

THE GODHEAD

Mankind has always wanted to enumerate gods, and those nations that were around Israel had done just that. They had a different god for everything that they did and would worship them with different rituals and sacrifices. When we consider that there were about 38 different gods being worshipped it is no wonder why God wanted it to be clear to Israel that He was the only one that was to be worshipped and that He would care for all their needs.

The scriptures are quite clear that there is only one God, and that the one God is made up of three different individuals or entities. To some this is very confusing but our beliefs are founded in the word of God and aren't really complicated at all. Both the Bible and Book of Mormon are in agreement about this subject.

Deuteronomy 6:4 says, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord:"

Definitions:

The Hebrew word used here for God is the same word that is used from the beginning of the book of Genesis and is used in about 90% of the scriptures containing the word God throughout the Old Testament. The Hebrew word for God is **elohiym**, which is Strong's number: 430, which means, "plural of 433; gods in the ordinary sense; but specifically used (in the plural thus, especially with the article) of the supreme God." We see an example of this in Genesis 1:26 "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

The next Hebrew definition that we will consider is the word "one" which is the Hebrew word "echad" which is #259 in the Strong's and it means "a numeral from 258; prop. United, i.e. one; or (as an ordinal) first:- a, alike, alone, altogether, ...". This definition is the first definition from the primary root word, which is #258 **achad**, which means to unify. The Hebrew word used for "one" in Deuteronomy 6:4 is the same word used in Genesis 2:24 which says, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."

In the New Testament the Greek word used for one is the word **HEIS**, which is Strong's, number 1520, and it has several meanings. VINE'S Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words says that this Greek word is used metaphorically as, union and concord, and specifies the following scriptures:

John 10:29-30 "My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one."

John 17:11, 20- 23, "11 And now I-am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou,

Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

1 John 5:7-8 "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one."

VINE'S also says that the word one in these verses in 1st John means, "(lit., 'and the three are into one,' i.e., united in one and the same witness)"

Plural Forms of the One True God

Psalm 110:1 "The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool."

Notice that two different words are used to describe the Lord and this was written before Christ was born in the flesh.

LORD from 3068 – Yehovah – (the) self – Existant or Eternal; Jehovah
Lord from 113 – to rule – sovereign, i.e. controller – human or divine

Hebrews 1:8-9 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. 9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

2nd Nephi 13:32 "And now behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, and the only and true doctrine of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, which is one God, without end. Amen."

Alma 8:104 "And shall be brought and be arraigned before the bar of Christ the Son, and God the Father, and the Holy Spirit, which is one eternal God, to be judged according to their works, whether they be good or whether they be evil."

John 1:1-3,14 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

John calls Jesus "the Word" (Gk. *Lōgos*). In using this designation for Christ, John presents Him as the personal Word of God and indicates that in these last days God has spoken to us by his Son. The "Word's relation to the Father. (a.) Christ was preexistent

“with God” before the creation of the world. He was a person existing from the beginning distinct from but in eternity with God the Father. (b) Christ was divine “the Word was God”, having the same nature and essence as the Father. Colossians 2:9 (c) Christ was the Only Begotten of the Father. This term in Greek means “only-born, i.e. sole: - only (begotten, child).

2nd Nephi 11:21-22 “But, behold, they shall have wars, and rumors of wars; and when the day cometh that the Only Begotten of the Father, yea, even the Father of heaven and of earth, shall manifest himself unto them in the flesh, behold, they will reject him, because of their iniquities, and the hardness of their hearts, and the stiffness of their necks. 22 Behold, they will crucify him, and after he is laid in a sepulcher for the space of three days, he shall rise from the dead, with healing in his wings, and all those who shall believe on his name, shall be saved in the kingdom of God;”

It was through Christ that God the Father created and now sustains the world.

Hebrews 1:1-2 “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;”

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

3rd Nephi 4:44-45 Behold I am Jesus Christ, the son of God. I created the heavens and the earth, and all things that in them are. 45 I was with the Father from the beginning. I am in the Father, and the Father in me; and in me hath the Father glorified his name.

