

YAHWEH'S SPOKESMAN

The Relationship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Should there be many different churches, such as we see in contemporary religion? This question has concerned various ministers and theologians who have been at the center of the ecumenical movement. The question has been addressed in the discussions of many prominent religious leaders over the years. Many church members also have pondered this vexing problem, as they have attempted to locate the True Worship of the Most High described in the Bible.

Could it be possible that the Holy Spirit is no longer active in drawing believers into unity? Or is there an invisible body of believers scattered throughout all denominations?

You may have been concerned about the many denominations yourself as you studied your Bible and encountered references to such passages as John 17:21-24: **21 "That they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us; that the world may believe that you did send me. And the glory which you have given me I have given to them; that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them, and you in me, that they may be perfected into one; that the world may know that you did send me, and loved them, even as you loved me. Father, I desire that they also whom you have given me be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory, which you have given me: for you loved me before the foundation**

By Elder Jacob O. Meyer

of the world."

When we take into consideration Ephesians 4:3-6, the point is further driven home. **"Giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as you were also called in one hope of your calling: one Master, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all."**

Don't we believe that there is only **one** Holy Spirit, which has been sent forth from the Heavenly Father into the world and should clearly be leading and guiding us all into all Truth? John 16:13 certainly confirms that the Holy Spirit was given for this purpose. But should this deep-rooted desire to incorporate all believers into one fellowship take on the form that is being promoted by

the ecumenical movement, in which a super organization would include all Christians, regardless of what they teach or believe? Can sound doctrine be compromised upon the altar of unity for fellowship?

It is not my purpose to reiterate the complexities of these perplexing ecumenical problems merely to exploit the differences of doctrine in nominal religion, as do a multitude of other fundamentalists. My aim is not to cause further dissension or division, or promote another religious body as an end in itself, but to show you that there are indeed conscience-satisfying answers to difficulties over doctrines other than compromise. Let me illustrate.

A History of Division

A number of years ago several books written by a former Amishman named Joseph Yoder came into my hands. I met this man close to the end of his life, and he was indeed a remarkable person.

Above all, we wish to allow the Bible to speak plainly to us, and we wish to accept its message forthrightly as one of authority. In this way, we shall submit to the Truth of the Most High and yield ourselves to His Will.

In one of his lectures on Amish culture, he recalled the history of the Amish sect in the Big Valley of central Pennsylvania, where he was born. When the valley was first settled, it was by a unified Amish group. However, after some time, differences over doctrine infiltrated the group. Various issues were debated, such as the length of the hair and the beards of the men, whether modern inventions should be allowed on the farm, or whether the older conservative farming methods should be retained.

Mr. Yoder recalled that one division originated over a dispute between two men concerning a half-bushel of clover seed. This disagreement led to the introduction of differences of doctrinal opinion into the secular controversy. Finally, seven different groups of Amish emerged in the valley, ranging from the ultra-conservative to the liberal.

At one time, I worked for a man who was a minister of the Church of God, 7th Day. He told me he had made a study of the doctrinal differences among his denominational affiliation in the vicinity of his home

and afterward delivered a sermon entitled, "The Seven Churches of the Boise Valley" (he lived in Idaho).

Paradoxically, each new religious splinter group maintains that it is the one and only little flock the Almighty has chosen to fulfill His commission and work on this earth. But, in fact, these groups have made very little headway in resolving the deep-rooted differences in doctrine between their beliefs and what the Bible teaches, nor are they fulfilling the Great Commission of our Savior in Matthew 28:19-20.

Today, from the message given to us from the very heavens, we of the Assemblies of Yahweh inform you that there are answers to denominational doctrinal problems. A unity of believers, such as was the Apostolic Assembly, can be restored and maintained in our time. You can hold fast to scriptural Truth without compromising sound doctrines and teachings that you are discovering in your study of the Bible. There is no need to explain away, through human interpretation, the plain, forthright, and concise statements found in the Scriptures.

How often have you heard someone reject a plainly spoken Scripture by saying, "It doesn't mean that; it means thus and so." Then he proceeds to interpret a crystal-clear passage differently, in accord with popular teachings.

Where is the True Faith?

You don't have to explain away any one of the obvious statements of the Bible. As a Bible teacher, it is not proper for me to give you an explanation that abounds with statements like, "I think this is what it means." You want the pure Truth of Yahweh's Word to be explained without personal opinions corrupting it.

Do you sense the strong Faith that emerges when we allow the Bible to speak with authority and then obey every injunction we encounter? Could this Faith be the one

our Savior describes in Luke 18:8b, where He says, "***Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, shall he find faith on the earth?***" This Faith, which is almost totally different from what is being practiced in denominational Christianity, is being restored today by a small group of faithful people called the Assemblies of Yahweh.

The answer to the riddle of how the Bible is to be interpreted may be found in the epistle of 2 Peter 1:20, which reads, "***Knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of private interpretation.***" The answer, beloved friends, is to return as closely as possible to the original writings and then allow them to speak to us with absolute authority.

