

## LESSON 7

### *The Godhead: (Part 1)*

# The Oneness of God in Christ

*Romans 1:16-20*

**C**onflicting beliefs concerning the Godhead abound in our day. Our only alternative is to turn to the Word of God for the proper answer. Since recorded history began, pagan ideas have been the rule of many religions, as humans seek to understand and know God. We desperately need a Bible answer concerning the Godhead in order to exalt Him to His rightful position.

Christians receive some of their greatest opposition from religious circles when they exalt Christ to His rightful position. Because of the popular acceptance of the trinitarian doctrine, when we declare from the Bible there is only one God, opposition can be our lot. Researching the doctrine of the Godhead is important to all who want to be saved.

In Christianity, there is widespread acceptance of the doctrine of the trinity, which holds that there are three distinct (some say separate) persons in the Godhead, who are coequal, coeternal, and coessential. It is our individual responsibility toward God to identify properly our object of worship. Paul declared, “The invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20). Since we are without excuse concerning the Godhead, it behooves us to study and to understand this subject properly.

### TYPES OF BELIEF ABOUT GOD

The following four definitions cover every religious belief worldwide in relation to the concept of God or gods:

**Polytheism**—belief in many gods.

**Monotheism**—belief in one God.

**Atheism**—belief in no God.

**Trinitarianism**—belief in three distinct persons in the Godhead—a belief that tends toward tritheism, that is, a belief in three Gods.

The Jewish people, from Abraham’s day until now, are monotheistic in their belief. Although they believe in one God, they deny that God manifested Himself in Jesus Christ, thereby denying the deity of Jesus Christ. God’s Word teaches us the following truths, however:

1. Jesus Christ is Emmanuel, meaning God with us (Matthew 1:23).
2. Jesus is God manifested in the flesh (I Timothy 3:16; John 1:1-14).
3. God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself (II Corinthians 5:19).

May these marvelous truth be revealed to the Jewish community and to all who deny that Jesus Christ is the one and only true God.

### OLD TESTAMENT TEACHING ABOUT GOD

The Old Testament abounds with conclusive and undeniable teachings that there is only one God. Hundreds of scriptural passages bear witness to the truth of the oneness of God. Space prohibits listing them all; therefore, we will give only a few references. Personal research is a must on the Godhead; I challenge you to the task.

- Deuteronomy 6:4
- Exodus 3:13-14; Isaiah 43:10-25
- Isaiah 41:4; Revelation 1:17; 22:13
- Isaiah 44:6-8
- Isaiah 45:5-7, 18, 21-23
- Malachi 2:10
- Zechariah 14:9
- Isaiah 9:6
- Isaiah 46:9-10
- Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1-6

## NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING ABOUT GOD

God, who never changes (Malachi 3:6), did not change His substance, nature, and essence in the New Testament. By manifesting Himself in flesh (I Timothy 3:16), God did not in any way indicate that He consists of a plurality of persons. The following New Testament passages coincide with the Old Testament and prove beyond doubt that there is only one God.

- John 1:1-4
- II Corinthians 5:19
- I Timothy 3:16
- John 8:24, 58
- Mark 12:28-34
- Ephesians 4:5
- John 14:6-11
- I Corinthians 8:4-6
- Matthew 23:9
- I Timothy 2:5
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Colossians 2:8-10
- James 2:19
- I John 5:7-8
- Revelation 4:2
- Revelation 1:8, 18

In addition to these verses, numerous direct statements in the Bible verify the oneness of God in Christ. People today struggle with Christ's deity, just as they did when He declared that He was before Abraham and that Abraham saw His day and rejoiced

(John 8:56-59; Genesis 18:1-22). Jesus' statement to Nicodemus was equally confounding, as He declared Himself to be in heaven and on earth simultaneously (John 3:13). Christ was also the rock that followed Israel in the wilderness (I Corinthians 10:4).

Statements of this nature confuse those who do not understand the Godhead. We can understand God's basic identity, for Romans 1:20 says we are without excuse if we do not acknowledge His eternal power and Godhead. We should quit trying to make three distinct persons out of the one God. Instead, we should accept the Word of the Lord, which teaches that there is only one God and only one person who is God, namely, Jesus Christ.

God's Word teaches us what God is:

- God is a Spirit (John 4:24).
- God is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29).
- God is love (I John 4:8).
- God is light (I John 1:5).

God, who is a Spirit, moved on the virgin Mary, causing her to conceive and bring forth Jesus Christ. God, who is invisible, inhabited and dwelt in the man Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 5:19; Colossians 1:15-19; 2:8-10; Philippians 2:5-10)—fully, completely, and entirely. Jesus Christ is the Son of God and Son of Man simultaneously. Jesus is not a new God, another God, or a second person of the Godhead. He is Jehovah God of the Old Testament manifested in the person of Jesus Christ (I Timothy 3:16). No change or variation exists in God because of this manifestation. It is essential for us to believe that Jesus is the I Am, or we will die in our sins (John 8:24).

The late C. P. Kilgore, a famous pioneer Pentecostal minister, compiled *Wheel of Prophecy*, a comparative tract about the Godhead which demonstrates from the Scriptures that Jesus Christ of the New Testament is the God of the Old Testament incarnate. This tract continues to be printed by Word Aflame Press. Study the following compilation of comparative verses that so forcefully prove the true identity of Jesus Christ.

