



"He shall call upon me, Thou my **Father**, my God and the rock of my salvation!" (Psalm 89:26).

"For you are our Father, that Abraham does not know us, nor does Israel remember us. You, Yahweh, are our **Father**, your name is 'He who redeems us' from all time" (Isaiah 63:16).

The **Son** is also found in the Old Testament.

"He said to me, 'You are my **son**; I have begotten you this day' (Psalm 2:7).

"Honour the **Son**, that he may not be angry, and perish in the way; for his wrath is suddenly inflamed. Blessed are those who trust in him" (Psalm 2:12 KJV).

"I continued to behold in the visions of the night: And behold, in the clouds of heaven he came as a **Son** of man. He made his way to the Elder and was brought into his presence. To him was given dominion, honour, and kingdom, and all peoples, nations, and tongues served him. His empire is an everlasting empire, which will never pass away, and his kingdom will never be destroyed" (Daniel 7:13-14).



The **Third Member** of the Oneness and Trinity of God is also found throughout the Old Testament:

Genesis 1:2, Genesis 6:3, Exodus 31:3, Exodus 35:31, Numbers 11:17, Numbers 11:25,26,29; 24:2; 27:18; Judges 3:10, 6:34

1 Samuel 10:6, 1 Kings 18:12, 1 Chronicles 12:18, 2 Chronicles 24:20, Nehemiah 9:20, Job 33:4, Psalm 51:11, Psalm 104:30, Isaiah 30:1, Ezekiel 2:2, Ezekiel 39:29, Joel 2:28, Micah 2:7, Zechariah 4:6, Malachi 2:15, etc.



APOLOGETICAL CATECHESIS

DO WE FIND THE TRINITY IN THE OLD TESTAMENT?

Some sects say that the doctrine of the Holy Trinity contradicts the Holy Scriptures, and that there is no proof in the Old Testament.

Is there any evidence in the Bible that proves our faith in the Triune God?

The verse most often used to contradict the teaching of the Trinity is:

"Hear, O Israel: Yahweh our God is the **only** Yahweh" (Deuteronomy 6:4).

The word translated as unique is in Hebrew **ehad** which demonstrates a composite unity. Some examples of its use as a composite unit are:

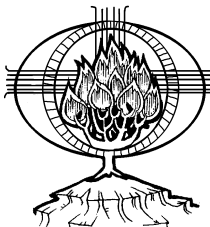
"Therefore, a man leaves his father and mother and cleaves his wife, and they become one (**ehad**) flesh" (Genesis 2:24).

"The whole congregation, united as one (**ehad**) man, was forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty" (Ezra 2:64).

But, in Hebrew, there is a word to express absolute unity: **yahid**. Here are some examples:

"He said to him, 'Take your son, your only one (**Yahid**), whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, whatever I tell you'" (Genesis 22:2).

"Do not stretch out your hand to the child or do anything to him, for now I know that you are God-fearing, since you have not withheld from me your son, your only one (**yahid**)" (v. 12).



"As for him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him as mourning for an only son (**Yahid**), and they shall mourn him bitterly as one mourns bitterly for a firstborn" (Zechariah 12:10).



ORTHODOX ANSWERS 17





The word *yahid* is **never** used to refer to God.

The Hebrew word translated God is He or *Elohim*. *Elohim* is the plural of *El*. The plural form is used 2607 out of the 2845 in which the word God is used in the Old Testament. The word *Elohim* is used as a plural 235 times to refer to the gods. But it is translated as God when referring to the Most High.



"I, Yahweh, am your God (*Elohim*), who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. There shall be no other gods for you (*Elohim*) before me" (Exodus 20:2-3).

Not only does the Bible use the plural word for God, but it speaks of Him as **Us**: "And God said, Let us make man in **our** image, as **our** likeness" (Genesis 1:26).

"Behold, man has become like one of **us**..." (Genesis 3:22).

"Come, let **us** therefore go down, and when we are there let **us** confound his language, so that every man may not understand his neighbour's" (Genesis 11:7).



"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go on **our** side?'" (Isaiah 6:8).

These verses show us that next to God were other Persons, in unity and equality with Him.

DOES THIS MEAN THAT THERE ARE MULTIPLE GODS?

God is our Lord. In Genesis 18:1-15, we read that God appeared to Abraham in the oak grove of Mamre.

In verse 2, God appears as "**three individuals** standing by his side" and in 18:13 he speaks **only one person**. This indicates the Triune and One nature of our God.

In Isaiah 48:16 we read, "Draw near to me and listen to this: From the beginning I have not spoken in secret, since it happened I am there. And now the Lord Yahweh is sending me with his spirit."



Who was from the beginning that the Lord God now sends with His Spirit? Here we see how the Three Persons of the Trinity are manifested.

There are not three Gods because God is ONE. But God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

There are many other verses that demonstrate the Oneness and Trinity of the Lord throughout Scripture:

"Who ascended to the heavens and came down again? Who has gathered wind in their palms? Who held the waters in his mantle? Who established the boundaries of the land? **What's his name and his son's name**, if you know?" (Proverbs 30:4).

"Behold, my servant whom I (**God the Father**) uphold, my elect (**the Son**) in whom my soul is well pleased. I have set my spirit (**the Holy Spirit**) upon him: he will lay down law to the nations." (Isaiah 42:1).

"The spirit of the Lord Yahweh (**the Holy Spirit**) is upon me (**the Son**), because Yahweh (**the Father**) has anointed me" (Isaiah 61:1).

Thus, the Old Testament reveals the Christian concept of the Godhead, God is one God, composed of Three Persons. How can God simultaneously be singular and plural?

It would be a logical impossibility if God were constrained by the three dimensions of space and the dimension of time of our physical universe. If mathematics says we can't understand the concept of infinity, how can we understand the Infinity of God?

In the Old Testament we not only see the plurality of God and His Unity, but we also see the three Persons of the Trinity defined.

Many verses in the Old Testament tell us that God is our **Father**:

"Thus, do you repay Yahweh, you foolish and foolish people? Is he not your **father**, the one who created you, the one who made you and founded you?" (Deuteronomy 32:6).

