

THEOLOGY PROPER (32)

According to the testimony of God the Son, God the Father is a Spirit(John 4:24). This leads us to conclude that the similarity between God and man will not be found in the physical composition of a person, rather in the personality of a person. **We may legitimately conclude that God does have a personality and therefore may be classified as a person; something the Scriptures certainly support.** It is certainly true that the personality of God will be Divine, but it is also true that the personality of God will be real.

When we search the Scriptures we see that God as all the factors that are demanded in a real personality: 1) God has an Intellect; 2) God has Emotions; 3) God has a Will.

Real Personality Factor #1- God has an Intellect.

(Observation #1)- The intellect of God is Systematic. Gen.1; Jer.29:11; Rom.3:26

(Observation #2)- The intellect of God is Infinite. Ps.147:5; Rom.11:33-34

(Observation #3)- The intellect of God is Relational. Prov.2:5-6; Acts 15:18

By virtue of the fact that God's intellect has the ability to personally relate to people and to impart actual knowledge to them, we know He is a real Person. Although one may make observations about an animal, personal instruction does not come from an animal, it comes from a person.

Real Personality Factor #2- God has Emotions.

(Observation #1)- God can emotionally Hate. Prov.6:16-19

(Observation #2)- God can emotionally Love. Mal.1:2-3; John 3:16; I John 4:16

Real Personality Factor #3- God has a Will.

(Observation #1)- God's uses His will to do what He Pleases. Ps.115:3; 135:6

(Observation #2)- God uses His will to do what He Purposes. Is.46:10; Prov. 16:4

(Observation #3)- God uses His will working Everywhere. Prov.16:9; 20:24; Dan.4:35

(Observation #4)- God uses His will in Salvation. James 1:18

We conclude Go is an actual Person and He possesses personality to the infinite, ultimate level.

THEOLOGY PROPER (33)

QUESTION #10 - Does the Bible teach that there is one God or three Gods?

If one is honest with the Bible, one must admit that the Bible clearly establishes that there is one God. It is true that something plural is indicated about God, but the Biblical record clearly establishes that **there is only one God!**

(Passage #1)- Ex. 20:2-5 - It is certainly implied in God's command to Moses.

(Passage #2)- Deut.4:35,39 - It is specifically stated in a charge from Moses to Israel.

(Passage #3)- Deut.6:4 - It is specifically stated in instruction from Moses to Israel.

(Passage #4)- Is. 44:6 - It is directly stated by Isaiah in his statement to Israel.

(Passage #5)- Jn.10:30 - It was specifically stated by Jesus Christ.

(Passage #6)- Rom.3:30 - It was the inspired testimony of Paul to the Romans.

(Passage #7)- I Cor.8:4 - It was the inspired testimony of Paul to the Corinthians.

(Passage #8)- Eph.4:6 - It was the inspired testimony of Paul to the Ephesians.

Both the OT. and the NT. directly state and imply that there are not three Gods; there is only one God. Whether or not one accepts this is a matter of faith, but whether or not the Bible teaches this is a matter of fact.

QUESTION #11 - Does the Bible teach that there are three distinct Persons in One God?

Another way to ask this question is: Does the Bible teach the existence of a Trinity? As we have already seen the Bible does make the clear statement that there is only One God. Now the question arises concerning the Trinity. Singularity is clearly taught concerning God, but does the Bible also teach a plurality in connection with God? Charles F. Baker appropriately stated: "That God is both one and three appears to be contradictory at first sight. However, it must be understood at the outset that God is not three in the same sense that He is one He is not three persons and one person, nor is He three Gods and one God. He is three persons in one God." (Baker, p.149)

When we ask, the question does the Bible teach the existence of a Trinity, we are not asking does the Bible teach Tritheism- belief that there are three Gods; we are not asking does the Bible teach Polytheism- the belief that there are many Gods; we are asking does the Bible teach Trintarianism - the belief that there is one God, yet three distinct Persons. The plain answer to the question whether or not the Bible teaches that there are three distinct Persons to the Godhead, yet one God is an absolute, emphatic Yes!

(Fact #1)- This is the only conclusion that makes sense of God's Name (Elohim) with the use of a singular verb (Gen.1:1,3,4,5).

(Fact #2)- This is the only conclusion that makes sense of plural Pronouns used in singular contexts (Gen.1:26; Is.6: 8).

(Fact #3)- This is the only conclusion that makes sense of the Three repetitions of "Holy" used in connection to God's holiness (Is.6:3-note singular pronoun "His").

(Fact #4)- This is the only conclusion that makes sense of co-equal Statements concerning co-equal significance (Mt.28:19; Jude 20-21; II Cor. 13:14).