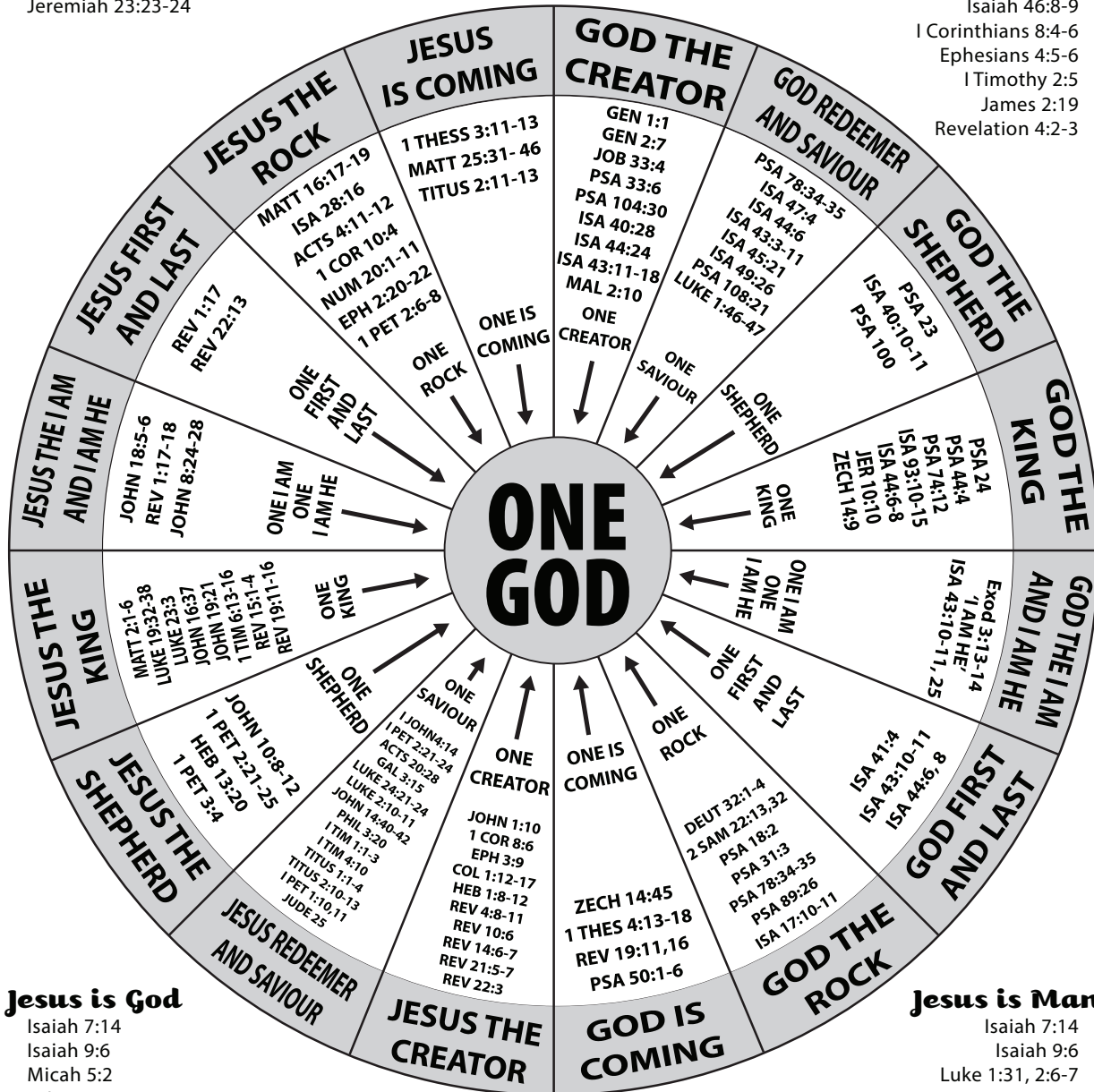
# WHEEL OF PROPHECY WHO IS GOD?

## God Is a Spirit

John 4:23-24  
Acts 7:48-49  
Acts 17:24-28  
Psalm 139:7-12  
I Kings 8:27  
Jeremiah 23:23-24

## There Is But One God

Deuteronomy 6:4-9  
Mark 12:28-34  
Malachi 2:10  
Isaiah 44:6-8  
Isaiah 45:2-6, 21-23  
Isaiah 46:8-9  
I Corinthians 8:4-6  
Ephesians 4:5-6  
I Timothy 2:5  
James 2:19  
Revelation 4:2-3



## Jesus is God

Isaiah 7:14  
Isaiah 9:6  
Micah 5:2  
John 1:1, 14  
John 1:10  
John 8:24, 58-59  
John 14:6-11  
II Corinthians 5:19  
I Timothy 3:16

## Jesus is Man

Isaiah 7:14  
Isaiah 9:6  
Luke 1:31, 2:6-7  
Acts 17:31  
Galatians 4:4  
Philippians 2:7-8  
I Timothy 2:5  
Hebrews 4:15  
Hebrews 7:24-25

Compiled by C. P. KILGORE