Christ the Image of God

Hebrews 1:1-13 “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

The Word image means, “a graver (the tool or person), i.e. (by impl.) engraving, (character), the figure stamped, i.e. an exact copy or (fig.) representation: - express image, Strong’s #5481. VINE’S says that this phrase “expresses the fact that the Son is both personally distinct from, and yet literally equal to, Him of whose essence He is the adequate imprint”. We know that an image is a copy.

Colossians 1:15-19 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For 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: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

John 5:37 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.

1 John 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

John 12:44-45 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. 45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.

John 14:7-10 If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. 8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. 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? 10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

Plural Manifestations of God in Scripture

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. 10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. 13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

1st Nephi 1:7-9 And being thus overcome with the Spirit, he was carried away in a vision, even that he saw the heavens open, and he thought he saw God sitting upon his throne, surrounded with numberless concourses of angels in the attitude of singing and praising their God. 8 And it came to pass that he saw one descending out of the midst of heaven, and he beheld that his luster was above that of the sun at noon-day; 9 And he also saw twelve others following him, and their brightness did exceed that of the stars in the firmament; and they came down and went forth upon the face of the earth;

Matthew 3:16-17 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Acts 7:55-56 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

See also Mark 9:2-8, 3rd Nephi 5:6-12, and Revelation 5:1-13

Who was speaking to Moses and the Prophets?

The scriptures are clear as to who was doing the speaking in the Old Testament. Let's read a few scriptures and then consider the scripture you referenced in Isaiah 43.

3rd Nephi 5:14 And it came to pass that the Lord spake unto them, saying, Arise and come forth unto me, that ye may thrust your hands into my side, and also that ye may feel the prints of the nails in my hands, and in my feet, that ye may know that I am the God of Israel, and the God of the whole earth, and have been slain for the sins of the world.

1st Corinthians 10:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

3rd Nephi 7:5-6 Behold, I say unto you, that the law is fulfilled that was given unto Moses. 6 Behold, I am he that gave the law, and I am he who covenanted with my people Israel; therefore, the law in me is fulfilled, for I have come to fulfill the law; therefore, it hath an end.

It is now much plainer when we read in Isaiah 43, and take into account that it is Christ who is speaking with Isaiah and giving him the words to write.

Isaiah 43: 10-15 Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. 11 I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour. 12 I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God. 13 Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it? 14 Thus saith the Lord, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; For your sake I have sent to Babylon, and have brought down all their nobles, and the Chaldeans, whose cry is in the ships. 15 I am the Lord, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King.

Christ is the only begotten of the Father and there was no one formed before or after him. It is also true that there is no other savior beside Him, as we are told all through the scripture, when it says, there is no other name whereby man can be saved except through Christ. It is also true that Christ was the one that was to redeem mankind from the fall, and He was the Holy One of Israel, having created this earth and all things that are in it, including Israel. This in itself made Him the Father as well as the Son.

This is how a Christian should understand the Godhead vs. multiplying or enumerating Gods.

1st Corinthians 8:4-6 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one. 5 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) 6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

Ephesians 1:2-3 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

Galatians 1:1-5 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;) 2 And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia: 3 Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: 5 To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Godhead

The Trinity _____, _____, _____ are One
2nd Nephi 13:32; 1st John 5:7

What does it mean one - John 17:20-21, Genesis 2:24; Deuteronomy 6:4

Elohim Genesis 1:1

- Hebrew for "the Gods, objects of worship" "El" according to Strong's number: 410 (Hebrew); strength; as adjective, mighty; especially the Almighty.
- "Elohim" is a plural version of "El" and often interpreted as "God" Example - Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning _____ created..." Here "God" is from Strong's number: 430 Hebrew: 'elohiyim Pronunciation: el-o-heem' specifically used (in the plural thus, of the supreme God.

Genesis 1:26 Shows plural words of this event - Let _____, in _____

Thus the Father, Son and Holy Ghost constitute *Elohim*, yet each are also separate entities as described in the following article.

