...CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON,
THAT HE MIGHT BE THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN"**
Rom. 8: 29

When Elohim the Almighty uttered these words in Genesis, "Let us make man in our image and in our likeness" (Gen. 1:26), they were uttered by the Godhead who possesses the Divine attribute of foreknowledge. The Almighty **FOREKNEW** that Adam would fall in sin just as He also **FOREKNEW** that Lucifer would become Satan through his sin.

Genesis 1:26 speaks of God's plan of foreknowledge to rescue Adam and his descendants through the coming of Jesus as "the Last Adam" bearing a new **IMAGE** for all mankind to embrace through repentance and the New Birth.

God purposely designed the New Birth to be the pathway to a New Life in Christ. That new life occurs by focusing upon the **NEW IMAGE** Elohim sets before you as described in Romans Eight and 2 Corinthians Three:



His IMAGE

**"...TO BE CONFORMED
TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON,
THAT HE MIGHT BE THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN"**
Rom. 8: 29



Our IMAGE

**"BUT WE ALL...
BEHOLDING THE GLORY OF THE LORD,
ARE BEING TRANSFORMED INTO THE SAME IMAGE
FROM GLORY TO GLORY, JUST AS BY THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD."**
2 Cor.3:18

Read carefully what is stated above, for that **NEW IMAGE** is one designed to be a life-long, ever-increasing pattern to follow-not merely just having experienced a one time "born again" conversion event. The New Birth is to lead to a New Life! Follow the pattern of **THE IMAGE** of Christ as depicted in Romans Eight and your end result will be conformity to that Divine image. However, stay as you are, a descendant of fallen Adam, and **THE IMAGE** you will bear can only be that of fallen Adam. You only need to consider this prophetic depiction that the Book of Revelation reveals as to the path/destiny of following unregenerate man down that perilous path:

**"...TELLING THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH
TO MAKE AN IMAGE TO THE BEAST
WHO WAS WOUNDED BY THE SWORD AND LIVED.
HE WAS GRANTED POWER TO GIVE BREATH
TO THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST,
THAT THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST SHOULD BOTH
SPEAK AND CAUSE AS MANY AS WOULD NOT
WORSHIP THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST TO BE KILLED.
HE CAUSES ALL, BOTH SMALL AND GREAT, RICH AND
POOR, FREE AND SLAVE, TO RECEIVE A MARK ON
THEIR RIGHT HAND OR ON THEIR FOREHEADS, AND
THAT NO ONE MAY BUY OR SELL EXCEPT ONE WHO
HAS THE MARK OR THE NUMBER OF HIS NAME.**



**HERE IS WISDOM.
LET HIM WHO HAS UNDERSTANDING CALCULATE
THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST,
FOR IT IS THE NUMBER OF A MAN:
HIS NUMBER IS 666."**

Rev.13:11-18

Who are these people that Revelation describes above that are so enthralled and enamored with **THE IMAGE** of the Beast? I believe they are the same class of people described in Romans Chapter One. They are unregenerate people having descended from the lineage of fallen Adam that are in love with their own image:

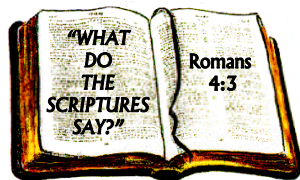
**"...ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW GOD, THEY DID NOT GLORIFY HIM AS GOD, NOR WERE THANKFUL,
BUT BECAME FUTILE IN THEIR THOUGHTS, AND THEIR FOOLISH HEARTS WERE DARKENED.
PROFESSING TO BE WISE THEY BECAME FOOLS,
AND CHANGED THE GLORY OF THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD
INTO AN IMAGE MADE LIKE CORRUPTIBLE MAN...
THEREFORE GOD ALSO GAVE THEM UP TO UNCLEANNESS, IN THE LUSTS OF THEIR HEARTS, TO
DISHONOR THEIR BODIES AMONG THEMSELVES, WHO EXCHANGED THE TRUTH OF GOD FOR THE LIE,
AND WORSHIPED AND SERVED THE CREATURE RATHER THAN THE CREATOR..."**
Rom. 1:19-30

The apostle Paul described such people would exist in man's last days on earth as being marked as "lovers of themselves" (2 Tim.3:2). They have no intention to follow after Jesus as being the "image of the glory of the incorruptible God" but rather they will rather embrace "an image made like corruptible man." This is **"THE IMAGE** of the Beast" prophetically described above in Revelation 13! Unregenerate man is in love with his own **IMAGE** therefore Satan is building an **IMAGE** for him to worship that is based on "the number of a man-666!"



WHAT IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM?"

