

The Path -

Day 37: The Oneness of God Pt 6

Who was Jesus Christ?

Jesus was the one who revealed the Father unto mankind. Jesus said in John 14:7-9:

“If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Phillip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, ‘Have I not been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Phillip? He that hath seen me hath seen the _____; and how sayest thou then, shew us the Father?’”

Jesus reiterated this in John 1:18:

“No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.” In other words: No one can see God (Spirit), but we have seen the only begotten son of God; and the Son (flesh) has declared the Father unto us.

Jesus was the image of the invisible God. Colossians 1:15 says:

“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature.”

Since no one could see God, God chose to express Himself through an image of Himself: Jesus Christ.

God has revealed Himself in many different forms down through time; however, we have a tendency to exalt some manifestations over other manifestations. God revealed Himself as a burning bush to Moses. In Exodus 3:2-4 we read:



“And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. {3} And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. {4} And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, ‘Here am I’”

God manifested Himself in the pillar of a cloud and a pillar of fire. In Exodus 13:21 we read:

“And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night.”

The burning bush, the cloud, or the pillar of fire was not separate, equal, portions of God. These are just manifestations of this one self-same God.

The titles Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are just that; titles for the manifestations that God chose at a particular time. Here are other titles for God in the Bible: Advocate, Almighty, Alpha and Omega, Amen, Anointed, Arm of the Lord, Author and Finisher of our faith, Blessed and Only Potentate, Branch, Bread of Life, Bridegroom, Bright and Morning Star, King, Christ the Lord, Emmanuel, Everlasting Father, God of the whole earth, Holy One, King of Israel, King of kings, King of Glory, King of Zion, Light of the world, Lord of lords, Lord from Heaven, Lord of the dead and living, Mighty God, Power of God, Prince of Peace, Redeemer, Shepherd, The Word, The Word of God; and there are many others. The reason that God has so many titles is that He has so many different roles. We have a limited number of roles. We can quickly and easily define the limited offices and roles that we have, but He has an unlimited number of roles.

The greatest key to understanding God and the Godhead is to see God as one. He expresses Himself to us in as many different ways as needed. All the manifestations of God are important. God reveals Himself a certain way to serve a purpose and fill a particular need at that special time. They are not separate entities: they are the ways that God has made Himself known to man.



Discussion:

- 1. In what sense was Jesus the Father?**
- 2. What do you think it means to say that Jesus is the “image of the invisible God?”**
- 3. What is a “manifestation” of God?**
- 4. Why does God have so many titles?**