## THE POWER OF THE ONE GOD DOCTRINE

Gen 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

As long as Adam and Eve believed that God is one and walked with the word of God (voice of God), they enjoyed paradise and knew no shame, although they were naked. Only those who believe that God is one alone and love the voice of God can stay in God's paradise. They will not know shame because the power of the one God doctrine will declare us innocent and cover our shame. The first time Adam and Eve heard anyone declare that God is not alone, was from the lying lips of Satan. Our first parents obviously knew that God is one – they met him on a regular basis; his voice and presence was one. Apostolic Christian, please beware, all Satan needs to do to cast us out of paradise is to help us believe in the existence of more than one God. What was the result? When we no longer believe in one God, it is not possible for us to respond to his call. Adam and Eve hid themselves; they could not answer the one God. Thank God we can respond to the call of God today because we believe he is one and alone. Remember that Adam and Eve did not know what fear was before this time. A new emotion, which they had never experienced before, entered their universe – they were filled with fear and trembling.

**James 2:19** Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

People of God, there is a fear and trembling which we should avoid at all costs – the fear of the consequences of denying the one God. To all other human fears God says, "fear not." However, there is no cure for the fear that comes from denying that God is one.

Whatever fear we may have I pray will not arise from denying that God is one and alone. The rest of the Bible is really about restoring humans back to paradise through belief in the first and greatest of all commandments. Remember, it was not the Jews but Jesus who declared Deut 6:1 the greatest of all commands.

*Mark 12:29* And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord.

God found a man named Abraham who believed uncompromisingly that God is one. Through the life of Abraham, we learn that we must be willing to leave our countries, cities and even families for the sake of this greatest of all commandments. "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Hebrews 11:10). Adam and Eve thought they could stay in Eden and believe in more than one God. God made Eden and God would never allow anyone who believed in more than one God to reside there. Abraham, on the contrary, rejected all other cities in this world because God did not build them; humans who worshipped other gods built them. In fact, many cities were dedicated to pagan deities. May we never be satisfied with cities built by humans who do not believe in the one and only God of Abraham! I like Stockholm, Oslo, London and Toronto but God did not build them. We cannot be satisfied in the cities of this world, like father Abraham.

One man named was chosen by God to write the story of the one God doctrine and its consequences upon many lives from Genesis to Deuteronomy. His name was Moses. Basically, God dictated to him the entire story of humanity and its relationship with the one God. Hence, no one else in the world was better placed to know the history and power of this doctrine than Moses did. Having written down the story of Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, himself and Aaron, the Levites etc. he understood more than anyone before him that Israel's destiny was connected to the greatest of all commands. He knew fully well that the only way Israel could enter and live peacefully in the Land of God's promise, Canaan, was through a careful and intimate understanding and love of the first command. So, Moses cleared his throat in the desert and no man since has declared these words with more conviction and burden than Moses:

**Deut 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

**Deut 6:5** And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

**Deut 6:6** And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

**Deut 6:7** And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

**Deut 6:8** And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

**Deut 6:9** And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

The greatest of all commands is not to be retained in the head alone, but in our hearts, souls and strength. How we treat the first command will determine our destiny – whether we can abide in the presence of God or must leave and experience fear and trembling.

One day, some fishermen by the Sea of Galilee heard footsteps approaching them. Then they heard a voice, the voice of God manifested in the flesh. Genesis 3:8 was repeating itself. God is always the God of a second chance. They heard the voice of the Lord God walking. He called out to these fishermen, and, thankfully, they did not run away and hide themselves. They had always waited for the Messiah – the one whom Moses and the prophets promised would come. "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory" (I Timothy 3:16). Who, according to the apostles, was this Jesus? The answer is clear.

**1John 1:1** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

**1John 1:2** (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;).

We have evidence that Jesus is the same one God of Moses and Abraham. When demons found themselves in the presence of Jesus they declared him to be the one God, trembled with fear and pleaded not to cast into hell before their time (the Devil knew the 666 had not yet come and other prophetic events; even the Devil knows to appeal to Scripture).

Luke 4:33 And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice.

**Luke 4:34** Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God.

**Matthew 8:29** And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

Notice the Devil knew who Jesus was – the holy one of God! He knew this, but did not love it with all his heart, mind and soul. He was not prepared to submit to God. On the contrary, ever since his rebellion, he had dedicated himself to the enemy of greatest of all commandments. Today, too sadly, there are people who will tell they love Jesus but are unwilling to declare that he is the only God – they can acknowledge Jesus as a member of a committee of 3 gods called the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. They refuse to acknowledge Jesus' own words about his relationship with the Father; that he is the Father himself.

**John 14:7** If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

John 14:8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. John 14:9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

I said earlier that the Bible is the story of humans who lost the way to paradise because they rebelled against the first and greatest of all commands. Thankfully, Thomas asked the question on behalf of all humanity - Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? (John 14:5). Now, God in his mercy, walked back into our lives and declares that he is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6). Jesus is the way that we lost; he is the way back to God's restoration – to paradise called the New Jerusalem. God said to Adam and Eve: where are you? Now he says to us: come and follow me! As was also said earlier, Moses was chosen to declare the greatest of all truths. What do we see in Matthew 17? The same Moses was summoned to stand as a witness for Jesus. The apostles duly took note. Finally, the Book of Revelation gives a glimpse into paradise restored. Notice clearly the emphasis on the one God.

**Rev 21:3** And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Rev 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Rev 21:6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Rev 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Our destiny is to return to the one God, Jesus Christ. This is the city and God that Abraham looked for. We are nearer to this city now than we first began, saints of God! Hear Moses shouting at the top of his voice – hear oh Christians, the Lord our God the Lord is one. It is not enough to just hear and receive this truth – we must love it with all our hearts, minds, souls and strength. This truth has been manifested in flesh – it has a name, Jesus. Just stay in Jesus, meditate on him, love him and obey him (Acts 2:38) – and you will end up in the New Jerusalem.

Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.