

THE TRINITY

Historically the nature of God has been referred to as the Trinity. This means that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are three separate persons which constitute only one God. The word "Trinity" is not in the Bible. This simply is the name of a doctrine or idea that is taught in the Bible. Often people who do not believe in the doctrine of the Trinity define the word incorrectly. Then they set out to prove that the false definition is un-biblical, which of course it is — because they incorrectly defined it. Let me try to explain the doctrine of the “Trinity” as clearly as I can:

God the Father is called “God”, but this does not mean that He is Jesus, nor does it mean that He is the Holy Spirit. The Father is called “God” in Romans 1:7 : "to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ".

Jesus the Son is called “God”, but this does not mean that He is the Father, nor does it mean He is the Holy Spirit. Jesus is called “God” in John 1:1 and 14 (1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (14) And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (Notice this states that God became flesh. In the context this is Jesus. See also Philippians 2:5-8 Jesus is also called “God” in John 20:27-29 “Then He said to Thomas, ‘Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side; and be not unbelieving but believing.’ Thomas answered and said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see and yet believed.’” (Notice that Jesus did not rebuke Peter when he called him Lord and God. The conclusion is that Jesus is God the Son.)

The Holy Spirit is called “God”, but this does not mean that He is the Father, nor does it mean that He is Jesus. The Holy Spirit is called God in Acts 5:3-4 “But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back some of the price of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God.’”(Notice Peter stated that Ananias lied to the Holy Spirit; then in the next breath, he states that this was “God” Ananias lied to.)

The Holy Spirit speaking in New Testament is God speaking in Old Testament

Consider also Hebrews 3:7-11 “Therefore, just as the **Holy Spirit** says, ‘Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as when they provoked **Me**, as in the day of trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tried **me** by testing **me**, and saw **My** works for forty years. Therefore, **I** was angry with this generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart; and they did not know **My** ways’; As I swore in My wrath, ‘they shall not enter My rest.’”

(Notice we are told that the Holy Spirit is the one who says He was provoked and swore in His wrath “they shall not enter my rest”.)

Psalms 95:6-11 says, “Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel **before the LORD our maker. For He is our God**, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the wilderness; When your fathers tested **me**, they tried **me**, though they had seen **My** work. For forty years **I** loathed that generation, and said they are a people who err in their heart, and they do not know **My** ways. Therefore, I swore in My anger, truly they shall not enter into My rest.”

Here we are told that our Lord our maker is God. It is He that was provoked and swore in His wrath "they shall not enter into my rest". The conclusion is God the Holy Spirit said this(see also Numbers 14:22-23) For a similar reference where we have God speaking in the Old Testament and in the New Testament it refers to the Holy Spirit as the speaker, compare Isaiah 6:8-10 with Acts 28:25-27.

We have just seen that the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit are all called "God"

Father, Son & Holy Spirit are all separate

These three are all called God, yet they are also three separate persons. These are not three names for the same person. One passage that clearly shows they are all separate is John 14:16-17 (Jesus is the one speaking here): "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you".

This passage indicates that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct persons.

All three — the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit — are called God, and they are three separate persons. Yet the Bible does not teach that there are three Gods. There is only one God. These three Persons constitute only one God.

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

Isaiah 44:6-8 "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel **and** his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides me. And who is like me? Let him proclaim and declare it; yes, let him recount it to me in order, from the time that I established the ancient nation. And let them declare to them the things that are coming and the events that are going to take place. Do not tremble and do not be afraid; have I not long since announced it to you and declared it? And you are My witnesses. Is there any God besides me, or is there any other Rock? I know of none.'"

Did you notice King of Israel and his Redeemer seem to be speaking of more than one? Then He says, "I am the first and I am the last and there is no God besides Me". This is a singular statement. Then He asks if there are any other Gods besides Him, and states that He (God) does not know of any! How can there be other Gods that even God himself knows nothing about?

Isaiah 43:10: "'You are My witnesses,'" declares the LORD, 'And My servant whom I have chosen, in order that you may know and believe me, and understand that I am He. Before me there was no God formed, and there will be none after me.'".

(This even states there will be no other Gods in the future!)

So, what we have so far is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: three separate persons. All three persons are referred to as "God", and there is only one God. We find this in creation also. All three are called the "creator", and there is only one creator

THE FATHER IS THE CREATOR

Isaiah 45:18 “For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), ‘I am the LORD, and there is none else’”

(See also Isaiah 42:5 and 1 Cointhians.8:6).

JESUS IS CREATOR

Colossians 1:13-16:“For He delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created by Him and for Him”

(See also John 1:3, Hebrews 1:2, 1 Corinthians 8:6).

THE SPIRIT IS CREATOR

Job 26:13: “By His spirit He hath garnished the heavens; His hand hath formed the crooked serpent.”

