## The Truth About God the Father

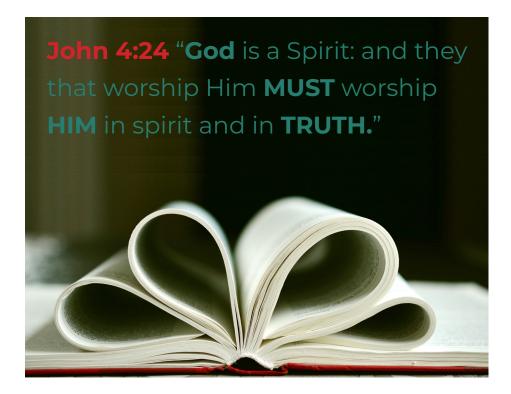
Jesus His Son and the Holy Spirit



#### Introduction

The aim of this small booklet is to give an introduction to what we see as clear Biblical evidence on who God is. For centuries this has been a hotly debated topic and it's a debate that still rages today. So for those of us who believe in the inspired word of God, my aim is to share some Biblical truths that even a young child can understand, but will also give plenty of food for thought to anyone who claims to believe in God.

#### Question: Is true worship in the Bible important?



Sounds like it's non-negotiable. We **must** worship God in spirit and in **truth**, so we must **understand who God is (Jeremiah 9:24)**. Would you be surprised to learn that most Christians do not really know who God is **(Matthew 7:22-23)**, even though the Bible is very clear on this (as it will be shown in this booklet)? The question is dear reader, do you know?

#### Who is the God of the Bible?

Many Christians believe that the God of the Bible is a Trinity. Some believe in 3 co-equal beings, while others believe God to be 3 persons in 1 being. But let's see what the Bible says.

1 Corinthians 8:6 "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."

Here Paul tells us there is **ONE God** and he doesn't leave us in any doubt who that God is. The Father. Here he also tells us that **ALL** things are **OF** God, which means **ALL** things come from Him. We also see that there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, **BY** whom are all things. So the picture painted here is that the Father is the source **OF** all things, and Jesus is the channel **BY** whom all things exist.

This is written of in Ephesians 4:6 also where it says "One God and Father of ALL, who is above ALL, and through ALL, and in you ALL."

John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the ONLY TRUE GOD, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

Here Jesus is praying to the Father and refers to Him as the **ONLY True God**. Is this important to know? Well Jesus says that Eternal Life is to **KNOW** the **Only True God and Jesus Christ**. So we are already seeing that a knowledge of two beings is **essential for our salvation**.

1 Timothy 2:5 "For there is ONE God, and ONE mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."



How many God's? Just **ONE**, the Father, as previously stated by Paul and **ONE** mediator between God and man, Christ Jesus. Seems pretty clear doesn't it? Otherwise you would have to believe that the **ONE God** spoken of here is **Father**, **Son and Spirit** and that the Son mediates between the **Father**, himself and the **spirit** by, well, himself! That's a tad confusing don't you think?

1 Thessalonians 1:9, 10 "For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and TRUE God; And to wait for HIS Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come."

Here we see that we are to serve the living and **TRUE** God **AND** to wait for **HIS**Son, whom God raised from the dead. The **TRUE** God has a Son. **The True God is**the **Father** and if He has a Son, that son **must** inherit His **divine nature**.

#### Question: Who raised Jesus from the dead?



Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead,

thou shalt be saved."

Acts 5:30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus."

## Question: Who is the God of our Fathers (here speaking of the Jewish fathers)?

John 8:54 "Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that HE is your God: ..." (see also Acts 3:13 & Romans 3:29)

Jesus confirms that HIS FATHER is the God of the Old Testament, in which we read Deuteronomy 4:35 "Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD He is God; there is NONE else beside Him."

## Question: Does the Bible say anything more about the One and Only True God, the Father?

James 2:19 "Thou believest that there is ONE God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."

Mark 12:28 & 32 "And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:...verse 32 Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is ONE God; and there is none other but HE:"

Romans 3:30 "Seeing it is ONE God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith."