1. The Heavenly Father

- _____ (Matthew 25:34; Mark 13:32; John 6:38-40; 12:49-50; 1st Nephi 3:28; Alma 9:49)
- _____ (James 1:17; Moroni 8:19)
- _____ (Matthew 3:17; Revelation 3:14; 2nd Nephi 13:14; 3rd Nephi 5:8)

2. The Son, Jesus Christ

- _____ (Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3; Mosiah 8:29; Ether 1:80-81)
- _____ (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:3; Mosiah 1:102; 3rd Nephi 4:44; Ether 1:101)
- _____ (Titus 2:10-13; 1st Nephi 5:233-240; 3rd Nephi 7:6)
- _____ (John 5:22; Romans 14:10-12; 2nd Corinthians 5:10; 3rd Nephi 12:26-29)
- _____ (Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8; 2nd Nephi 12:62; Moroni 8:19)
- _____ (Acts 4:10-12; Helaman 2:71; 3rd Nephi 4:47-51)
- _____ (Hebrews 9:23-24; 1st John 2:1)

3. The Holy Ghost (Spirit)

- _____ (John 14:15-26; 16:7; Moroni 8:29)
- _____ (John 16:13)
- _____ (1John 5:6-8; 2Nephi 13:26; 3Nephi :37-38)
- _____ (2nd Nephi 13:14-17)
- _____ (Romans 8:26-27)
- _____ (1st Corinthians 12:1-11; Moroni 10:7-12)

The Godhead

The most common belief in today's churches is that Jesus Christ and the Heavenly Father are the same entity. They have abandoned the idea that Jesus was the SON of God.

Three in One – Trinity are one -

2nd Nephi 13:32; 1st John 5:7; 3 Nephi 9:23,30

What does it mean by "One"? John 17:20-21, Genesis 2:24; Deuteronomy 6:4

Elohim Genesis 1:1

- Hebrew for "the Gods, objects of worship" "El" according to Strong's number: 410 (Hebrew); strength; as adjective, mighty; especially the Almighty.
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Genesis 1:26 Shows plural words of this event - Let **us**, in **our**

Thus the Father, Son and Holy Ghost constitute *Elohim*, yet each are also separate entities as described in the following article.

1. Father - he is a spirit

- a. Author of the master plan for all things (Matthew 25:34; Mark 13:32; John 6:38-40; 12:49-50; 1st Nephi 3:28; Alma 9:49)
- b. Does not change (James 1:17; Moroni 8:19)
- c. Created a Son, Jesus Christ (Matthew 3:17; Revelation 3:14; 2nd Nephi 13:14; 3rd Nephi 5:8)

2. Son

- a. Fleshly Image of God (Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3; Mosiah 8:29; Ether 1:80-81)
- b. Creator of All Things (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:3; Mosiah 1:102; 3rd Nephi 4:44; Ether 1:101)
- c. Jesus is called "God" (Titus 2:10-13; 1st Nephi 5:233-240; 3rd Nephi 7:6)
- d. Will Judge Mankind (John 5:22; Romans 14:10-12; 2nd Corinthians 5:10; 3rd Nephi 12:26-29)
- e. He Does Not Change (Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8; 2nd Nephi 12:62; Moroni 8:19)
- f. Only Way of Redemption (Acts 4:10-12; Helaman 2:71; 3rd Nephi 4:47-51)
- g. Advocate (Hebrews 9:23-24; 1st John 2:1)

3. Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit, Comforter)

- a. The Comforter (John 14:15-26; 16:7; Moroni 8:29)
- b. Guide you into all Truth (John 16:13)
- c. Bears Witness of the Truth (1st John 5:6-8; 2nd Nephi 13:26; 3rd Nephi 5:37-38)
- d. A Gift from the Father (2nd Nephi 13:14-17)
- e. Makes Intercession for us (Romans 8:26-27)
- f. Deliverer of Gifts from Father (1st Corinthians 12:1-11; Moroni 10:7-12)