Obedience the Key

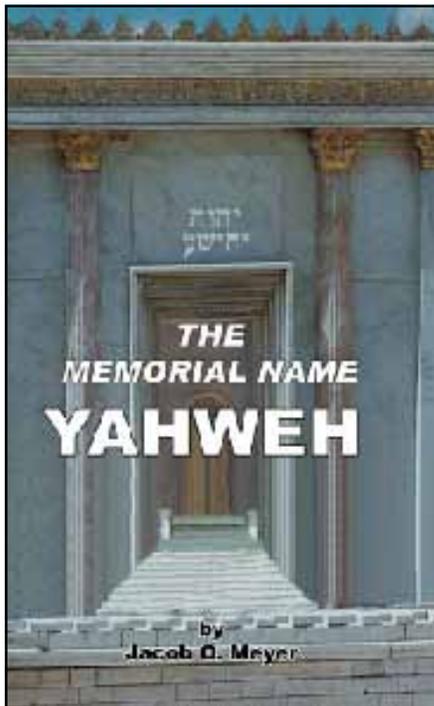
A good understanding of the Bible demands obedience to what the Scriptures teach. Allowing the Bible to correct us—rather than as is done in contemporary theological circles, to rationalize and interpret through human ideas (correcting the Bible)—will mean a totally new concept in biblical understanding.

How often have I heard, or read, some very involved arguments that were actually irrelevant; a research of the original texts would have immediately cleared up all controversy. It is imperative that we allow the Scriptures to correct us and not try to correct the Scriptures (and by the Scriptures I mean the oldest available texts and not the English translation).

This series will concentrate upon a much-debated subject. As we study it together, you will observe how the original texts of the Bible interpret, clarify, and resolve all of the difficulties that have been attached to it. This subject is the explanation and understanding of the Majesty on High: the relationship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Trinity Widely Accepted

As you take a critical overview



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of the spectrum of religious organizations, you may observe various interpretations of this doctrine; occasionally the arguments favoring one side or the other become rather heated and emotional. The majority of the religious bodies of our day teach the doctrine of the Trinity. In this category must be placed the Roman Catholics, most Baptist groups, Lutherans, and a number of fundamentalists. Many of the people with whom I am acquainted absolutely refuse to discuss the Bible with anyone who does not believe and teach the Trinitarian doctrine.

Oneness Popular

On the other hand, there are groups teaching what is known as the "oneness" doctrine, meaning

that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are all one Being. In to this category fall some of the Pentecostal groups. In fact, many theologians lean toward this type of teaching, although they would not forthrightly admit it.

Duality Taught

Then, there are several groups who teach a duality of persons: the Father and His Son, with the Holy Spirit acting as a force, or power, emanating from them. Teaching this doctrine are such major groups as the Jehovah's Witnesses, the Worldwide Church of God, and the Church of God, 7th Day.

What is the answer to this puzzle? In studying various literature published by these groups as they

contend for what they teach, I have found some of their statements quite perplexing. If each writer had been a little more diligent in researching the original texts, he could have avoided making some rather embarrassing comments. Then the divisions over doctrine could have been readily resolved. There are answers that will unite the True Worshipers in doctrinal harmony, if we are humble enough to accept them.

It is absolutely essential that we begin this study by cleansing our minds of all that we have learned and believed concerning the Heavenly Majesty. We must make a fresh start, allowing the Bible to speak boldly and clearly. We must believe what we read. The Bible must be harmonized throughout.

You would hardly enter a university to study an academic subject and then inform the professor, or the writer of the textbook, that you have already formulated an opinion, that the entire course of study had to conform with your present knowledge. How much would you learn with this approach?

Objective Study Necessary

In this study, it should be our purpose to approach the subject with an open mind, and then believe what we learn. We shall not seize on one particular passage and build a case from it. Rather, we shall cover the entire subject in the whole Bible, noting how beautifully all of the passages harmonize with no contradictions. You will notice how some erroneous translations have caused differences in doctrine and how some rather bold and deliberate distortions have occurred to make passages prove a specific point.

Above all, we wish to allow the Bible to speak plainly to us, and we wish to accept its message forthrightly as one of authority. In this way, we shall submit to the Truth of the Most High and yield ourselves to His Will.

YAHWEH'S SPOKESMAN

The Executive Officer

Rather pointedly, the inspired Scriptures ask a special question of every person who reads them. You will find this question posed in Proverbs 30:4. It may appear to be insignificant or trite, until you learn the **correct** answer, which may hold implications for you that are quite startling.

The question, directly asked by Yahweh, is this: ***“Who has ascended up into heaven, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in his garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son’s name, if you know?”***

What is the correct answer? Can it be located in the **King James Version**? Where do we go to find the answer?

Yahweh’s Name Rediscovered

The brethren of the Assemblies of Yahweh have found the surprising answer to this question posed in Proverbs by returning to the oldest available scriptural texts, as near to the originals as we can get. We have found that the Sacred Name, which has been placed in the inspired Scriptures by an all-knowing Father, is something totally different from the names that are in common use for worship today.

In the Hebrew Scriptures, through which the Almighty spoke to His

people, He declares that His Name is “Yahweh.” This Sacred Name has been purposely deleted from most translations of the Bible, although some of the more modern translations have restored it to its rightful position in the text.

