

THE FATHER AND THE SON,
The Splendor of Dichotomy; The Joy of Submissive Unity

Joe Martin, Theological Conference 2017

Walter Bauer challenged the whole of Christianity and current orthodoxy in his book, *Orthodoxy and Heresy in Earliest Christianity*. In it he said, “must not the historian, like the judge, preside over the parties and maintain as a primary principle the dictum *audiatur et alter pars* [let the other side be heard]?” (xxi) We are that other side at this point, but things are changing. Or in the words of Bob Dylan, “The Times They Are A Changin’” (circa 1964) Bauer is cited by Dunn, Ehrman, Hurtado, etc. as the basis of a new review of what first century Christianity believed. Hurtado in his book *One God, One Lord* (2005), says “It is the thesis of this book that a historical understanding of the rise of Jesus veneration must include both factors... ‘divine agency’... and that early Christian religious experiences produced... the cultic veneration of God’s chief agent, in this case the risen Christ.” (12) Hurtado’s response to a question at the SBL session (2015) on the gospel of Mark, “Did Jesus ever think he was God?” His response was an emphatic “Hell no!” Our dilemma today is to honor God, the overwhelming theme of the Bible, but also to honor Jesus as the true biblical human Messiah, the Son of God. I see this clear distinction in the notion of “The Father AND the Son, a true dichotomy of God and man (I Tim.2:5) Yet a dichotomy brought together in Jesus’ absolute submission to YHWH, our and his Abba Father.

I will do a message but will type up a few thoughts, waxing a little nostalgic in songs. I have finally figured out some of my phone’s music capabilities, and with the installation of a new Bluetooth radio, can bring up songs I appreciate, put them in my “Christian Playlist,” and get loud in my vehicle! You can generally purchase individual songs for about ninety-nine cents or a whole album for about seven dollars.

One of my recent purchases was “*Good Good Father*” (Chris Tomlin) :

I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like

But I've heard the tender whispers of love in the dead of night

And you tell me that you're pleased

And that I'm never alone

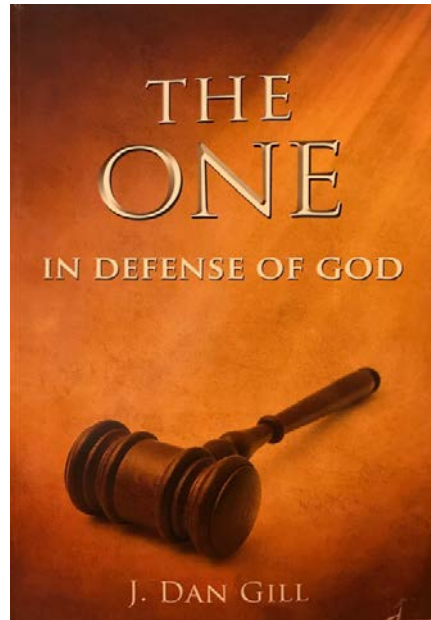
You're a good good father...

It's who you are, It's who you are...

You are perfect in all of your ways... (Play song?)

How could enough be said about Abba YHWH?

In Dan Gill’s book, *THE ONE*, his chapter five is most interesting, *Monotheism, An Insufficient Truth*. He says, “To them [God’s prophets], it would not matter whether people believed in one god or not, if that one God is not YHWH... . He is their Father (Deut. 32:6).” (p. 87) People who say they are monotheist can and do in fact may be more bi-theists, or tri-theists, or poly-theists. An example he gives is Hindus, who may believe in many, even millions of “manifestations” of God, but feel still there is one God. (90)



In a stirring challenge for Levites, teachers, priests Malachi says:
⁷ ***"For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD [YHWH] of hosts..."***

¹⁰ ***"Do we not all have one father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously each against his brother so as to profane the covenant of our fathers?" (Mal 2:7-10 NAU)*** YHWH is that ONE FATHER, ONE GOD!

