Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings



May 2021

Father, thank you for giving us an understanding of who you are, the one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Father, thank you for sending your only begotten son to open our understanding, and that we are born-again of your Spirit and have eternal life. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

In the <u>April 2021</u> teaching, we looked at examples of the Greek word *baptisma* for our English word baptism. Having reviewed these, we now know God's Word declared that when we were baptized into the body of Christ, it was not with water, but with the gift of holy spirit! 1 Corinthians 1:17 states:

For Christ [raised from the dead and exalted in glory] sent me [Paul] not to baptize [an immersion, or washing with water], but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

The April 2021 teaching demonstrated from God's Word that you cannot be saved or receive the gift of holy spirit by water baptism (Matthew 3:6). Since we are now in the Grace Administration, it is not with water but spiritual baptism by which we receive God's gift of holy spirit! The Grace administration started on Pentecost (see Acts 2:4). We must confess Jesus as Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead. It is through this act that we shall be saved and born-again of God's Spirit (Romans 10:9), baptized with the holy spirit (Acts 1:5), and receive the gift of holy spirit (Acts 2:4). The Will of God is the Word of God.

Ephesians 4:3-6:

Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. [Boldness identifies the unity of the spirit we are reviewing]

In this month's teaching, we will discuss the seventh unity of the spirit - "One God." We will:

- Define the phrase "One God" as the one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Identify the false god of this world.
- Discuss what the number seven represents in God's Word as "One God" is listed seventh in Ephesians 4:6.
- Read a few examples of the number seven used in God's Word.

The Bible teaches us there is One Lord or God in Deuteronomy 6:4:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord.

How many Lords? One! Philippians 1:27:

Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit [God], with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.

1 Timothy 2:5 reaffirms there is One God:

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

How many gods? One! Ephesians 4:6 does not say there are three gods. It says, "One God."

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, **One God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. [Boldness identifies the unity of the spirit we are reviewing]

Let me remind you again, that the English word "one" is the Greek word "heis" which means "one, the first cardinal numeral; emphatic, one, even one, one single." The English word "God" is the Greek word "Theos" which occurs 1,343 times in God's Word in Matthew through Revelation.

From the E. W. Bullinger's (1975) <u>Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament</u>:

"Theos" or God means a name reclaimed from the heathen and used in the New Testament for the true God. However, having lost the meaning of the one God came to mean "a God" only one of the many gods. Hence it became necessary in N.T. gen., to distinguish it by the article "the", the God, the one supreme with whom is the fountain of life and light; and now, to know Him that hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, is "life eternal." He is "the fountain of life" and "in his light alone can we see light." In the Septuagint [the Greek version of the Hebrew Bible – Old Testament] Theos, is (with very few exceptions) the translation of the plural (Elohim). It is used frequently for Jehovah (see under "Lord"). The root word means (1) to be strong, powerful; (2) to take precedence, be first. (3) God as the mighty one, the one above all, the first, combining the idea of inspiring awe and adoration.

The one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and each born-again believer created the heaven and the earth. In Genesis 1:1, the original text says:

God in the beginning created the heaven and the earth.

Colossians 1:16-17 tells us:

For by him [God] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him [God], and for him [God].

And he [God] is before all things, and by him [God] all things consist.

There is only one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. By Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and by Him, all things consist! For in Him we live, and move, and have our being (see Acts 17:28). The Bible is very clear on this. Got it!

The "One God" in Ephesians 4:6 refers to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 1:3 states:

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.

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The Father of who? Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort! 2 Corinthians 1:4 continues:

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Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

"Who" in this verse refers to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who comforts us in all our tribulation or mental pressures. You can never have comfort and unity with more than one God! Jesus Christ came to this earth and gave the born-again believers an understanding of the one true God, his Father, and our Father. 1 John 5:20 explains:

And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him [God] that is true, and we are in him [God] that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

We, the born-again believers who rightly divided God's Word, know that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is come and has given us the understanding that we may know the one true God and that we are in Him and His son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life! The word "true" is used three times in 1 John 5:20. The number three in God's word indicates divine perfection. The number three means real, entire, or complete.

The phrase "One God" is God's way of showing us in His Word that He is the One true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is vital for us to know Him and that we are in Him by His Spirit which unites us. Without the one true God, there could be no unity in our homes, nations, society, and culture. One of the errors of our ways today is that many of us have turned away from the one true God and His Word! 2 Corinthians 5:7 states "For they walk by their five senses; while we walk by believing, not by sight."