For those who are interested in the history of the United States and the religious conflicts of Europe that caused many of the early immigrants to seek refuge in the New World, the following fact may interest you. The Pilgrim fathers, using their **Ainsworth Psalm Book**, sang the Name “Yah,” and also spelled “Jehovah” with an “I” rather than a “J,” producing a pronunciation more accurate than the way it is spoken today. Once again, we perceive that the Sacred Name has indeed been evident and in use down through history, although not published prominently.

Was it the Father, or the Son, who possessed the Name **Yahweh**? We are asked by the writer of Proverbs whether we know the Name of the Father and the Son. Do they have separate Names?

Speaker and Spokesman

Two distinct Beings emerge from the passage of Exodus 23:20-23. One person speaks, while another transmits His words to the prophet Moses, who, in turn, will deliver them to the gathered Israelites. No human being has ever had any dealings with the Almighty Heavenly

Father. We are informed of this in several places in the Scriptures, for example, John 1:18.

In the Old Testament, Israel saw only the spirit Being who communicated the instructions of the invisible Heavenly Father. Through His display of awesome power, they **assumed** that **He** was the Father who was dealing with them, when, in fact, the Scriptures teach that it was the One who became the Messiah in His preexistent life. Let us allow Philippians 2:5-11 to explain.

“Have this mind in you, which was also in the Messiah Yahshua: who, existing in the form of Elohim, counted not the being on an equality with Yahweh a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death, yes, the death of the torture stake. Therefore also Yahweh highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name; that in the name of Yahshua every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Yahshua the Messiah is Master to the glory of Yahweh the Father.”

Did you notice that, at the beginning, the Messiah was essentially in the form of the Almighty? Then, He made Himself of no reputation

and became obedient to the death on the tree. Commentators feel that the Greek word *kenoo* means that He emptied Himself, a definition which lends additional weight to our study.

Elohim— A Collective Noun

It is obvious that much confusion in Bible understanding has resulted from a misconception of the meaning of the word **Elohim**. In the Hebrew, this word is a “plural unity.” To illustrate, we might compare it to the example of a husband and wife. Two human beings, who have united to make a home and establish a family, are plural in number. They are indeed two individuals, two distinct entities, two physical forms, but they have been united as one in matrimony. They have become joined in purpose and determination to achieve their goal; consequently, they have become one.

Although **family** is a collective noun that requires a singular verb, as does **Elohim**, it is plural in number, because it takes more than one to make a family.

One Yahweh Explained

The Jewish people frequently quote the **shema**, found in Deuteronomy 6:4. Please turn to it in your own Bible. We read there, in a more accurate translation from the Hebrew than you will find in the **King James Version**: “**Hear O Israel, Yahweh is our Elohim, Yahweh is one** (unity).” The actual Hebrew phrase reads, “**Shema Israel, Yahweh Elohenu, Yahweh echad.**”

If we take the time to check all of the other places in which *echad* is used in the Hebrew Old Testament, we will find that the predominant usage is that of one in a unity of



purpose. Some commentators feel that the Latin word *unus*, meaning *a unity*, would interpret it best, rather than the Latin word *unicus*, which would mean *unique*, as *one*.

In His Father's Name

Next, we must come to grips with a verse that was actually spoken by our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, when He was here on earth. You find it in John 5:43. “**I have come in my Father's name, and you receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him you will receive.**” This verse explains so much of the seemingly insoluble difficulties that some people have with understanding the scriptural concept of the spiritual family.

If the Messiah came in His Father's Name, then He used it, He was called by it, and He proclaimed it. As the Spokesman for the Covenant to Israel, He delivered the message in the Name of the Heavenly Father Yahweh. When He delivered this message orally, He spoke for the Heavenly Father, in His place, and the people did not recognize that **He** was, indeed, only the intermediary.

For further illustration, let us consider the following. In wartime, couriers may be used in carrying messages. At the height of battle, occasionally a commanding general

will summon a soldier to deliver a message verbally to one of his subordinates in the field. The field general has seen, spoken to, and possibly just attended a council of war with his commander. When the soldier courier delivers the message and says, “General Smith orders an attack by your forces upon the left flank of the enemy,” the general who receives it understands that it is an order transferred by a low-ranking soldier to himself, because he would recognize General Smith by sight.

In ancient Israel, the **Executive Officer** delivered the message from the Almighty Commander. When He spoke, it was in the first person. Those people He contacted never saw the Almighty Father Himself; they assumed that they were speaking to the Father.

There are also instances in the Scripture where the Spokesman speaks of Yahweh and uses third person pronouns (He). For verification, we can turn to Isaiah 44:24-26. You will notice how the first and third person pronouns are interchanged. This clearly proves that a Spokesman was communicating messages in the first person and incorporating the third person for clarification.

Elohim the Creator

Now let us go back in history to the very beginning of this system. We shall return to the time before there was a creation, or a human being, on this earth. The creative work is in progress.

If you have a Bible edition that points out the Hebrew words used in the first chapter of Genesis, you will note that the Sacred Name **Yahweh** is not used in the Hebrew text of Genesis 1. **Elohim** was the Creator. Human beings were created

in the physical image of a *Spirit-begotten Creator*.