IN THE BEGINNING GOD

These are **four** simple words that explain the origin of our creation and the cosmos. I love thinking about cosmology, parallel universes, multi-verses, the third heaven, black holes, dark matter, quarks and quirks. ☺ Here is a quick peek at historical cosmology and the ultimate end:

Timeline of cosmologies: (extremely abbreviated)

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_cosmological_theories)

16th century BCE — Mesopotamian cosmology has a flat, circular Earth enclosed in a cosmic ocean

4th century BCE — Aristotle proposes an Earth-centered universe (*have joke here!*)

3rd century BCE — Aristarchus of Samos proposes a Sun-centered universe

6th century — John Philoponus proposes a universe that is finite in time and argues against the ancient Greek notion of an infinite universe

13th century — Nasīr al-Dīn al-Tūsī provides the first empirical evidence for the Earth's rotation on its axis

- 15th century** — Ali Qushji provides empirical evidence for the Earth's rotation on its axis and rejects the stationary Earth theories of Aristotle and Ptolemy
- 1687** — Sir Isaac Newton's laws describe large-scale motion throughout the universe
- 1755** — Immanuel Kant asserts that the nebulae are really galaxies separate from, independent of, and outside the Milky Way Galaxy
- 1848** — Edgar Allan Poe offers first correct solution to Olbers' paradox in *Eureka: A Prose Poem*, an essay that also suggests the expansion and collapse of the universe
- 1905** — Albert Einstein publishes the Special Theory of Relativity, positing that space and time are not separate continua
- 1915** — Albert Einstein publishes the General Theory of Relativity, showing that an energy density warps spacetime
- 1929** — Edwin Hubble demonstrates the linear redshift-distance relation and thus shows the expansion of the universe [compare- "Doppler effect"]
- 1950** — Fred Hoyle coins the term "Big Bang"
- 1966** — Stephen Hawking and George Ellis show that any plausible general relativistic cosmology is singular

The future? : The **heat death of the universe** is a plausible ultimate fate of the universe in which the universe has diminished to a state of no thermodynamic free energy and therefore can no longer sustain processes that increase entropy.

OR... "And there will be no night there and light will not be needed for them or a lamp or the light of the sun, because the LORD God illuminates them and their king, forever and ever." (Rev 22:5 MGI)

At a tour of the Atlanta Temple, the largest synagogue in Atlanta, we Columbia Theological Students queried the rabbi. I asked, "Where do Jews start arguing over biblical issues?" He said the FIRST WORD, bereshiyth, בְּרֵאשִׁית. The Hebrew is "B" for "in" and "reshiyth" for "beginning." In the beginning... whose beginning, what beginning, the angels beginning, humans beginning, God's beginning, etc.

My understanding is that this is "our beginning." Angels were already there. "When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" (Job 38:7 KJV) Sons of God = בְּנֵי אֱלֹהִים , or Carlos "Benelohim?" ☺

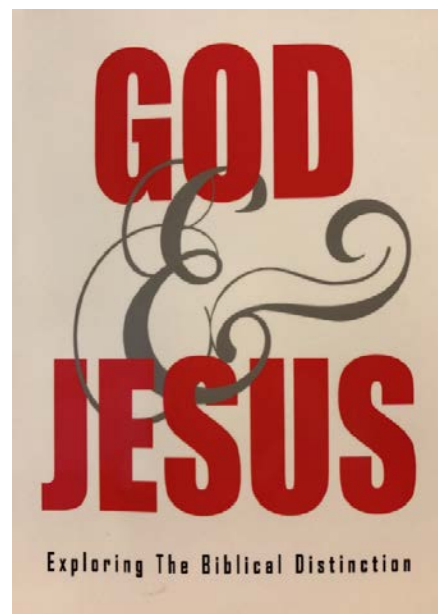
YHWH ELOHENU
YHWH ECHAD

Deut. 6:4

Again, here is a challenge to simplicity, since “in many words there is emptiness. Rather, fear God.” (Ecc. 5:7 NASB) Though God is the most complex complicated entity thought of, He presents himself... straightforward, simply, plain, transparent, uncomplicated, intelligible, reasonable, lucid, etc. (thesaurus.com) Jesus brilliantly affirms this truth in Mark 12:29, “Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments *is*: `Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.” (Mark 12:29 NKJ) This One, **Echad, Eis**, is a particular ONE, not a multiple manifestation one, not a schizophrenic personality one, He is YHWH our Father, and the Father of Jesus, and Jesus’ God as well, John 20:17. “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” (NIV) YOUR God is not Jesus. YOUR God is YHWH, Abba Father. Jesus is His Son!