Heb.2:5



Only the contents of the Scriptures can properly answer this question pertaining to the purpose God Almighty had in mind for His creation, man. Genesis opens with the prophetic declaration, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness" (Gen. 1:26). Adam and Eve were the first of His creation created in God's image and likeness. However, we have seen it was short-lived due to Adam and Eve's fall to temptation in the Garden of Eden. All of mankind that followed down through the ages were birthed after "Adam's own likeness and Image" (Gen. Chapter 5). Therefore it is a great misnomer to follow the cherished popular tradition that "all mankind is created in the image/likeness of God."

However, that verse of proclamation from Genesis 1:26 is prophetic due to the fact that God possesses the mind-boggling Divine attribute of foreknowledge. Therefore "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness" becomes an on-gong theme that goes far beyond the initial creation of Adam and Eve. God knew in advance that Adam and Eve would fail in the Garden of Eden and that is why God's Son Jesus was also foreordained to "be slain before the foundations of the world" (Rev. 13:8). Jesus became "the Last Adam", the "image of the heavenly man" (1 Cor. 15:45). It is well worth re-considering the apostle Paul's terse summarizations of these two cataclysmic events:

"THEREFORE,

AS THROUGH ONE MAN'S OFFENSE (Adam)
JUDGMENT CAME TO ALL MEN,
RESULTING IN CONDEMNATION...

OR AS **BY ONE MAN'S DISOBEDIENCE** (Adam)
MANY WERE MADE SINNERS,
SO ALSO **BY ONE MAN'S OBEDIENCE** (Jesus)
MANY WILL BE MADE RIGHTEOUS."

Romans 5:8-9



"AND SO IT IS WRITTEN,

"THE FIRST MAN ADAM BECAME A LIVING BEING.
THE LAST ADAM BECAME A LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT...
THE FIRST MAN WAS OF THE EARTH, MADE OF DUST;
THE SECOND MAN IS THE LORD FROM HEAVEN.
...AND AS WE HAVE BORNE **THE IMAGE**

OF THE MAN OF DUST,
WE SHALL ALSO BEAR **THE IMAGE**
OF THE HEAVENLY MAN."

1 Cor. 15:45-49

Ponder well that there are two contrasts of "Adam" described in Paul's dissertations above. One "Adam" is from the earth, the other from Heaven. One "Adam" walked in disobedience to God, the other in obedience. Hear the moral to the story: All of mankind who have borne the **IMAGE** of the sinful "man of dust" are now called to embrace the **IMAGE** of "the Heavenly man."

God sets before His people a series of choices between “good and evil”, “life and death”, and between “blessing and cursing” (Deut. 30:15-20) His people are required to make a **CHOICE**. This is how God functions among His people.

It was so all the way back in Genesis when God placed Adam and Eve in Paradise- the Garden of Eden. There we find God setting before His creation (man) two trees: (1) “the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil” and (2) “The Tree of Life.” One bore permissible fruit to eat while the other was forbidden fruit. Consider what the prophet Ezekiel states as to the significance of these two trees:



**HISTORY
OF
FALLEN
MANKIND
AS
DEPICTED
IN
ROMANS
ONE:**

← **“TO WHICH OF
THE TREES IN EDEN
WILL YOU THEN BE LIKENED
IN GLORY AND GREATNESS?”**

Ezekiel 31:18

In the midst of Paradise,
Satan dwelt in the
“Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil”
which God stated plainly as “forbidden fruit”
for man, His creation. We have extensively
considered the cost for mankind in disobeying
God’s truth and obeying Satan’s deceptive
lies. Truly, it was a choice between
life and death:

“THEREFORE,
AS **THROUGH ONE MAN’S OFFENSE** (Adam)
JUDGMENT CAME TO ALL MEN,
RESULTING IN CONDEMNATION...
OR AS **BY ONE MAN’S DISOBEDIENCE** (Adam)
MANY WERE MADE SINNERS,
SO ALSO **BY ONE MAN’S OBEDIENCE** (Jesus)
MANY WILL BE MADE RIGHTEOUS.”

Romans 5:8-9



**FUTURE
OF
REDEEMED
MANKIND
AS
DEPICTED
IN
ROMANS
EIGHT:**

AN IMAGE
MADE LIKE CORRUPTIBLE MAN

“...CHANGED
THE GLORY
OF THE INCORRUPTIBLE GOD
**INTO AN IMAGE
MADE LIKE
CORRUPTIBLE MAN”**

Rom. 1:23



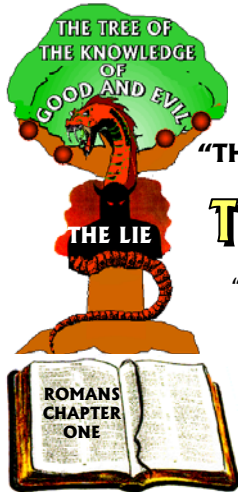
THE IMAGE
OF GOD THE SON, JESUS CHRIST

“...CONFORMED
**TO THE IMAGE
OF HIS SON,**
THAT HE MIGHT BE
THE FIRSTBORN
AMONG MANY BRETHREN”

