

Ephesians Series

Lesson #009

November 25, 2018

Dean Bible Ministries

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EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Understanding the Trinity
Ephesians 1:3–14

Praise for the blessings provided by the Father (Ephesians 1:3–6) is followed by the praise statement in vs. 6.

Praise for the blessing of the work of the Son (Ephesians 1:7–12) ends with the praise statement of vs. 12, to the praise of His glory.

Praise for the blessings of the Holy Spirit, praise in vs. 14 (Ephesians 1:13–14).

- 1. Old Testament passages on the Plurality of God and the Deity of Messiah.**
- 2. New Testament passages on the Plurality of God and the Deity of Jesus.**
- 3. The Nicene Creed.**

Plurality in the Old Testament

The Name *Elohim*

Gen. 1:1, “In the beginning God [*Elohim*] created [3singular, not 3plural] the heavens and the earth.”

Plurality in the Old Testament

Plural pronouns

Gen. 1:26, “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ ”

Plurality in the Old Testament

“One” *echad*

Deut. 6:4, “Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one.”

Deut. 6:4 (Tanakh JPS 1985), “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.” [*Rashbam, Ibn Ezra*]

Angel of *YHWH*

Gen. 16:7, “Now the Angel of the LORD found her [Hagar] by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur.”

Gen. 16:13, “Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, *You–Are–the–God–Who–Sees*; for she said, ‘Have I also here seen Him who sees me?’ ”

OT Claims Messiah will be Divine

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 *are* from of old,
From everlasting.”**

Isa. 48:15, “I, even I, have spoken; indeed I have called him, I have brought him, and He will make his ways successful.

Isa. 48:16, “Come near to Me, listen to this: From the first I have not spoken in secret, from the time it took place, I was there. And now the Lord GOD has sent Me, and His Spirit.”

Eph. 1:3, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,”

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

Isa. 63:15, “Look down from heaven, and see from Your habitation, holy and glorious. Where are Your zeal and Your strength, the yearning of Your heart and Your mercies toward me? Are they restrained?”

Isa. 63:16, “Doubtless You are our Father, though Abraham was ignorant of us, and Israel does not acknowledge us. You, O LORD, are our Father; Our Redeemer from Everlasting is Your name.”

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

Isa. 64:8, “But now, O LORD, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand.”

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

Deut. 32:6, “Do you thus deal with the LORD, O foolish and unwise people? Is He not your Father, who bought you? Has He not made you and established you?”

Deut. 32:7, “Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations. Ask your father, and he will show you; Your elders, and they will tell you:”

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

Deut. 32:8, “When the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the children of Israel.

Deut. 32:9, “For the LORD’S portion is His people; Jacob is the place of His inheritance.”

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

**Mal. 2:10, “Have we not all one Father?
Has not one God created us? Why do we
deal treacherously with one another by
profaning the covenant of the fathers?”**

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

**Ex. 4:22, “Then you shall say to Pharaoh,
‘Thus says the LORD: “Israel is My son,
My firstborn.”**

**Ex. 4:23, “ ‘ “So I say to you, let My son
go that he may serve Me. But if you
refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your
son, your firstborn.” ’ ”**

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

Jer. 31:9, “They shall come with weeping, and with supplications I will lead them. I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters, in a straight way in which they shall not stumble; For I am a Father to Israel, and Ephraim is My firstborn.”

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

Deut. 14:1, “You are the children of the LORD your God; you shall not cut yourselves nor shave the front of your head for the dead.”

Deut. 14:2, “For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.”

The Old Testament Identifies God (*YHWH*) as Father

Psa. 2:7, “I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.”

Prov. 30:4, “Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son’s name, if you know?”

Prov. 30:4, “... What is His name, and what is His Son’s name, if you know?”

Isa. 7:14, “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

Matt. 1:21, “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

Matt. 28:18, “And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Matt. 28:19, “ ‘Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.’ ”

[Name=Essence. Because they have the same essence they have the same authority]

Matt. 28:20, “teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

2 Cor. 13:14, “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.”

Psalm 96:5,

**“For all the gods of the peoples *are* idols,
But the LORD made the heavens.”**

Isaiah 44:6,

“Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: ‘I *am* the First and I *am* the Last; Besides Me *there is no God.*’ ”

Isaiah 44:7,

**“And who can proclaim as I do?
Then let him declare it and set it in order
for Me,
Since I appointed the ancient people.
And the things that are coming and shall
come,
Let them show these to them.”**

Isaiah 44:8,

**“Do not fear, nor be afraid;
Have I not told you from that time,
and declared *it*?
You *are* My witnesses.
Is there a God besides Me?
Indeed *there is* no other Rock; I know not
one.”**

Isaiah 45:5,

**“I *am* the LORD, and *there is* no other;
There is no God besides Me.
I will gird you, though you have not
known Me,”**

Matt 19:17, “And He said to him, ‘Why are you asking Me about what is good? There is only One who is good; but if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.’ ”

John 5:18,

“Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.”

John 8:58, “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM [*ego eimi*].’ ”

John 8:58, “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’ ”

***ego eimi* [Septuagint (LXX) Exodus 3:14]**

John 10:30, “I and *My* Father are one.”

Ephesians 4:8, “Therefore He says: ‘*When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.*’

Ephesians 4:9, “(Now this, ‘He ascended’—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?

Ephesians 4:10, “He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)”

John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:3, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

John 1:4, “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:5, “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

The Rabbinical Doctrine of the *Memra* (Logos)

1. *Memra* is both the same as God and distinct from God.
2. *Memra* is the agent of Creation.
3. *Memra* is the agent of salvation.
4. *Memra* is the visible manifestation of God.
5. *Memra* is the agent signing God's covenants.
6. *Memra* is the agent of revelation.