Baruch Atah Adonay YHWH Elohenu Melech Ha Olam

At one theological conference, I shared electronically the “over 700 times” Jesus is distinguished from the Father. Joel Hemphill acknowledged this list when he produced one of his books , **God & Jesus**. (ISBN: 978-0-9825196-5-3)



The “dichotomy” is clear! Dichotomy, **a division two things... .** OR “... a division into two especially mutually exclusive ... entities.” (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dichotomy>) Yet, there is a splendor in this dichotomy, one is THE GOD, who is “not a man,” and the other is a human being yet Son of God. God is still God, and while Jesus was a true human being, and now he is a perfected human being that has been given God’s nature on the basis of his submission to the Father’s will. Luke 22:42, “not my will, but thy will be done!” P.S., We are given the same hope! “For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature... .” (2Pe 1:4 NASB) I want to live forever! I want to have no more death, mourning, crying or pain! (Rev. 21:4... and remember I have a broken back... tell story?)

My favorite review of YHWH, God is Exodus 34:6,7- the eight attributes. God shows up to Moses, pronounces his name, “⁶ So *Yahweh passed before him, and proclaimed,--Yahweh, Yahweh, A GOD of compassion, and favour,--Slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness and faithfulness:*

⁷ *Keeping lovingkindness to a thousand generations, Forgiving iniquity, and transgression, and sin, Though he leave not, utterly unpunished.”* (Exo 34:6-7 ROT) Basically, C, G, SA, AL, AT, ML, FWRS, YDNLTGU! (using the NIV mostly) These are repeated often. THIS IS GOD BY... GOD! Don't miss out on his personal self explanation!

The New Testament continues the true witness to the oneness of YHWH:

τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸν θεὸν

(John 17:3 BGT) Accusative as in the verse

ὁ μόνος ἀληθινός θεός (have slide?)

In nominative form

“This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” (John 17:3 NASB) What of the simple beauty that can be compared to “In the Beginning God... .” Do YOU want that eternal life with no death, mourning, crying or pain? Get to know the only true god.

& Jesus!

O Holy Night (...song?)

Regarding Jesus, John 17:3, for eternal life we must know The Only True God... AND Jesus Christ! I consider this the “Joy of Submissive Unity.” Luke 22:42, “Nevertheless, not my will, Thy will be done.” Another great current song is, *Thy Will Be Done* by Natalie Grant. It is a sad story about a miscarriage, yet submission to God's will and direction. Jesus humbled himself, he “did not grasp at equality with God.” How could he, he “... did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped.” (Phi 2:6 NASB)

I love the theology and Christology of Revelation 1:4-6. In verse four we see God, who IS, WAS, and IS TO COME. This is a great “Existing One,” YHWH, HALLELUYAH! In verse five, ... AND from Jesus. “And Jesus” occurs 134 times in the New Testament, this one in Rev. 1:5, may be the best. Notice the list... Christ,

Faithful Witness, Firstborn from the Dead, Ruler of Kings of the Earth, He Loved Us, He Washes us from Sins with His Own Blood, He Made us a Kingdom, Priests to His God and Father!

I also love the theology and Christology of Revelation 2 and 3. With each introduction to the churches(ESPTSPL), Jesus gives an attribute of who he is! This then is “Jesus by Jesus” as we saw “God by God” in Exodus 34:6,7. How does Jesus describe himself? It ...ADDS SKR, ADDS up for the SeeKeR?

Rev. 2:1- He is AMONG the churches in charge of the churches & angels...

Rev. 2:8- He DIED, was dead and has come to life, the first and last...

Rev. 2:12- He has the DOUBLE EDGED sword, the Word of God... (?)

Rev. 2:18- He is THE SON OF GOD...

Rev. 3:1- He is in charge of the SPIRITs and Stars (angels)

Rev. 3:7- He has the KEY of David (keys of the Kingdom!) & is holy and true

Rev. 3:14- He is the RULER of God’s creation(NIV) (cp. Rev.1:5)

archon/arche

A REBUT

(think of all the potential jokes!)