1 John 5:20 "And we know that the Son of God is come and hath given us an understanding, that we may know HIM that is true, and we are in HIM that is true, even in HIS son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."

In the verse above, who did Jesus come to give us an understanding of? It's the Father of course.

In John 1:18 we read: "No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."

The HIM, and HIS in 1 John 5:20 are all references to the Father. He is the true God and eternal life is found in His Son.

Just a few verses before in 1 John 5:11 we read: "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

Also as we read earlier in John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the ONLY TRUE God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

The same language that we read in 1 John 5:20 is repeated in John 17:3. It's the same author with the same understanding. The true God is clearly the Father.

So to conclude this section, we have heard from Jesus's own lips in **John 17:3**, that His Father is the only true God.

Paul also declared this truth in 1 Cor 8:6 and now John re-affirms it in 1 John 5:20.

The Bible paints such a clear picture of who God is that we needn't misunderstand.

1 Timothy 2:5 clearly says there is "One God AND one mediator between God and men, Christ Jesus." That's only TWO beings – God (the Father) and Jesus Christ. There is not even ONE verse in the entire Bible that says God is 3-in-1, yet most Christians believe it! Makes you think, doesn't it?

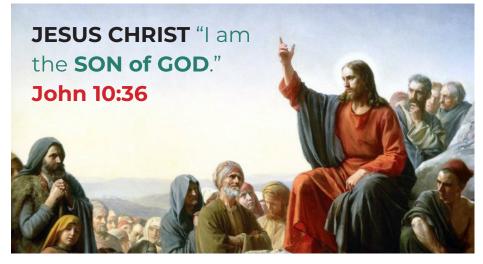
## Question: If The Father is the Only True God, then who is Jesus Christ?

As we have now established who God is, we can continue to look at scripture to see who Christ Jesus is. Let us begin with the testimonies of some key witnesses:

GOD - "This is MY BELOVED SON." Matthew 3:17

PAUL – "And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is THE SON OF GOD." Acts 9:20

PETER – "And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD." Matthew 16:16



THE DISCIPLES – "Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, of a TRUTH, thou art THE SON OF GOD." Matthew 14:33

..."we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD." John 6:69

JOHN THE BAPTIST – "And I saw, and bare record that this is THE SON OF GOD." John 1:34

JOHN – "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, THE SON OF GOD; and that believing ye might have life through his name." John 20:31

NATHANAEL – "Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, THOU ART THE SON OF GOD; thou art the King of Israel." John 1:49 PHILIP AND THE EUNUCH – "And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the SON OF GOD." Acts 8:37

MARK – "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, THE SON OF GOD." Mark 1:1

THE CENTURION – "Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, TRULY this was the SON OF GOD." Matthew 27:54

Every single one of the above **KEY** witnesses profess that Jesus **IS** the Son of God. It can't get any clearer than that. It was God the Father himself who vocally declared this truth (twice) from Heaven, that Christ is His beloved son. When Simon Peter declared in **Matthew 16:17** that Jesus was the Son of God, the verse confirms that it was God who revealed it to him. If we were to deny this clear truth, the Bible gives us the following warning:

I John 2:22 ... "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is anti-christ, that denieth the Father and the Son."



## Question: If Jesus is the literal Son of God, then does the Bible teach that he was born of the Father sometime in eternity past?

Nost Christians will say they believe that Jesus is the son of God, but there will be variations within that belief. Some will claim that Jesus became the son at Bethlehem, whilst others will say Jesus is playing the role of the Son or that His Sonship is merely a title. These all come from a Trinitarian understanding of God, which tells us that Jesus is co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit. Therefore He cannot be a true son. We will not find any scripture to support these positions.

As we have discussed already, the Bible clearly states that Jesus is the Son of God. So again, let's allow scripture to give us an understanding of this.

We will first deal with the understanding that Jesus became the Son of God at Bethlehem.

The most well-known verse in the Bible (John 3:16) tells us that God so loved the world, that He GAVE us His only-begotten Son. For God to GIVE us His son, surely means He had a son to give. This is repeated in other verses like Galatians 4:4 and 1 John 4:9.