Rom. 8: 29

“SEE, I HAVE SET BEFORE YOU TODAY LIFE AND GOOD, DEATH AND EVIL,
IN THAT I COMMAND YOU TODAY TO LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD, TO WALK IN HIS WAYS,
AND TO KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, HIS STATUTES, AND HIS JUDGMENTS,
THAT YOU MAY LIVE AND MULTIPLY; AND THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL BLESS YOU...
I CALL HEAVEN AND EARTH AS WITNESSES TODAY AGAINST YOU,
THAT I HAVE SET BEFORE YOU LIFE AND DEATH, BLESSING AND CURSING;
THEREFORE CHOOSE LIFE,
THAT BOTH YOU AND YOUR DESCENDANTS MAY LIVE;
THAT YOU MAY LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD, THAT YOU MAY OBEY HIS VOICE,
AND THAT YOU MAY CLING TO HIM, FOR HE IS YOUR LIFE...”

Deut 30:15-20



MANKIND CONDEMNED
(ROMANS CHAPTER ONE)

“THUS SAYS THE LORD:
"BEHOLD,
I SET BEFORE YOU
(Jer. 21:8-9)

“THE WAY OF DEATH”
STAY CONFORMED TO
THE IMAGE
OF ADAM
“THE MAN OF DUST”

“THE WAY OF LIFE”
BE TRANSFORMED INTO
THE IMAGE
OF JESUS
“THE HEAVENLY MAN”



MANKIND REDEEMED
(ROMANS CHAPTER EIGHT)

“TO WHICH OF
THE TREES IN EDEN
WILL YOU THEN BE LIKENED
IN GLORY AND GREATNESS?”
Ezekiel 31:18



**WHAT IS MAN
THAT YOU ARE
MINDFUL OF HIM?”**
Heb.2:5

Fallen man, as depicted in Roman Chapter One, is **NOT** the cherished image of man which God remains mindful of in this verse from Hebrews Chapter Two. It is only the image of redeemed man that God retains forever in His mind. Those remaining in the image of man as depicted in Romans Chapter One are forever lost and will be (eventually) forgotten forever when man inherits “the New Heavens and New earth in which righteousness dwells.” Only those in Romans Chapter Eight will be remembered by God for all eternity. Think about this:

No one remaining in the image of fallen Adam
in Romans Chapter One will be saved!

The final chapter in this book will focus upon conformity into the needful image of redeemed man as depicted by “the Last Adam” sent from Elohim the Father which is Elohim the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have examined “the Triune Family of God” found in the Heavens.
The last chapter of this book will introduce you to
“the Family of God on Earth.”

“BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE THE FATHER HAS BESTOWED ON US,
THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED **CHILDREN OF GOD!**
... BELOVED, NOW WE ARE **CHILDREN OF GOD;**
AND IT HAS NOT YET BEEN REVEALED WHAT WE SHALL BE,
BUT WE KNOW THAT WHEN HE IS REVEALED,
WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM,
FOR WE SHALL SEE HIM AS HE IS.
AND EVERYONE WHO HAS THIS HOPE IN HIM
PURIFIES HIMSELF, JUST AS HE IS PURE.”
1 John 3:1-3

"ELOHIM"

The Almighty Godhead



*"...attaining
to the knowledge
of the mystery of God,
both of the Father and of Christ..."*
Col. 2:2

*"For it
pleased
the Father
that in Him
all the fullness
(of the Godhead)
should dwell..."*
Col. 1:19



*"...for
in Him
dwells all
the fullness of
the Godhead
bodily..."*
Col. 2:9

*"...I bow my knees
to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
...that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."*

Eph. 3:14,19

~ CHAPTER FOUR ~

"THE CREATION OF
THE FAMILY OF GOD ON EARTH
ACCORDING TO THE WORDS OF
THE PROPHETS AND THE APOSTLES"

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words
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"...I BOW MY KNEES TO THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
FROM WHOM **THE WHOLE FAMILY IN HEAVEN AND EARTH** IS NAMED,
...THAT YOU MAY BE FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD."

Eph. 3:14,19

"FOR IT WAS FITTING FOR HIM, FOR WHOM ARE ALL THINGS
AND BY WHOM ARE ALL THINGS, IN BRINGING **MANY SONS** TO GLORY,
TO MAKE THE CAPTAIN OF THEIR SALVATION PERFECT THROUGH SUFFERINGS.
FOR BOTH HE WHO SANCTIFIES AND THOSE WHO ARE BEING SANCTIFIED
ARE ALL OF ONE, FOR WHICH REASON
HE IS NOT ASHAMED TO CALL THEM
BRETHREN, SAYING: "I WILL DECLARE YOUR NAME TO MY **BRETHREN**
IN THE MIDST OF THE ASSEMBLY...
..."HERE AM I AND **THE CHILDREN** WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME."

