
BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: **Are there three beings in the Godhead, or just one?**

This question is of vital importance. If we deny what the Bible teaches on this, we, in effect, deny the very being of God Himself! To deny the being of God is to place our souls in jeopardy! So the importance of this subject cannot be over stressed!

SOME DENY THE GODHEAD

Today there are several groups that deny the Biblical doctrine of the Godhead. Some Pentecostal groups teach that there is only one Being in the Godhead and that one Being is Jesus and Jesus only! They deny the Bible's teaching concerning God the Father and God the Holy Spirit!

On the other hand, there are the Jehovah's Witnesses who likewise teach there is only one Being in the Godhead, but they say it is Jehovah the Father. They deny that Jesus is co-equal with God and they deny that the Holy Spirit is even a Being at all!

As plain as the Bible is on this vital subject, it seems incredible that anyone could draw the conclusions that these groups have drawn! What does the Bible teach concerning the Godhead!

PLURALITY IN THE GODHEAD

The Bible teaches that there are three divine Beings that compose the one Godhead, or to put it another way, there are three divine Beings that compose the one God of the Bible.

Genesis 1:26

²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

The word "God" in this verse comes from the Hebrew word "Elohim" and is plural in number! That is so significant that I must repeat it! The word "God" in Genesis 1:26 comes from the Hebrew word "Elohim" and is plural in number!

Notice also that the pronouns used in this verse are also plural in number! "Let **us** make man in **our** image, after **our** likeness." There were a plurality of divine Beings, called "God," who were conversing and creating the world. Who were these divine Beings? The Bible says it was God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

John 17:3-5

³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

⁴ I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

⁵ And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

From this passage we learn that Jesus had glory with the Father before the creation of the world. These two Beings are referred to as "God" in Genesis 1:26.

Again:

John 1:1-3

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God.

³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

From this we learn that Jesus was in the beginning with God the Father. Not one thing was created without Jesus according to verse 3!!! Listen to that again! Not one thing was created without Jesus according to verse 3!!! If that be true, and it is, then when Genesis 1:26 says, "Let **us** make man in **our** image after **our** likeness," it was God the Father speaking with God the Son. Since the word "God" in Genesis 1:26 is plural in number and is used equally of all the Beings involved in the creation, we are forced to conclude that there are a plurality of Beings that make up the one Godhead -- the one God!

THE GODHEAD

There are, then, three divine Beings that make up the one Godhead.

FIRST: The Father is called "God":

1 Corinthians 8:6

⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.

SECOND: The Son is called "God":

Hebrews 1:8

⁸ But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

Notice carefully the Son is called "God."

THIRD: The Holy Spirit is also called "God":

Acts 5:3-4

³ But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to **lie to the Holy Spirit** and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?

⁴ While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not **lied to men but to God.**"

According to this passage, when Ananias lied to the Holy Spirit, he was lying to God, because the Holy Spirit is God!

ONE GOD

Each of these three Beings are called God and they are so united that they are called "*one God.*"

To illustrate, the Bible teaches that all Christians within a local congregation are actually many members, but only "one body":

1 Corinthians 12:12

¹² For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

Now if we can understand that there are many members, but only "one body" we should have no trouble seeing that there are three divine Beings that make up the "one God."

Again, the Bible says that a husband and his wife are "one flesh":

Matthew 19:5

⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?

If we can understand that there are two people, but only "one flesh" in marriage we should have no trouble seeing that there are three divine Beings that make up the "one God."

To summarize, the Bible teaches there is only "one God" -- yes -- but that "one God" is composed of three, eternal, divine Beings. Jesus said:

Matthew 28:19

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Well ... thanks for listening to our message this week. We invite you to visit our website www.WillOfTheLord.com. There you may download the notes and the audio file of the message you just listened to.

Call again next week when we consider a new subject on ***Bible Talk***.