

Contending For The Faith Once For All Delivered To The Saints (Jude 3)
 Church of Christ: 4th Ave. South Shore, Ky. P.O. Box 649 March 17, 1974
 Editor & evangelist: Richard E. Swan, Phone: 932-3244, Vol. III No. 11
 The "Gospel Of Christ" 8:15-8:30 a.m. Lord's Day WNXT 1260 AM 99.3 FM
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THE GODHEAD

This month it was my pleasure to do a study of this subject in preparation to meet a representative of the "Apostolic Church" in a private home. I appreciated so much the opportunity to go and defend the gospel as well as the study involved in preparing for this dispute. Perhaps the following outline can be helpful to others.

The "Apostolic Church" teaches that there is only 1 Being in the Godhead. They believe that God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit are manifested only as 1 Being and when Jesus was on this earth He was God Christ, and the Holy Spirit. They teach that the physical body of Jesus is Christ, the son of God, and the Spirit that dwelt in that body was God Himself. To them God is everywhere and is not limited as to place. Because of their false conception of Diety they baptize "in the name of Jesus only" rather than baptizing people "in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Ghost:" as Christ commanded. (Matt. 28:19)

I. ALL THREE ARE DIVINE AND TERMED "GOD" IN THE SCRIPTURES

- A. God The Father--John 6:27
- B. Christ--Heb. 1:8
- C. The Holy Spirit--Acts 5:3,4

II. THEIR RELATIONSHIP ONE WITH THE OTHER

- A. They Are "One"
 - 1. "I and my Father are one."--John 10:30
 - 2. "...that they may be one, even as we are one."--John 17:22
 - 3. "...and these three are one."--I Jahn 5:7
 - 4. "...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father."--John 14:9
- B. How Are They One? They "Agree In One" (I John 5:8) Same Traits
 - 1. Same will and work--John 4:34
 - 2. One just as holy, righteous, and pure as other
 - 3. If have seen love of Christ, seen love of God-- John 14:9

III. CHRIST AND GOD SEPERATE AND DISTINCT ONE FROM THE OTHER...

- A. Before World Was Formed
 - 1. Word is Christ, was "WITH" God in the beginning-- John 1:1,2 14
 - 2. "Let US make man in OUR image"--Gen. 1:26
 - 3. "The man is become one of US."--Gen. 3:22
 - 4. "Let US go down."--Gen. 11:7
- B. In Soul And Spirit
 - 1. "A body THOU hast prepared ME."--Heb. 10:5
 - 2. "THOU shall make HIS soul an offering for sin." Isa. 53:10
 - 3. "...into THY hands I commend MY spirit."--Luke 23:46
- C. During Christ's Personal Ministry
 - 1. There are three seperate and distinct Beings indicated at the baptism of Jesus: Christ, the Spirit in the form of a dove and a voice from heaven--Matt. 3:16,17
 - 2. Jesus taught his disciples to pray, "Our Father WHICH ART IN HEAVEN", while He (Jesus) was yet on this Earth--Matt. 6:9
 - 3. Again while on this earth Jesus said His Father was "in heaven" and one day he would confess men before Him--Matt. 10:32
 - 4. "...MY..Son...hear ye HIM."--Matt. 17:5
 - 5. Jesus did not know the time of His second coming. Only God does. If God and Christ are the same being he would know but He does not.--Mark 13:32

6. Christ's prayer to God in the garden shows they are separate Beings.- -Luke 22:41f, Matt. 26:39f, Mark 14:35f, John 17:1f
7. "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."--John 6:38
8. "I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me."--John 8:18
9. "...I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself. but he sent me."--John 8:42
- 10 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman." John 15:1
- 11 "...Thou lovest me before the foundation of the world." John 17:24

D. After Christ Arose From The Dead

1. "...for I have not yet ascended to my Father...I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God and your God." John 20:17
2. "...he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God."--Mark 16:19
3. "...Son of man...came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him."--Dan. 7:13
4. In Acts 2 the Holy Spirit is one the Apostles on earth while Christ is seated at the right hand of God in heaven.
5. "And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." Note: when Stephen said this he himself was "full of the Holy Ghost" Acts 7:55f
6. At the last day Christ will deliver up the kingdom to God (an impossibility if He is God only) and then be subject to the Father. (Again an impossibility if the Apostolic Church is correct)--I Cor. 15:24-28

IV. VERSES MENTIONING ONE GOD

- A. O.T. Passages: But in every case context shows it is "one" God rather than the "many" pagan gods
1. Deut. 6:4 v. 14 compar
 2. Deut. 32:39 v. 37, 38 com.
 3. Isa. 43:11 v. 12 Compar
 4. Isa. 44:6-8 v. 9, 10 Com (a.) remember Jesus has a spirit distinct from God Luke 23:46

 * ORDER OF SERVICES *
 * Lord's Day: 10:00 a.m. Worship *
 * 7:30 p.m. Worship *
 * Thursday: 7:30 p.m. Bible Study *

NEWS & NOTES: We rejoice in that sister Dolly Rhoden confessed sin and prayer was offered on her behalf by the church.

B. N.T. Passages:

1. I Cor. 8:6--"To us there is but one God.." (Yes, but the same verse says, "...and one Lord Jesus Christ"--Remember these are two distinct beings, and both are called God.

V. JUST ONE PERSON?

- A. Mr J.T. Payne, a Pentecostal Holiness Debator said, "A person has flesh and blood, therefore there is JUST ONE PERSON in the Godhead"
1. I want us to note the consequence of this statement. If it is true how could Jesus be the express image of God's PERSON (Heb. 1:3)
 2. In order for something to produce an image, there must first be something.

Also the Father is referred to as Lord just like the Son. In Acts 2:34, Peter quotes David saying, "But David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thy foes thy footstool." The first word "Lord" that is used in this passage is referring to the Father, and the second to the Son.
 (See Also: I Tim. 2:5, II Cor. 13:14 and read again Matt. 28:19