

## ONE LIVING AND TRUE GOD

Deuteronomy 6:1-25; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 / Psalm 145:1-21

### I. There Is Only One God

**A. Biblical religion vigorously promotes the reality of God.** “Hear, O Israel: The LORD *our God is one* LORD:” (Deuteronomy 6:4)

**B. People were designed to respond to the revelation of the single ultimate God.** “*Unto thee it was shewed*, that thou mightest know that the LORD he *is* God; *there is* none else beside him. *Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice*, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth *he shewed thee* his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire.” (Deuteronomy 4:35-36)

**C. God has always been intolerant of theological diversity.** “I *am* the LORD: that *is* my name: and *my glory will I not give to another*, neither my praise to graven images.” (Isaiah 42:8)

**D. Nothing is independent of this Biblical God.** “But to us *there is but one God*, the Father, *of whom are all things*, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom *are* all things, and we by him.” (1 Corinthians 8:6)

**E. Idols have their attractions but they accomplish nothing positive or productive.** “*Their idols are* silver and gold, *the work of men’s hands*. They have mouths, but they speak not: *eyes have they, but they see not*. They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not: They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: *neither speak they through their throat*.” (Psalm 115:4-7)

### II. There Is Only One True God

**A. The Bible provides a single integrated concept of God.** “But *the LORD is the true God*, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.” (Jeremiah 10:10)

**B. Equally vigorously Biblical religion rejects any concept of God but its own; there is no way to actually live and let live when idols are lifeless.** “As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, *we know that an idol is nothing in the world*, and that *there is* none other God but one.” (1 Corinthians 8:4)

**C. Worship not directed toward God is not only wrong, it supports demons.** “What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, *they sacrifice to devils, and not to God*: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.” (1 Corinthians 10:19-20)

**D. Do not let the claims of the “man-made gods” bother you; vacuums cannot have inherent force.** “*Fear ye not*, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared *it? ye are even my witnesses*. IS THERE A GOD BESIDE ME? YEA, *THERE IS NO GOD*; I know not *any*. *They that make a graven image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit*, and *they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed*.” (Isaiah 44:8-9)

### III. Believers Know God as the Trinity

**A. Scripture refers to the unity in diversity which all Orthodox Christians term TRINITY.** “For *there are three that bear record* in heaven, the *Father*, the *Word*, and the *Holy Ghost*. and *these three are one.*” (1 John 5:7)

**B. All three persons in the Trinity appeared at Jesus’ baptism as His ministry began.** “And Jesus, *when he was baptized*, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, *the heavens were opened* unto him, and *he saw the Spirit of God descending* like a dove, and lighting upon him: *And lo a voice from heaven*, saying, *This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*” (Matthew 3:16-17)

**C. Jesus consistently testified His unity with the Father while also demonstrating His own personal being.** “*I and my Father are one.*” (John 10:30)

**D. The gospel of grace which is the central message of the Church to the suffering world is inescapably Trinitarian.** “The *grace of the Lord Jesus* Christ, and the *love of God*, and the *communion of the Holy Ghost*, be with you all. Amen. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

**E. Christ directed the Church to take the Trinitarian concept of God to the far ends of the earth.** “Go ye therefore, and *teach all nations*, baptizing them *in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*” (Matthew 28:19)

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