We read about a 'son' in relation to God several times in the Old Testament:

Daniel 3:25 "He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the forth is like the Son of God."

#### **Proverbs 30:4**

"Who hath established all the ends of the earth? What is **His name** and what is **His Son's** name, if thou canst tell?"

Psalm 2:11-12 "Serve the LORD with fear and rejoicing with trembling. Kiss the SON, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him."

So it's clear that there was a son of God in existence **BEFORE** Bethlehem. In **Hebrews 1** we see that Christ is the 'express image of God', yet in Isaiah 53:2 we see that at Christ's incarnation on earth he would have 'no form or comelinless' or 'no beauty that we should desire him'.



Could this ever be the 'express image of God'? No. So Christ being begotten of the father **MUST** have been in eternity past.

Do we get any more scripture to indicate that Jesus was born from (or begotten of) the Father?

Speaking of Jesus, we read:

Proverbs 8:22-25 "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth."

We know Proverbs is referring to wisdom, but it is wisdom personified and the Bible tells us that Christ is the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24). So, in reality,

Proverbs 8 is speaking of Christ himself.

Micah 5:2 "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

In these Old Testament verses we get a glimpse of the fact that at some point in eternity past, before **anything** was created, Jesus was brought forth or begotten of the Father. Jesus confirms this in the New Testament when He said:

John 17:8 "For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me." (see also John 8:42 & John 16:28)

Here Jesus gives us a glimpse of the fact that at some point in eternity past he 'came out from', or was 'begotten of' the Father. The New testament continues to confirm this in the books of Colossians and Hebrews.

Colossians 1:14-17 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." (see also Hebrews 1:1-4).

PLEASE NOTE: We do NOT believe Jesus was created. We believe that Christ existed before ALL created things and that He was *begotten* of the Father, or literally *born of* the Father. He is of the same substance because he came from His Father's bosom (John 1:18). The Father and Son gave the universe a living example of this in the creation of Adam and Eve

(Gen 1:26-27). Eve is the same substance as Adam (Gen 2:23) because she *literally* came out of him (Gen 2:21-23). Similarly Christ is the stone (Luke 20:17) cut from the mountain (God) without hands (Dan 2:34 & 45). Therefore Jesus is the same divine substance of his Father. Jesus is not created, but is the creator alongside His Father (Ephesians 3:9).

## Does the Bible give us any more understanding of the importance in believing Jesus is the true Son of God though?

John 3:16-18 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but

that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath NOT believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

John 20:31 "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."





1 John 5:12-13 "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath NOT the Son of God hath NOT life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."

John 11:25-27 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth



and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, "Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."

John 6:40 "And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on HIM, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."

All of the above quotes show us the **necessity** in believing that Jesus **IS** the Son Of God. John states time and time again that a belief in Jesus being the Son of God is of **vital** importance. This very belief is **linked to our eternal salvation**. If that fact surprises you, please prayerfully read the verses again.

Why would anyone deny the very words spoken of by God, His Son and all the disciples? It's not something that is just alluded to, but is repeated time and time again.

#### **Question: What About the Holy Spirit?**

Genesis 1:2 "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit OF God moved upon the face of the waters."

#### **Definitions:**

'Of' - used to show a possession, belonging, or origin:

**'Spirit'** - *ruach or pneuma* - meaning mind, breath, life.

As we have already identified who God is (the Father) then it gives us our reference point for the spirit. We are introduced to the Spirit of God in the very first book of the Bible, the creation story. We can see it is the **SPIRIT** (breath, life) **OF** (belonging to) **GOD**. That means simply it is the breath/life of the Almighty Father.

Does scripture back this up?

Psalm 33:6 "By the

word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth."

Would it not be foolish to think that the breath of God was another being?

Don't forget, in Genesis 1, time and time again God speaks and something is created: Gen 1:3 "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

Nowhere in scripture do we see that the spirit of someone is a separate entity from the being himself. In **Daniel 7:15** we read:

"I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me."

Whose spirit was grieved? Daniel's of course and he confirms **his spirit** is linked to **his mind** when he says the vision in his **head** troubled him.

