

THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD (Deuteronomy 6:4)

1. The facts.

a. This verse, though difficult to translate, gives us two facts that we must believe about God.

b. First, it teaches that there is a Godhead.

i. You might be thinking that this verse says there is one God, and you would be thinking correctly.

ii. But we need to look at the words translated “one”, “Lord”, and “God” in the Hebrew.

iii. I’m not a Hebrews scholar and I wouldn’t even begin to try and pronounce these word in Hebrew.

iv. But the word for “one” does not mean “single or solitary”.

(1) It refers to a combined or united one made up of more than one part.

(2) Let me show you how it’s used elsewhere to get the idea.

(a) Genesis 1:5 - two parts make up one day.

(b) Genesis 2:24 - two people become one person.

(3) There is a Hebrew word that carries the idea of a single, solitary unit that is translated one but that word is not used in this verse.

v. The word translated “God” is in the plural as well.

(1) God was not saying there is a multiplicity of Gods.

(2) This passage is simply stating what is shown in the first chapter of Genesis.

(3) All three members of the Godhead were present at creation.

(4) “Let us make man in our image” - notice the plural pronouns.

vi. The word translated “Lord”, or “Jehovah” in the ASV, is important to notice as we discuss this doctrine of the Godhead.

(1) All three members of the Godhead are referred to with the word translated “Lord” or “Jehovah”.

(a) God the Father was addressed by David with this term (1 Chronicles 29:10).

(b) Jesus is addressed as Lord.

(i) Notice Zechariah 2:8-11 - both the Sender and the One sent are called Lord.

(ii) Several times the writer of Hebrews quoted from the OT and applied them to Jesus (Hebrews 1:6-12; Psalm 102: 1, 12, 24-25).

(c) The Holy Spirit is addressed as Lord.

(i) Notice Isaiah 6:8-10 and Acts 28:25.

(ii) Notice Jeremiah 31:33 and Hebrews 10:15-16.

vii. The New Testament plainly teaches that there are three divine Beings that make up the Godhead, all three possessing the traits or qualities of deity - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

(1) Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 4:4-6.

(2) All three were present at the baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:16-17).

(3) Numerous other passages show there to be three members of

- the Godhead.
- viii. The Old Testament teaches this as well as we have noticed.
- ix. This phrase which we are studying teaches that there is a Godhead.
- c. It teaches, not only the fact of the Godhead, but that the Godhead is united.
 - i. The Godhead is one!
 - ii. Jesus said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30).
 - iii. John 17:11, 20-21.
 - iv. 1 Corinthians 8:4-6.
- d. This verse teaches the fact of the existence of the Godhead, three divine Beings that share traits that show Them to be deity and it teaches the fact that the Godhead is united.

2. The force of these facts.

- a. These two facts combine to carry great force.
- b. Their being a Godhead and that Godhead being united means they are of one will or desire.
 - i. These divine beings work together to accomplish that will.
 - ii. There is a divine purpose for all of their actions and nothing is done by them that is not for the reason of accomplishing that purpose.
- c. God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, have different roles in working out the purpose of the Godhead.
 - i. This can be seen in creation - The Father planned it (Jeremiah 51:14-15), the Son carried out the plan (John 1:1-3), and the Holy Spirit completed it (Psalm 104:30).
 - ii. This can be seen also in the plan of redemption of mankind - The Father devised the plan (Ephesians 1:8-11), the Son was the sacrifice (1 Peter 1:18-20), and the Spirit revealed it to man (1 Corinthians 2:9-10).
- d. What is their desire (Luke 19:10)?
 - i. John 3:16.
 - ii. The Godhead is working together to bring about our salvation!
- e. When we think of God being One, we should think of the Godhead working together as one to bring about our salvation.
- f. It is much like a husband and wife in a marriage.
 - i. The man and woman who are united in a God approved marriage have become one.
 - ii. They are still two distinct people but they are working together with the same will or desire: to help one another get to heaven.
 - iii. They are one in matrimony but two distinct people.

3. This should strengthen our faith.

- a. What a joy it is to know that the Godhead is at work to bring about our salvation!
- b. You and I have the strength of the Godhead at work for us.
 - i. All three are at work in our prayers.
 - ii. We pray to the Father, through the Son, and the Holy Spirit helps in our prayer life (Romans 8:26).
- c. We noticed that the scheme of redemption was carried out by all three members of the Godhead.
 - i. The Father is still desirous of our being saved.

- ii. The Son is still the only sacrifice we need.
 - iii. The Holy Spirit is still at work through His word, convicting men of sin and strengthening the saved.
- d. What this should do is lead us to carry out verse 5 (Deuteronomy 6:5).
- e. Jesus said that this is the greatest commandment (Mark 12:29-30).
 - i. The Godhead is at work for us.
 - ii. We should love the Godhead with everything that makes us who we are.
 - iii. All four facets of man, physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual parts of us are to be used in the love of God.
- f. This make sense doesn't it?
 - i. We love God with all of who we are because the existence of God satisfies all that we are.
 - ii. It satisfies us intellectually because it answer the question of how we got here.
 - iii. It satisfies us morally because it gives us a way to live with our fellow man that allows for the growth of all.
 - iv. It satisfies us emotionally because the question of what we are to do with our lives is answered by the existence of God - we are to please Him because of who He is and what He has done for us.
 - v. It satisfies us spiritually because in us is the desire to worship something and we know that the something we are to worship is God.
- g. We show that love by keeping the commands of God (John 14:15).
- h. The Godhead is at work for us and this should cause us to have a greater faith in God and move us to love Him more and more as we think about this.