Plurality of Elohim

It is very enlightening and of utmost importance to understand that in the **King James Version**, “G-d” in no way can render accurately the meaning of the word **Elohim**. Allow me to reiterate that **Elohim** holds the definition **the Mighty One** or **Mighty Ones**. It was the Almighty Heavenly Father who said, “**Let US make man in OUR image, after OUR likeness**,” Genesis 1:26 (emphasis ours). Note the plural pronouns (us, our) which appear in the Hebrew text. Then, in verse 27, we find that Elohim, the Creator Son, created man in His own image and in His own likeness. The plural pronouns are indeed not an error in the translation, but clearly reveal the **plural unity** of the Creator.

Two Yahwehs— One Purpose

Did you know your own Bible declares that there was at the same moment a Yahweh on earth and a Yahweh in heaven? Many people overlook this plain, scriptural fact. Although it appears in a familiar scriptural episode, the significance escapes them. Recognizing the importance of the Sacred Name will uncover a vital message here.

It all begins on the Plain of Mamre. As Abraham is relaxing in his tent door in the heat of the day,

he receives a visit from three men—one of whom is Yahweh—the other two are angels in close association with Him. After a fellowship meal, the two angels depart for Sodom to investigate the moral character of the town. Yahweh remains to speak to Abraham, who, upon learning the purpose of the heavenly visitors, pleads to have his nephew Lot spared from the impending punishment.

In Genesis 19, the two angels confirmed by personal investigation that Sodom and Gomorrah were degenerate and corrupt. They urgently sent Lot and his family fleeing to the mountains.

After Lot and his family departed, we read in verse 24, “**Then Yahweh rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from Yahweh out of heaven**.” Do you see the difference the Sacred Name makes in obtaining a better understanding of the message of the Scriptures? Here we observe that there is a Yahweh on earth and a Yahweh in heaven, both united in the purpose of reestablishing morality and sacred government on this earth. They are not the same being, but they bear the same Name. Read again Exodus 23:21. Does the truth of this verse reinforce what we are learning?

Yahshua— David’s Superior

Yet another rather confusing verse in the **King James** translation becomes crystal clear when

we examine the original text and reinsert the correct Hebrew Name and title into the verse. “**Yahweh says to my Sovereign, sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool**,” Psalm 110:1. Yahweh is speaking to David’s Master, who, of course, was Yahshua the Messiah, as He Himself informs us in Matthew 22:41-46.

Known to Israel as Yahweh, the Spokesman is the commanding general of the armies of angels. The two investigating angels who accompanied the Spokesman on His visit to Abraham, and later to Sodom, were probably His top officers of the angelic army.

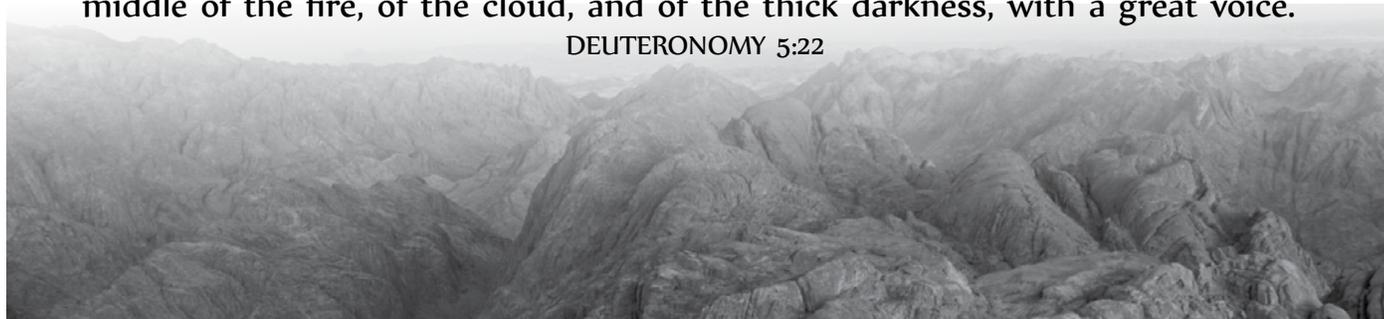
Son’s Presence— Holy Ground

When Israel entered the Promised Land, Yahshua went to scout the town of Jericho in Yahshua 5. He saw there an armed man with a drawn sword. Answering the challenge from Yahshua, this man says, “**... as prince of the host of Yahweh have I now come.... Put off your shoe from off your foot; for the place on which you stand is holy**.” Moses heard exactly the same words in the desert in Exodus 3:5. Both incidents had as the prominent actor the same Being. Do you now understand who He was?

Which Mighty One do you serve? Today, we proclaim as did the Psalmist, “**O Israel, trust in Yahweh: He is their help and their shield**.”

“These words Yahweh spoke to all your assembly in the mount (Sinai) out of the middle of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice.”

DEUTERONOMY 5:22



YAHWEH'S SPOKESMAN

The Father

In Ephesians 4:13-15, we read some words of caution by Paul's authorship regarding religious doctrinal stability. After describing the order of spiritual organization of the Assembly of True Worshipers, he indicates that this organization was designed for special reasons.

Religious Stability Necessary

"Till we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of Yahweh, to a full grown man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Messiah: that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, even the Messiah."

