

A Concept of Oneness



"Oneness" is a modern term for a monotheistic doctrine which was formerly known as Patricianism, Modalistic Monarchianism, or Sabellianism. (See encyclopedias.) This doctrine teaches that Yahweh, the one and only god of Israel, manifested Himself in human form, as the New Testament Messiah. Today the popular teaching that there is a Father and Son who are two separate entities, is so prevalent that some seekers of truth find it difficult to even imagine otherwise. This tract therefore presents a conceptual introduction to the Oneness doctrine, but you should first read the one titled, 2 Are Too Many Gods.

A NONPHYSICAL CREATOR

Atheistic evolution fails when trying to explain the origin of life without a Creator. It is hard to believe the theory that life is the product of spontaneous generation. Hydrogen gas, or any other dead inert matter, cannot change into people *all by itself!*

And so we believe that life was created by some intelligent force which acted on inert particles of matter, and caused them to miraculously form into living organisms who's physical dimensions conformed to the Creator's premeditated design. In other words, the physical universe is controlled by a nonphysical Creator who's basic existence does not depend upon whether or not He has a physical body.

HUMANS CAN SENSE ONLY THE PHYSICAL

At the time of our conception, we knew nothing at all. At birth, we were all agnostic! A young child is not capable of knowing whether there is a God. Self awareness is not the same as being aware of a Creator. But as our minds develop, our five senses enable us to perceive and acquire knowledge of our physical environment. But we are not equipped with extra sensory perception, nor is our sensory perception able to detect a nonphysical Creator. It is only by abstract logic that we can conclude the existence of a deistic creator,¹ (one who does not communicate). But the existence of Yahweh, (the one who purportedly communicated to Moses), can be confirmed only by divine communication.

A COMMUNICATION BARRIER

Since humans can perceive only physical things, and the Creator is not physical, this presents us with a barrier preventing us from obtaining communication from the Creator. And our Creator should not be surprised or disappointed that we cannot perceive or know Him. He made us the way we are, and so He already knows the limitation of our sensory perception and He knows that we, by ourselves, cannot obtain communication from Him. He also knows that we cannot telepathically read His mind.

ONLY THE CREATOR CAN BREAK THE COMMUNICATION BARRIER

If the Creator wants to communicate to someone, He would certainly be smart enough to know that He would have to do so by presenting something physical so that the person receiving the commu-

1 See our tract, Is there a God?

nique could detect and recognize it by one or more of his sensory receptors.

Even though the Creator's existence was fundamentally nonphysical, He could make Himself a body, so that He could be heard and seen as He talked with Adam and Eve. When He contacted Moses, Yahweh presented Himself as the angel (messenger) in the bush. (**Ex 3:2-7**) The one and only Creator was quite capable of being His own messenger to Moses! And His omnipresence continued to control the larger universe even during His localized appearance. Yahweh's physical appearance to Abraham and others, does not mean there are two Yahwehs. It simply means that He can present Himself in physical form whenever He wants to do so.

THE ONENESS CONCEPT

It is, of course, ridiculous to suppose that the Creator of this whole universe is confined in the physical body of a man. But it may be reasonable to believe that Yahweh presented Himself as a physical Messiah, for the purpose of bridging the communication gap between Himself and His people; especially if He predicted it. See **Isa 8:13-14; 40:3; Mal 3:1**, and our tract titled, Some Oneness Prophecies.

John 12:50 & 14:10, 24 clearly says the Messiah spoke the Father's words. If you think the Messiah is a separate entity from Yahweh, then by what means did the Messiah receive words from Yahweh so that he could speak them? This is a most crucial question because humans cannot read Yahweh's mind, notwithstanding popular superstition to the contrary!

But on the other hand, if He was the Father, then He simply spoke His own words. It is no more absurd for a body to speak and say, "I am Yahweh" than for a

mountain to say it! (**Ex 20:18 & Deut 4:12**)
If the Messiah is Yahweh, it does not mean there are two Yahwehs nor does it mean that Elohim² is a plurality. It simply means that the one and only Creator reserved that particular body, inside of Mary's womb, for His own personal use or habitation. If it was Yahweh Himself who was impaled, that does not mean that he ceased to exist for three days and three nights. Yahweh can exist, either with or without a physical body. In **John 2:19** He said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days **I** will raise it up." And **John 10:18**, "**I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again!**" And when Philip insisted on finding the Father, he was told in **John 14:9**, "**Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father....**"

BOOKS FOR FURTHER STUDY

This conceptual introduction is not intended to be sufficient proof of the Oneness doctrine. For further study of this subject, see the book, The God Of Two Testaments by Robert Graves. Other authors including: David K. Bernard; Andrew Urshan; Thomas Weisser; Gary C. Rugger; William B. Chalfant; John Paterson and Gordon Magee, have also written on this subject, and their books are available from: Word Aflame Bookstore, 8855 Dunn Road, in Hazelwood, Missouri 63042.

2 See our tract, Who Is Elohim?