Let's see if the Apostle Paul understood this concept correctly. In the book of **Romans** he quotes from **Isaiah**, the Old Testament prophet:

Isaiah 40:13 "Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him?"

Romans 11:34 "For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?"

Clearly Paul **fully** understood that the **Spirit of** God can also be referred to as the **mind of** God.

## Question: What else do we learn about the Holy Spirit in the New Testament?

John 3:34-35 ... "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand."

So the Father gives **ALL** things to Jesus, including **His** spirit. In **Acts 2** we read:

Acts 2:33 "Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear."



The idea that the spirit proceeds from the Father and is given to us **THROUGH** His Son is also evident in **Titus 3:4-6**:

"But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he SHED on us abundantly THROUGH Jesus Christ our Saviour."

Notice how in **Titus 3** the word **'which'** is used in relation to the spirit. Not **'whom'**. Again, that's because the spirit is **OF** the Father and **not** a separate being. Jesus received the promise of God's spirit and He shed it forth on his believers. So Jesus has access to us **BY HIS Spirit**.

And how is it we access the Father?

**Ephesians 2:18** "For **through Him** (Christ) we both have access by **one Spirit** unto the **Father."** 

So the spirit comes **FROM** the Father (it's source), **THROUGH** the Son (it's channel), to the believer and our access **TO** the Father is **BY** the Spirit, **THROUGH** the Son.

That's why in **Romans 8:9** we can see the Spirit **OF** God and the Spirit **OF** Christ mentioned, as it's the same spirit:

"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

As already mentioned in **Ephesians 2:18**, we have access by **ONE** Spirit.

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## Question: Does the New Testament have more to say about this?

Galatians 4:6 "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the SPIRIT OF HIS SON into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

2 Corinthians 3:17 "Now the Lord IS that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

Philippians 1:19 "For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST."

John 20:22 "And when he (Jesus) had said this, he BREATHED on them, and saith unto them Receive ye the Holy Ghost:"

Acts 2:38 & Acts 3:19-20 "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye SHALL RECEIVE the gift of the HOLY GHOST."......"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. And he SHALL SEND JESUS CHRIST, which before was preached unto you:"

John 14:18 "I will not leave you comfortless: I WILL COME TO YOU."

Matthew 28:20 "...lo, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Rev 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I WILL COME IN TO HIM, and will sup with him, and he with me."



### Question: Who is the Holy Spirit in the Book of Revelation?

Rev 1:10 "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet."

Rev 1:13 "And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot..."

Rev 1:18 "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

Revelation 3:1 ... "And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that HATH the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars."

Revelation 5:6 "And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, HAVING seven horns and seven eyes, which ARE the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth."

Revelation 3:13 "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

Rev 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."



In **Revelation 1** we have John in vision and He sees Jesus. We know this because he refers to the 'Son of Man' and 'He that was dead and then lived'. Then in Revelation 3 and 5 we see that Jesus HAS the seven Spirit's of God, (seven meaning **complete** or **perfect** in Bible terms) which is then sent forth into all the world (see **Galatians 4:6**). Then at the end of every message that Christ has for the seven churches, he says "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the SPIRIT saith unto the churches". Christ IS that spirit. Christ **IS** that being that is speaking to His church. It is NOT another being called God the Spirit.

## Question: So if the Father is the Only True God, then can we worship the Son?

We started this booklet with John 4:23-24 which told us that we must worship God in spirit and in truth.

"22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

It confirms that true worshippers will worship the Father, not a trinity.

True worship is to the Father and is defined by the priority we place on who God is in our lives and where God is on our list of priorities. True worship is a matter of the heart expressed through a lifestyle of holiness. The Bible tells us that true worship is to the Father, but can we also worship Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son?

"Let all God's angels worship Him." Hebrews 1:6

"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise." Hebrews 13:15

So Hebrews tells us that all God's angels worshipped Jesus. We know it was the Father who created all things **through** Jesus Christ (**Eph 3:9**) so of course our praise and worship goes back to the Father **through** His Son. This is true worship.