In this passage, Paul cautions against drifting aimlessly back and forth between opinions on the various doctrines (teachings) you might encounter. He warns us that some ministers who are teaching false doctrines can be quite persuasive in their presentation. Some of them are using tricks (sleight of hand), specially cultivated oratorical skills, or the art of glib presentation, which they use to deceive.

Rhetoric can be utilized both for good—and for bad. Many examples could be cited in both secular and in

religious fields to prove the point. Perhaps the most familiar are the slick salesman and the religious huckster.

Avoid False Doctrine

How shall we then avoid the pitfalls of accepting false doctrine? Must we stumble along from one concept to another, never quite attaining the satisfaction of being certain what is the Truth? Must we be content with never knowing that we have sound doctrine? When we listen to a sermon, or read literature, by someone who teaches just a bit differently on a controversial subject, can we ever completely know which doctrine is the Truth?

One Body

Can there be only one group of people that has searched the Scriptures with diligence and proven sound doctrine strictly from the Word? Today you hear of ministers who declare that there can be no absolutes, that you cannot be sure of ever having sound doctrine. However, the Scriptures are dogmatic in stating that there will be **only one body of people** in these last days who will be **teaching Yahweh's revealed Truth**. They will be few in number. But by accepting the Truth and obeying it, they have received a special blessing of wisdom and knowledge from the Heavenly

Father.

In this series of Bible studies concentrating upon opening our understanding to the correct relationship of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, we have already learned many new Truths. A rather broad spectrum of teachings on this subject is espoused by denominational christianity. From the doctrine of the Trinity, through the duality of persons, to the oneness doctrine—all are represented as being Bible-based.

However, in this study we seek Yahweh's Truth. He promises that we shall find definite answers to the puzzling questions that are presented. The answers may be obtained by confining our thoughts strictly to what the Scriptures teach. Our approach must be inductive, so that we may be guided by the facts.

The Father of All

Let us first find scriptural basis from which to draw conclusions by researching the essence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father in the Scriptures may be identified from such passages as John 17. Here our Savior prays to the Father as He lifts His eyes toward the heavens, indicating the place of His abode.

When Yahshua instructed His disciples in the essential aspects of prayer methods (Matthew 6 and Luke 11), He told them to address prayer to the Father.

The Father's Name

Notice, especially, that the entire spiritual family is named after the **Father**, both in heaven and in earth (Ephesians 3:14-15). Here is a penetrating question for you to contemplate. Are you called after the Name of the Heavenly Father? The members of the Assemblies of Yahweh are called by the Father's revealed personal Name. In 1 Peter 1:17, the Apostle Peter explains that those who call upon the **Father** should be purifying themselves to offer pure worship, and this includes calling upon **His revealed, personal Name**.

In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul prefaces his instruction relating to the correct observance of the Memorial Supper by showing the relationship of members in the spiritual family. He begins in verse 3 of 1 Corinthians 11 by informing us that the head of each man is the Messiah, while the head of the woman is the man, and, ultimately, the head of the Messiah and mankind is Yahweh the Almighty. The first part of 1 Corinthians 11 is an interesting study, and few people today understand its significance. We have published an article on this enlightening subject. If you would like to study it, please

The spiritual family on this earth and in the heavens is named for the Father. The Son, therefore, must bear the Father's Name, and the True Worshipers must bear this Name also.

write to the Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA, 19507, and request the article on **Headship**.

The Eternal Father

In John 8:44, the Savior informs the Pharisees that they are following their father, the devil, while those who are heeding the words of the Heavenly Father are Yahweh's children—spiritually speaking. Perhaps the prophet Isaiah summarizes this thought best in his prayer recorded in Isaiah 63:16, "***For you are our Father, though Abraham knows us not, and Israel does not acknowledge us: you, O Yahweh, are our Father; our Redeemer from everlasting is your name.***" Notice carefully that Yahweh is called the Father and His Name is "from everlasting."

Almost constantly in our Bible study, we are confronted by references to the Name of our Heavenly Father and its importance. Understanding the Sacred Name will help us to comprehend the position of the Father more accurately.

Father's Name Is Above All

Recall for the moment Ephesians 3:14-15. "***For this cause I bow my knees to the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.***" Can you grasp this truly eye-opening fact? **The spiritual family on this earth and in the heavens is named for the Father.**

The Son, therefore, must bear the Father's Name, and the True Worshipers must bear this Name also. It is no coincidence that Yahshua the Messiah declares in John 5:43, "***I have come in my Father's name, and you receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him you will receive.***"

The Name Was Hidden

Do you know that in the Savior's time, just as in our day, people had

forgotten the Name of the Heavenly Father? By rejecting His revealed Name, Yahweh, one is never completely able to comprehend the message of salvation. Upon your first introduction to the **Sacred Name Broadcast**, you may be surprised to hear someone preaching in the Names of Yahweh and Yahshua the Messiah rather than in the names that are commonly employed to refer to the Almighty and His Son. The Scriptures say this will be the final warning message that will be preached to mankind in the last days, just before the Second Coming of our Savior. Malachi 4:5-6 tells us this.