Google says, “ to claim or prove that (evidence or an accusation) is false.

synonyms: deny, contradict, controvert, repudiate, counter, attempt to refute, attempt to discredit;

1: to drive or beat back : REPEL

2a : to contradict or oppose by formal legal argument, plea, or countervailing proof

b : to expose the falsity of : REFUTE

(www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/rebut)

In John 10, the ultimate rebuttal is by Jesus against the Pharisees. Yes, Jesus said many challenging and controversial things to “stir them up” (remember “I can of my own self do nothing... .) and to get them to think. On this occasion, Jesus’ statement “I and the Father are one,” got them going. The Greek is **ἐγὼ καὶ ὁ πατήρ ἐν ἑσμεν**. (John10:30 BGT) They picked up stones to stone him! His reply, **rebuttal:**

³⁵ "If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken),

³⁶ do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God '?(John 10:35-36 NAU)

Again, four simple words in Greek:

υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ εἰμι (John 10:36 BGT)

If I ever got into an argument with my mother, (generally... would not happen with my father!) first I could be accused of “sassing my mama” which generally in the South requires corporeal punishment or in the least washing the mouth out with soap. If she rebutted in a substantially loud voice, “I SAID...”, repeating her already noted commands, I surely should listen and revise my attitude. In response to Jesus being accused of usurping authority from God (cp. “grasping at equality”) He said, “*I SAID, ...***I AM THE SON OF GOD.**”

Write it down for the first graders and pseudo orthodoxy, He is the Son of God.

What did God say at Jesus’ baptism? “This is my son, my beloved!” (Mt. 3:17) **οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς μου ὁ ἀγαπητός** (Mat 3:17 BGT)

What did God say at the transfiguration? “This is my Son, my beloved, listen to him!” (Lk. 9:35) **οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς μου ὁ ἐκλελεγμένος, αὐτοῦ ἀκούετε.** (Luk 9:35 BGT)

What did God say to Jesus in the Passion week? Jesus cried out to His Father... ²⁷ "Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour '? But for this purpose I came to this hour.

²⁸ "Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came out of heaven: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." (Joh 12:27-28 NASB)

ὁ χριστός

¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

(Mat 16:15-17 NASB)

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become *the kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." (Rev 11:15 NAU)

THY WILL BE DONE

The absolute submission of Jesus to the total will of God allows for the true exaltation the Father gives to Jesus, to the right hand of God.

³⁹ And He went a little beyond *them*, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

⁴⁰ And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour?"

⁴¹ "Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

⁴² He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, "My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done."

⁴³ Again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

⁴⁴ And He left them again, and went away and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. (Mat 26:39-44 NASB)

²² I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

²³ And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. (Rev 21:22-23 NASB)

Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, (Rev 22:1 NASB)

Apologies to the dying earth notion.

To Jesus: *Baruch Atah Adonee Yeshua Melech ha Eretz
Blessed are you Lord Jesus King of the Earth/World*

I will live and die by the simple faith of God's straightforward plan:

In the Beginning God...

YHWH Elohenu YHWH Echad...

The Only True God... **ὁ μόνος ἀληθινός θεός**

& Jesus, who said... υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ εἰμι

THE Christ... **ὁ χριστὸς**

Who said, THY WILL BE DONE...

And... **Seek First the Kingdom of God** and His Righteousness

Progress? According to Barna, most Millenials do not think Jesus is God... .
Also... [Survey Finds Most American Christians Are Actually Heretics](#)

By [G. Shane Morris](#)
OCTOBER 10, 2016

[A survey of 3,000 people conducted by LifeWay Research](#) and commissioned by Ligonier Ministries...

We're an Embarrassment to Heretics Everywhere

...**More than half** went on to indicate that Jesus is "the first and greatest being created by God,"

...It's one thing for Americans in general to lack basic theological knowledge. After all, many of the [75 percent of the country who call themselves Christians](#) don't take their faith that seriously...

Not surprisingly, this group Christmas-treed the survey, espousing all kinds of unorthodox views.

Fifty-six percent agreed that “the Holy Spirit is a divine force but not a personal being.” They also saw a huge increase in evangelicals (28 percent, up from 9 percent) who indicated that the Third Person of the Trinity is not equal with God...

[a recent Barna survey](#) conducted for the American Bible Society, which found that less than half the country can name the first five books of the Old Testament, and that a similar number think John the Baptist was one of Jesus’s twelve disciples. *G. Shane Morris is a senior writer at [BreakPoint](#), a program of the Colson Center for Christian Worldview.*