

GOD IS ?

- *“I cannot tell where God begins, still less where he ends. But my belief is better expressed if I say that there is no end to God’s beginning.”* Andre Gide (1869-1951)
- *“A comprehended God is no God at all.”* Gerhard Tersteegen (1697-1769)
- *“Do not try to imagine God, or you will have an imaginary God.”* A. W. Tozer (1897-1963)

- A little boy's prayer: *"Dear God, I hope you take care of yourself. 'Cause if anything happens to you, we would all be in a terrible mess."*
- A little boy wrote to God: *"Dear God, Are you in charge of babies? I have three sisters, which is good. But I would like to put in an order for a brother. I hope this special order won't upset you."*
- Little Anita wrote: *"Dear God, My sister Tina has a girlfriend, Wendy, who never stops talking. It would take a miracle to shut her up. Have you got any left?"*
- Little Ralph wrote: *"Dear God, I love to eat. Thanks for all the food. Pizza was the best idea you ever had"*

God is One.

- Deut 6:4-5 *“Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.”* (NAS)
- **Polytheism** = many gods. **Dualism** = two gods. **Monotheism** = one God.
- **Henotheism** is the *Belief in one god without denying the existence of others.*

- *You shall have no other gods before me!*
- Deut 4:39 - *"Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other. (NAU)*
- 1 Cor 8:4- *Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that there is no such thing as an idol in the world, and that there is no God but one. (NAU)*

JEREMIAH 10: 3-10

verse 6 - ***THERE IS NONE LIKE YOU, O LORD; YOU ARE GREAT, AND GREAT IS YOUR NAME IN MIGHT.***

Exodus 20:5 - *"You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, (NAU)*

God is a Threefold Personality.

- **Trinitarians**
- Gal 3:20 - *Now a mediator is not for one party only; whereas God is only one. (NAU)*
- 1 Tim 2:5 - *For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus (NAU)*
- James 2:19 - *You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. (NAU)*

Genesis 1:1 -

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- We miss it in the English, but it is clear in Hebrew. The word **“Created”** is singular (one) the word, **“God”** is plural. It is **“Elohim”**. 'elohiym (el-o-heem') plural; *gods in the ordinary sense; but specifically used (in the plural thus, especially with the article) of the supreme God;*

- Genesis 1:26 - *Then God said, "Let US make man in OUR image, according to OUR likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

- **God the Father - YHWH (Yahweh)**
- **The Word of God, who became the man Jesus**
- **The Spirit of God**
- **Matt 28:18-20 - *And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."***

- As three independent circles? Three independent Beings (Constantine) = Trinity! This is true and false. It's true that the three are distinct personalities or beings—yet they comprise one God.
- Deut 6:4 - "**Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!** God is one, not three.
- So how do we understand this? As one circle, with three circles within the circle.

- Three Matches—one flame.
- “One” can be made up of many components...For example...
- One set of encyclopedias may have 25 volumes
- One year has 365 components
- One month has 28-31 separate components
- One week has 7 days, yet it’s still one week.
- 2 people when they are married are called ONE. In this case $1+1$ does = 1

- So we know that there are 3—and yet they—three are **one God** (my word processor had trouble with this—kept telling me they wasn't the proper identifier of one (one isn't they—right? NO- wrong)—how do we know this? Because the Bible says so...

- 1 Cor 8:6 - The Father is referred to as God *yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.* (NAU)
- John 1:1 - The Word is referred to as God. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
- Acts 5:3-4 The Holy Spirit is referred to as God. *But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? "While it remained unsold did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."*

- Immanuel = God with us! (God in the flesh – fully God in the flesh)
- SO...We are not Trinitarians in the sense we believe in 3 Gods, We believe in ONE God composed of 3 distinct personalities.



Isaiah 55:8-9? - *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.*

God is Spirit.

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- John 4:24 – *"God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*
- Luke 24:39– *"See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."*

- Philippians 2:5ff refer to these limitations as experienced by Jesus. *“Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”*

- Ps 121:3-4 - *He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*

Personal Application

- ... John 14:9 *“Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”*

- Col 1:15-19 - *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him..."*

- **God is One...**
- **God is a Three-fold personality...**
- **God is Spirit!**

Micah 6:8 (NASB)

8 He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

- James 4:8 (NASB) **8** *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you...*
- Hebrews 10:22 (NASB) **22** *let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*
- Psalms 145:18 (NIV2011) **18** *The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.*