Yahshua Manifested His Father's Name

When the Savior confronted the religious leaders of His day, He was preaching the identical Sacred Name that you are hearing over the **Sacred Name Broadcast** and that you are reading in our literature. In John 17:6, we find that He prayed: "***I manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world: yours they were, and you gave them to me; and they have kept your word.***"

You might question the validity of the statement that the Savior had to reveal, or manifest, His Father's Name to the disciples. But history reveals that when our Savior was on this earth, the Jews had hidden the Sacred Name from the people, just as nominal religion ignores it today. Even though all studious and scholarly teachers of religion are familiar with the Name of Yahweh, few are faithful enough to proclaim it.

If the spiritual family **must be known** by the Name of the Heavenly Father, and the Savior revealed the Name of the Father to His disciples, then **it is imperative that we use it**. Again, we consider the import of Isaiah 63:-16b. "***For you are our Father, though Abraham knows us not, and Israel does not acknowledge us: you, O Yahweh,***

are our Father; our Redeemer from everlasting is your name." It is the Father's Name which is from everlasting.

Some religious bodies teach that only the Son bears the Name Yahweh in the Old Testament. Upon being questioned concerning the Name of the Father in which the Messiah came, they merely shrug it off with an evasive reply.

The Role of the Son

John 1:18 is very clear about the role the Son played when He was on earth. "***No man has seen Yahweh at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.***" John 5:37 and 1 John 4:12 present a repetition of this thought. No human being has laid eyes upon the Heavenly Father at any time. It was the Son who spoke for Him. The Son came with the authority of the Father by using His Name.

In the Bible, the Son is called the **Word** (the **Spokesman**, the *Dabar* in the Hebrew and the *Logos* in the Greek text of the New Testament). Yahshua the Messiah comments in John 14:24, "***He that loves me not keeps not My words: and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.***" How crystal clear this teaching becomes when we maintain the Scripture as the exclusive guide in Bible understanding. Yahshua did not speak His own words. They were the words of the Heavenly Father, which He delivered to the human race in His earthly sojourn.

Preaching the Same Message

We frequently hear that the message of the Father in the Old Testament, and the Savior in the New Testament, are different. The inspired Scriptures reveal that they are indeed identical and inseparable. The Son did not bring a new message, but He spoke the Father's

"Who has ascended up into heaven, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in his garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son's name, if you know?"

— PROVERBS 30:4 —

Both the Father and the Son appear together in the Old Testament.



words. He used, spoke, and came in the authority of the Name of the Father—Yahweh. Yahshua delivered the message of the invisible Father to His human creation.

Father and Son in the Old Testament

Those who do not acknowledge this primitive Truth become confused. Various commentators of Judaism admit the existence of two distinct Beings called **Yahweh** in the Old Testament. When a verse such as Proverbs 30:4 appears in the Old Testament, there are only two alternatives presented. The first is to accept and believe it; the second is to reject it as being a later interpolation.

Let us scrutinize the verse again if you are unfamiliar with it. "***Who has ascended up into heaven, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in his garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son's name, if you know?***"

Truly amazing, isn't it? Both the Father and the Son appear together **in the Old Testament**. Notice that the Name of the Father and Son were the same. How can anyone deny a Scripture such as this without simultaneously denying the heavenly authorship of the Scriptures?

If you desire more conclusive evidence, read Psalm 2 where you will find further mention of the Son of Yahweh. Do you remember Isaiah 9:6, and the message that

it conveys? "***For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty El, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.***" It is quoted here slightly different from what you may recall in the **King James**, but it is the correct translation directly from the Hebrew text. When the Son was born in human form, He was given the Name Yahshua (meaning *Yahweh is salvation*) to signify His mission.

The Holy Spirit

The teaching of the Bible is that there was a superior Being who spoke and a subordinate Being who communicated the message to the human family. Both were called Yahweh in the Old Testament, since the head of every family in heaven and earth is the Father—Yahweh. They sent their Spirit into the world to assist mankind in spiritual conversion, to develop character like that of the Heavenly Father. There is duality of persons in the Majesty on High, the Holy Spirit being a force and not a person.

Let me remind you of the article I mentioned previously on the subject of **Headship**. This is a study of 1 Corinthians 11. Should a woman have long hair, or can it be cut short? Should her head be covered for worship? Can a woman be ordained to preach? These and other questions are thoroughly answered in the article, and you may have it free of charge. Write for it today!

YAHWEH'S SPOKESMAN

The Word

If you wanted to find a solution to a problem, you would go to an expert on the particular issue in question, wouldn't you? To illustrate, if you really wished to understand the complexities of computer programming, would you seek counsel of a pencil manufacturer? Hardly.

And, yet, this is what the religious world has apparently done for the past two thousand years. Because of the lurking, latent anti-Semitism that often surfaces so violently, nominal Christianity has rejected, for the most part, the writings of Jewish commentators on the Old Testament Scriptures.

This groundless rejection has ignored the work of renowned Bible scholars who have spent much of their lives in constant research of the Hebrew Scriptures. Simply because the writings were **Jewish** in origin, their research has largely been ignored, except within their own circles, while the works of **Catholic** and **Protestant** theologians have been glamorized by Christianity. As I continue my studies of Jewish writings, I never cease to marvel at the quantity of deep knowledge these writers have unearthed and to what degree this knowledge actually confirms the authenticity of the New Testament and enlightens the sincere Bible student.