Then we see the picture in **Revelation 5** of the Lamb (representing Christ) being at the right hand of the Father, and both receiving worship.

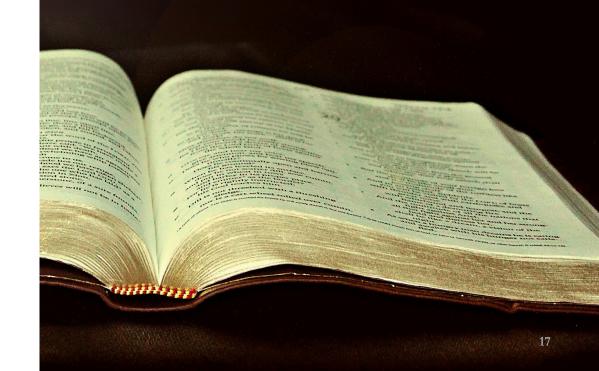
"Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, AND unto the Lamb for ever and ever." Revelation 5:12-13



#### Jesus is worthy of worship because:

- He takes away the sin of the world. (John 1:29)
- He is the bread of life. (John 6:35)
- He is the light of the world. (John 8:12)
- He is the good Shepherd. (John 10:11)
- He is the resurrection and the life. (John 11:25-26)
- He is the ONLY way to the Father. (John 14:6)
- He is the resurrected Lord. (Acts 2:23)
- He is our coming King. (Rev 1:7)
- He is our everything and everything he does is to the glory of the Father. (Philippians 2:10-11)



#### Question: Is this truth important?

As we have read in John 17:3, Jesus (in prayer) says that **eternal life** is to **know** the Father and Son.

Knowing Jesus as the **true Son of God** is also linked to our salvation (John 3:16-18).

There is **nothing** in the Bible to tell us that we need to know a third being, called God the Holy Spirit. That is because there is no third divine being. There are only two. God the Father and Jesus the Son.

If we deny the Father and Son, we are given the following warning:

1 John 2:22 "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son."

Jesus also gave us a stark warning when he said:

Matthew 15:9 "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

Any doctrine that cannot be found in the Bible is a man-made doctrine. That's why this truth is important.

For us an incorrect understanding of God destroys many aspects of the Father and Son relationship and the love found therein.

#### Did you know?

The Bible never uses the terms God the Son or God the Spirit. The Bible never uses the term co-eternal in relation to Father, Son or Spirit.

There are no texts in the Bible claiming that God is **3-in-1** or **1-in-3**. The Holy Spirit never receives worship.
There is nothing to suggest that Jesus's sonship is a **metaphor**.

There is no indication in scripture that we need to **know or recognise** the spirit as a 3rd person/being of the Trinity/Godhead. Instead the Bible is **rich** in giving us an

understanding of the Father and His Son.

We know that:

- Two divine beings are on the throne in heaven, receiving worship.
   (Rev 21, 22 & 23)
- Two divine beings are mentioned in the everlasting gospel. (John 3:16-18)
- Two divine beings give us everlasting life. (John 17:3)
- Two divine beings give us grace and peace. (Rom 1:7)
- Two divine beings love us. (John 15:9 & 13)

#### **Brief Summary**

The One True God of the Bible is the Father. (1 Cor 8:6)

The One True God of the Bible begat a son, sometime in eternity past. (Col 1:15)

As Jesus is begotten of the Father, he obviously inherited that same divine nature. (John 5:26)

God gave us His Son and Jesus took on human form so that we might have eternal life. (John 3:16)

The spirit is the life, mind, power of the Father, given to us through His Son. (Acts 2:33)

"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father." Galatians 4:6

Friends, we must return to a true biblical understanding of God and of Christ and I hope and pray that this booklet has given you the foundation for more study.

I know a lot of you will still have many questions, but thankfully there are some excellent websites and resources available online relating to this truth.



# "...TRULY OUR FELLOWSHIP IS WITH THE FATHER, AND WITH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST." 1 JOHN 1:3

www.one-true-god.com www.end-times-prophecy.org

\*these links will also be able to direct you to many other websites

Or email: contact@one-true-god.com