The one true God that was in Christ reconciled the world back to Himself. 2 Corinthians 5:19:

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

God was where? In Christ. God has committed unto us what? The Word of reconciliation. Colossians 1:27 says:

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Christ is where? In you, the hope of glory. So, it is God in Christ in you the hope of glory! One day when you ponder God's Word in the depth of your heart and believe

what God's Word says is true, this thought will blow your mind! Everywhere you go it's God in Christ in you. That's why God's Word says in 1 Peter 1:23:

Being born-again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which lives and abides forever.

How long is God's incorruptible seed in us? Forever! We must walk in alignment of oneness, at-one, and togetherness with God, His Word and His son! That's the one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, people!

God's Word defined who the one true God is. So therefore, there must be a false god, a counterfeit. In God's Word, this false god is called the god of this world. 2 Corinthians 4:3-4:

But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost [without the spirit of God in them].

In whom the god of this world [the devil] hath blinded the minds of them [without the spirit of God within] which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel [good news] of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

God's Word declares there are two gods. The one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the false god of this world (the devil, Satan, the adversary) which has blinded the minds of them which do not believe the light of the glorious gospel (good news) of Christ!

How did the devil become the god of this world? Let's go to God's Word and see.

When you read Genesis 1-3, God gave dominion over all He had formed, made, and created to Adam and Eve. God walked and talked with them. They had a close fellowship with God until they disobeyed God and ate off the tree of knowledge of good and evil. (See February 2016 teaching) Once Adam did this, he transferred dominion, power, and glory over the earth to God's archenemy, the devil. Adam and Eve lost the Spirit of God that was in them and became a human being of body and soul only (see Genesis 1:26,28; Genesis 2:16-17; Genesis 3:15). So, everyone born into this world from Adam and Eve's corrupt bloodline is body and soul only!

Luke 4:5-6 explains more:

And the devil, taking him [Jesus] up into a high mountain, shewed unto him [Jesus] all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

And the devil said unto him [Jesus], all this power will I give thee [Jesus], and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.

The devil said to Jesus "for that is delivered unto me." Did Jesus confront the devil on what he said? No, because he knew Adam had transferred dominion, power, and glory over the earth to the devil.

Luke 4:7-8 continues:

If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.

And Jesus answered and said unto him, get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Remember Romans 6:14?

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

We are now under the Grace Administration. Romans 10:9 tells us we are born-again of God's Spirit when we confess with our mouths the Lord Jesus and believe in our hearts that God has raised Jesus from the dead. In this way, we shall be saved (bornagain of God's Spirit).

In Ephesians 4:6, "One God" is listed seventh. The number seven represents permanent spiritual perfection. It is the numbers four plus three or six plus one or eight minus one. The grouping of numbers is amazingly exceptional in this number seven. The number seven shows spiritual perfection, accomplishment, and satisfaction. Let's read some examples of the usage of the number seven in the Bible.

Genesis 2:2-3:

And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

1 Corinthians 12:10:

The manifestation of discerning of spirits is listed seven.

Galatians 5:22:

The fruit of the spirit faith is listed seven.

Revelation 1:4:

There are seven churches and seven Spirits.

As we study God's Word, there is one emphatic true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the object of our worship. He is the fountain of life and light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and has translated us into His kingdom by the work of his dear son. We know the "One God" has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light which is "life eternal." The one true God is the mighty one, the one above all, the first, inspiring awe and love from His children!

In this month's teaching, we defined the phrase "One God." We saw that "One God" refers to the one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. We learned there are two gods - the one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and the devil the false god of this world.

We also learned that the number seven represents permanent spiritual perfection in the Bible. We saw what the number seven represents in God's Word as "One God" is listed seventh in Ephesians 4:6 and read a few examples.

Father, thank you that we can now know from your Word that you are the one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Father, thank you for giving us an understanding of your Word so that we can know you are light and in you is no darkness at all. Father, thank you that we know from your Word we are children of the light and the children of the day; we are not of the night nor darkness. Father, thank you that we know how to be born-again of your Spirit in the Grace Administration which we now live in.

Father, thank you for your Word which declares by you, Father, all things were created that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by you Father and for you Father. And you, Father, are before all things, and by you, Father, all things consist! For in you, Father, we live, and move, and have our being. Glory, praise, and honor be to God our Father, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Next month's teaching will continue with our understanding "One God." We will search the scriptures for examples of the Greek word "*Theos*" which references our English word God.

In the Lord,

Ministry of Reconciliation

Son of God through Jesus Christ Ambassador for Christ