The Messiah in Jewish Literature

In this series on the subject of

the relationship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, this chapter will consider some startling findings from Jewish writings concerning the Messiah. The Jews definitely have the original concept of the **Messiah**. By perpetuating the Hebrew Scriptures, they gave this concept to us. For centuries they have lived in expectation of a ruling King who will again restore the greatness of hegemony to Israel, to reunite the twelve tribes under one government, and subsequently provide leadership for the nations of the world.

The Jews acknowledge that this inspired man was one of the first creations of the Almighty, created before the world began. They call the Messiah, "Messiah ben David," or the Messiah, son of David.

In addition, the Jewish commentators proclaimed that there would be a forerunner, a "Messiah ben Yosef," (Messiah, son of Joseph). But to counter the influence of Christianity, they have placed him in exactly the time frame immediately preceding the manifestation of the Messiah, son of David.

The interpretation of the Messiah, son of Joseph, is that of the suffering Messiah. The One who died—the One described in the New Testament, the One who came and suffered for the sins of the people of the world—fulfilled this prophecy. The prophecy of Messiah, son of Joseph, has been fulfilled in Yahshua the Messiah, even to the name of His surrogate father. When He returns from heaven at His Second

Coming, He will be manifested as the "Messiah ben David" (Messiah, son of David)—the ruling, triumphant King.

Incidentally, are you aware that Judah was only one of twelve tribes of Israel? Having assimilated the tribe of Benjamin, Judah became 1/6th of Israel. The other ten tribes lost their identity; but the Scriptures predict that they will return from their dispersion throughout the world at the time the Messiah returns. Write for our free booklet, **Israel Through the Ages**. It will help you identify the lost tribes of Israel.

The Jewish writers also originated a teaching concerning the Messiah, called *Metatron*. Some commentators explain this to mean *the power behind the throne*, as derived from the Greek definition of the word. Others say *Metatron* is Latin, meaning *guide*, coming from the Latin word *metator*.

A review of this historic concept is very interesting, since it clearly reveals that the Jewish scholars recognized that there are two **separate** Beings clearly identified in the Old Testament Scriptures. One of the writers, Elisha ben Abuyah, believed that there were actually two divinities. He maintains that *Metatron* bears the **tetragrammaton**, meaning the revealed, personal Name of the Almighty, which we know to be pronounced "Yahweh."

Michael

Some of the writers call Him “Michael,” and this is most enlightening, when we understand that the Hebrew name **Michael** is a question meaning “**who is like El** (the Almighty)?” There is none like the Almighty Heavenly Father except the Son, who came in His Father’s Name (John 5:43) and in His image (John 14:8-12).

Do you recall verse 1 of Daniel 12? “**And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince who stands over the children of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to the same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.**”

How perfectly this Old Testament verse harmonizes with the New Testament Messianic concept! The Messiah shall return at a time of great trouble and tribulation to redeem and deliver His people Israel. If you read Isaiah 42, you can see how obvious it is that the nation of Jacob—Israel—will ultimately have one man as its autocratic leader. This man will bear the Name of the Heavenly Father.

Recognizing this concept, the Jewish commentators have seen Him as the **Mighty Scribe**, the **Master of all the Heavenly Hosts**, of **all treasures**, and of **secrets**, bearing the lesser divine Name. The *Zohar*, which is the prominent book of the *Kaballah*, (the mystical study of the Scriptures) defines His nature exactly by declaring that **He is a little lower than the Almighty**. He is said to be identical in many ways to Enoch.

The Word

If you have thoroughly studied the first chapter of John, you are familiar with the Greek word *logos*. This means *the Word*, as does the Hebrew *dabar* and *memra*, or *me’amar*.

Now notice carefully what the

Apostle John writes: “**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Yahweh, and the Word was Elohim.**” In your **King James Version** the word “G-d” is intended to render the Greek word *theos*. However, the word used in the Hebrew translation of the New Testament is *Elohim*. This is a significant word, because it means *a plural unity*. The underlying thought is that of more than one, a family, if you please.

This united group of spirit Beings will be harmoniously working together toward one purpose and one end—to proclaim the Kingdom of Yahweh and to work toward establishing it. They will accomplish Their goal in the future.

John is explicit in stating that the human family has never had any dealings with the Almighty Father. He says in John 1:18, “**No man has seen Yahweh at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared him.**” We must understand that the spirit Being Israel saw was not the Father Himself, or this Scripture would conflict with others indicating that Elohim was seen.

Was Yahweh Seen?

Do you know in the Old Testament, the One who is called “Yahweh” was seen by human beings and even had lunch on Mt. Sinai with Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel? This occurred immediately following the ratification of the Covenant by the Israelites. They were allowed this close communion with Yahweh, because they agreed to obey and keep all of His commandments, a corpus of laws and regulations that composed His Covenant. You will find this passage in Exodus 24:9-11.

Please note especially the description of the “Elohim” of Israel in verse 10. This could not have been the Heavenly Father, since no man has seen Him at any time. It had to be the Son, who was dealing

with Israel. This Being was called various times the *Memra*, *Dabar*, *Logos*, the Word, and *Metatron*, but He used the Name of the Heavenly Father Yahweh. Consider also Exodus 33:11.

