

~ THE GODHEAD AND THE NATURE OF JESUS ~

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one” (Deuteronomy 6:4). The word *one* (**echad**) means a united one, not a numerical one (Hebrew and English Lexicon, Gesenius, p. 28). The same word is used in:

Genesis 2:24 - “they shall become one flesh” (see also Matthew 19:6; Ephesians 5:31).

John 17:11, 20-23 - Jesus prayed that believers “may be one as We are” - a united one.

In this unity, there is a plurality of personalities. Jesus said: “I and My Father are one” (John 10:30).

Isaiah prophesied: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel” (7:14). Matthew quotes this passage and adds: “which is translated God with us” (Matthew 1:23).

John 1:1-3 - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God (a distinct personality) and the Word was God (the same in nature)” - “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.” Paul said: “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him” (Colossians 1:16). Everything that was created in heaven and on earth was created by Him.

Genesis confirms this. 1:1 - “In the beginning God (plural form) created the heavens and the earth.” 1:26 - “The God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...” verse 27 - “So God created man in His own image,” 3:22 - “Then the Lord God said, Behold the man has become like one of Us to know good and evil...” 11:7 - Come, let Us go down...” Who is US?

Isaiah prophesied: “For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (9:6). The same expression “Mighty God” is used in 10:21 - “The remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, To the Mighty God” (see also 1:24).

He is “everlasting Father” - not a created Being; the same expression is used of the Father (Isaiah 40:28).

God is “from everlasting” (Psalm 93:2). Micah 5:2 - “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth have been from of old, From everlasting.” Both Jesus and the Father are “from everlasting” - eternal Beings.

Isaiah 40:3 - "The voice of one crying in the wilderness; Prepare the way of the Lord (Jehovah) Make straight in the desert A highway for our God." For whom did John prepare the way? John wrote: "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness; Make straight the way of the Lord" (John 1:23). Luke wrote: "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways" (Luke 1:76). John wrote: "You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but, I have been sent before Him" (John 3:28). John the Baptist thought Jesus was "the Lord" who was predicted by Isaiah.

We are to worship only God: "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve" (Matthew 4:10). Idolaters "exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen" (Romans 1:25). Peter refused to accept worship. When Cornelius tried to worship him, Peter said "Stand up; I myself am also a man" (Acts 10:26). John was rebuked for trying to worship an angel - "Then he said to me, See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God" (Revelation 22:9).

Jesus received worship: The wise men said "we have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him" (Matthew 2:2); "And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him" (verse 11).

A leper "came and worshiped Him, saying, Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean" (Matthew 8:2).

A ruler "came and worshiped Him, saying, My daughter has just died, but come and lay Your hand on her and she will live" (Matthew 9:18).

The disciples, after Jesus calmed a storm, "came and worshiped Him, saying, Truly You are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:33).

A Canaanitish woman "came and worshiped Him, saying, Lord help me" (Matthew 15:25).

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary saw Jesus after His resurrection "And they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him" (Matthew 28:9).

Jesus did not rebuke any of these for worshiping Him.

Jesus was never an angel (a created being, Psalm 148:1-5). The writer of Hebrews said: "For to which of the angels did He ever say: You are My Son, Today I have begotten You? " (Heb. 1:5). (This is applied to the Lord's resurrection, not His birth, Acts 13:33.) The Father said: "Let all the angels of God worship Him" (Hebrews 1:6; Psalm 97:7).



Jesus said: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last..." (Revelation 1:11, 17). Isaiah said of God: "Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the First and the Last; Besides Me there is no God" (Isaiah 44:6). Are there two "firsts and lasts," or is what Jesus said true? "I and My Father are one" (John 10:30). In the throne scene (Revelation 5), referring to the one who "redeemed us to God" with His blood - "And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth...I heard saying: Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne (see 3:21), And to the Lamb, forever and ever! Then the four living creatures said, amen! And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever" (Rev. 5:13,14). With Thomas, we should say of Jesus - "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).

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