Heb. 2:13

"FOR AS MANY AS ARE LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD,
THESE ARE **SONS OF GOD**... YOU RECEIVED
THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION BY WHOM WE CRY OUT, "ABBA, FATHER."
THE SPIRIT HIMSELF BEARS WITNESS WITH OUR SPIRIT
THAT WE ARE **CHILDREN OF GOD**,
AND IF CHILDREN, THEN HEIRS -- HEIRS OF GOD
AND JOINT HEIRS WITH CHRIST, IF INDEED WE SUFFER WITH HIM,
THAT WE MAY ALSO BE GLORIFIED TOGETHER.
FOR I CONSIDER THAT THE SUFFERINGS OF THIS PRESENT TIME
ARE NOT WORTHY TO BE COMPARED WITH
THE GLORY WHICH SHALL BE REVEALED IN US...
FOR THE CREATION EAGERLY WAITS FOR
THE REVEALING OF **THE SONS OF GOD**...
THE CREATION ITSELF ALSO WILL BE DELIVERED
...INTO THE GLORIOUS LIBERTY OF
THE CHILDREN OF GOD.

FOR WE KNOW THAT THE WHOLE CREATION
GROANS AND LABORS WITH BIRTH PANGS
TOGETHER UNTIL NOW."

Rom. 8:14-25

"BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE
THE FATHER HAS BESTOWED ON US,
THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED
CHILDREN OF GOD!

... BELOVED,
NOW WE ARE
CHILDREN OF GOD;

AND IT HAS NOT YET BEEN REVEALED WHAT WE SHALL BE,
BUT WE KNOW THAT WHEN HE IS REVEALED,
WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM,
FOR WE SHALL SEE HIM AS HE IS.
AND EVERYONE WHO HAS THIS HOPE IN HIM
PURIFIES HIMSELF, JUST AS HE IS PURE."

1 John 3:1-3

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אלהים "ELOHIM"

Strong's Number H430-Hebrew אֱלֹהִים ('ēlōhîm).

"Elohim", is a word repeated 2,197 times in the Old Testament Hebrew scriptures. It is the most widely used name for the depiction of "God" in those scriptures. "Elohim", being a very strong masculine plural noun in Hebrew, plainly means "Godhead." However, it is not translated into English with such a plural emphasis. Sadly, the plural Hebrew noun "Elohim" ("Godhead") is consistently presented as being a singular identity (God) in all of our English translations.

Let us consider the very first use of "Elohim" (Godhead) in the opening verse of the Bible. How impacting would it be on our theology if that opening statement was more faithfully translated as "Godhead" (Elohim):

"In the beginning the Godhead (Elohim) created the heavens and the earth." Gen. 1:1

The next verse of Genesis contains the second use of "Elohim" which should also be translated as "Godhead" (Elohim). In this verse we are introduced to the third person of the Godhead who was also active in the creation account:

"the Spirit of the Godhead (Elohim) was hovering over the face of the waters." Gen. 1:2

We are only two verses into the Bible and we already have two Divine persons of the Godhead revealed under the name "Elohim-the Godhead." However, there is even more revelation to come. In verse 26 we another use of "Elohim" in Genesis:

*"Then the Godhead (Elohim) said,
"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..." Gen. 1:26*

The plural Godhead (Elohim) is clearly not stated to be a singular "God" but rather several plural expressions of "the Godhead" ("Elohim") are described as "Let US make man in OUR image and according to OUR likeness." That is a plural Godhead speaking, is it not? In context this is the Divine Godhead of all creation identifying itself clearly with a plural use of "US and OUR" image and likeness.

Not only does "Elohim" permeate the Old Testament as a plural expression of the Godhead, but the New Testament teachings of the apostle Paul such as are displayed on the cover of this book reveal that he too readily endorsed the concept of a plural triune Godhead abiding presently in Heaven. In those passages Paul presents a plural Godhead consisting of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This is the triune (plural) Divine Family of God as found in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament.

In this book I seek to establish that this Divine Family of "Elohim" (the Godhead) has as its main priority the creation of a family of God on earth (the children of God) via the new birth experience in Christ becoming an expression of "the family of God" on earth. The apostle John elaborates on this revelation:

***"BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE THE FATHER HAS BESTOWED ON US,
THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD!
...BELOVED, NOW WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD; AND IT HAS NOT YET BEEN REVEALED
WHAT WE SHALL BE, BUT WE KNOW THAT WHEN HE IS REVEALED, WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM,
FOR WE SHALL SEE HIM AS HE IS. AND EVERYONE WHO HAS THIS HOPE IN HIM
PURIFIES HIMSELF, JUST AS HE IS PURE."*** 1 John 3:1-3