When we read in Acts 7:38 that it was the angel of Yahweh who spoke to Moses on Mt. Sinai, the meaning becomes more clear. We must understand that “angel” means “messenger,” or “one who delivers a message.” You will recall that Yahshua said in John 14:24 that the word He was speaking was not His, but the Father’s who had sent Him. He was the Father’s chosen messenger.

Some people have become confused in their understanding of this teaching. They unequivocally maintain that the Name of the pre-existent Messiah in the Old Testament was Yahweh, while in the New Testament it was “J-sus Chr-st.” When asked what the correct Name of the Heavenly Father is, they reply that no one knows! Yet, if we allow all of the foregoing Scriptures to speak to us with authority, if we follow the facts to their logical conclusion, then we must say that the Almighty’s Name—the Name of the Heavenly Father—is Yahweh. We must also conclude that in the Old Testament the Son used His Father’s Name. Actually, the Messiah’s Name was **Yahshua**, meaning *Yahweh is salvation*. Do you have our free article on the Messiah’s Name? If not, write for it immediately.

The Messenger of Yahweh

Would you like to prove conclusively that the Father and Son had the same Name in the Old Testament? Turn to Exodus 23: 20-23. This passage is part of Yahweh’s Covenant, making the Messianic doctrine a part of the agreement the Almighty made with Israel.

“**Behold, I send an angel before you, to keep you by the way, and to bring you into the place which I have prepared.**” This angel was

a special messenger, a guide to lead Israel to the Promised Land. He had already led Israel from Egypt. You can recall in Exodus 13:21 that this powerful messenger guide was manifested to Israel in the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night—truly an “awe-inspiring sight”.

Now we continue with verse 21. **“Take heed before him, and listen to His voice; provoke Him not; for He will not pardon your transgression: for my name is in Him.”** How enlightening is this message! Who can pardon transgressions but the Son, Yahshua the Messiah, to whom is given all judgment, as we read in John 5:22. Israel is commanded to obey His voice and not provoke Him, since this appointed messenger delivers Yahweh’s spoken Word. Notice, also, that the Speaker declares that **His Name** will be in His chosen messenger. The only one who came in the Name of Yahweh, using and actually bearing the Almighty’s revealed, personal Name, was **none other than the Son**.

Please continue to follow carefully the quotation from verse 22 and 23, which points out candidly that there are two Beings identified: the Speaker and the One to deliver the message, both using the same Name. **“But if you shall indeed listen to His voice (the Spokesman), and do all that I speak (the Speaker); then I will be an enemy to your enemies, and an adversary to your adversaries. For my angel**

shall go before you, and bring you in to the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Canaanite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: and I will cut them off.”

How plain it is to see that the Spokesman, the Word, did bear the Heavenly Father’s Name that—when He spoke, He was mistakenly recognized as the originator of the Word. We have discovered that He spoke exclusively for His Father and then only the things He was told to transmit.

When Moses was told to lead Israel out of Egyptian bondage, he pleaded his own inadequacy for the monumental task. The excuses he offered to Yahweh were quickly brushed aside by the Mighty One who knew Moses’ heart and his native ability. When Moses pleaded that he was not a good speaker, the perfect picture of the Father and Son relationship is given to us by Yahweh.

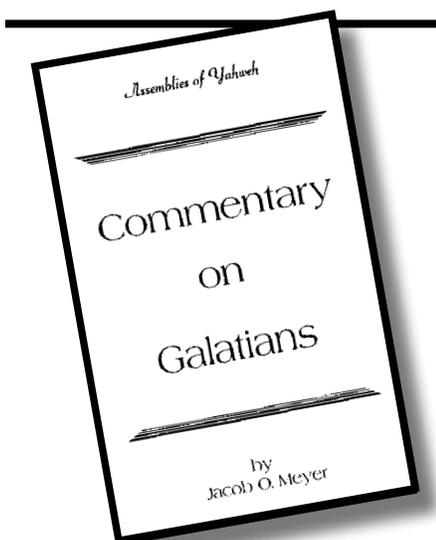
“And Moses said to Yahweh, Oh Sovereign, I am not eloquent, neither before this time, nor since you have spoken to your servant; for I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. And Yahweh said to him, Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes a man dumb, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, Yahweh? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth, and teach you what you shall speak. And he said, Oh, Sovereign, send, I pray you, by the hand of him whom you will

send. And the anger of Yahweh was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is there not Aaron your brother the Levite? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he comes forth to meet you: and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. And you shall speak unto him, and put the words in his mouth: and I will be with your mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. And he shall be your spokesman to the people; and it shall come to pass, that he shall be to you a mouth, and you shall be to him as Elohim.” Exodus 4:10-16.

No one can say that this passage is obscure. Elohim—the Father—spoke, while the Son was the Spokesman for Him. Clearly, the Word (Logos, Dabar, Memra) was the Spokesman who had the contact with humankind.

Summary

From this study we have learned that the Bible teaches a duality of persons in the Majesty on High, with the Holy Spirit being the force that communicates the power of the Almighty to His people. In the Old Testament, both the Father and His preexistent Son used the Name Yahweh. No one ever saw the Father, but His people were always in communication with the Son who served as His Spokesman. ^{SNB}



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