Genesis 1:2:“And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters”

(See also Psalms 104:30).

GOD CREATED BY HIMSELF

Isaiah 44:24 “Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and the One who formed you from the womb, I, the LORD, am the maker of all things, stretching out the heavens by myself, and spreading out the earth all alone.’

“He could not say he created "by myself" and "all alone" if the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit were three separate Gods. To some people these verses seem to conflict with each other. They are not however in conflict at all — the answer is these three persons constitute only one God.

Deuteronomy 6:4 "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

We find further plurality in the one God in the Old Testament. For example:

Genesis 1:26-27 “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Notice that "Us" and "Our" are plural, while "His" and "He" are singular. My point again is the plurality in the one God. There are not three Gods, but rather three persons in the one God.

THE ENTIRE TRINITY REPRESENTED IN ONE PASSAGE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Consider Isaiah 48:12-16

12. "Listen to me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He; I am the first, I am also the last.

13. Surely My hand founded the earth, and My right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand together.

14. Assemble, all of you, and listen! Who among them has declared these things? The LORD loves him; he shall carry out His good pleasure on Babylon, and His arm shall be against the Chaldeans.

15. I, even I, have spoken; indeed, I have called him, I have brought him, and He will make his ways successful.

16. Come near to me, listen to this: from the first I have not spoken in secret, from the time it took place, I was there. And now the Lord GOD has sent me, and His Spirit."

Notice that in verse 12 God is the speaker, the one who has called Israel. He states, " I am He; I am the first, I am also the last" "I" and "He" are singular. Follow the context down and you will see that the speaker who is God and identifies himself as " I am He, I am the first, I am also the last", is also the same one speaking in verse 16. The context does not change speakers. Then this single person (God) speaking says "And now the Lord GOD has sent me, and His Spirit." In this text God is speaking, but says, 'the Lord God has sent me'. Not only has He sent Him, but He also says, "and His Spirit". What we have here is three separate persons in a singular God

We find unity in the New Testament in the -Trinity as well.

Matthew 3:16-17: “And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.’

Then, in Matthew 28:19: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

In these passages we can see that all three, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are separate and in unity.

We can see the Trinity in the birth of Christ as well

Matthew 1:20 “But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for that which has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.’”

That which was conceived in Mary was “of the Holy Spirit” — Jesus is not called the “Son of the Holy Spirit”, Jesus is called the “Son of God”. All three members of the Trinity are present here. Jesus refers to God the Father as His Father, yet that which was conceived in Mary was of the Holy Spirit.

Some find the Trinity confusing, making it hard for them to believe.

Yet, whether the concept of the Trinity is hard to understand is not the point. The point is, does the Bible teach the Trinity? We have seen that the Bible does teach the Trinity. Should it surprise us that God is somewhat complex? I do not fully understand the law of gravity, but I know if I step off a cliff I will fall even if I do not understand or “believe” in the law of gravity. The Bible teaches that there are three separate persons that constitute only one God therefore I believe it.

Comparing more of what they have in common

Following are some Biblical comparisons which sometimes cause people who have not yet grasped the teaching of Trinity to see Scriptural conflicts. First, we will see that both the Father and Jesus are called the first and the last. How many “first” and “last” (“Alpha” and “Omega”) can there be? The obvious answer—that there can be only one beginning and one end—There is only one God (Isaiah 44:8).

GOD THE FATHER AS FIRST AND LAST

Isaiah 41:4 "Who has performed and accomplished it, calling forth the generations from the beginning?' I, the LORD, am the first, and with the last. I am He."

Isaiah 44:6: "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides me.'"

Isaiah 48:12: "Listen to me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He, I am the first, I am also the last."

JESUS THE SON AS ALPHA AND OMEGA

Revelation 1:7-8 “Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So, it is to be. Amen. ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.’”

(Jesus is the one coming with the clouds; see Matthew 24:30, 26:64. Mark 13:26, 14:62, 1 Thessalonians.4:17.)

Revelation 1:17-18: “And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as a dead man. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying, ‘Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.’”

Revelation 22:13-16: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may enter by the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying. I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star.”

Next, we will see that your body is a temple of God, your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, and it is Christ that dwells in you. How can this be?
ANSWER: These three persons make only one God.

YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE OF GOD

2 Corinthians 6:16 “Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’”

1 Corinthians 3:16: “Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body.”

(Jesus\God paid the price, Acts 20:28.)

CHRIST DWELLS IN YOU

Galatians 2:20 “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.”

SHARED GLORY

Next, we will see that God will not give His glory to another. Yet Jesus shared this glory with Him (God). How can this be? ANSWER: They are One God.

Isaiah 42:8 “I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, nor My praise to graven images...”

John 17:5: "And now, glorify Thou Me together with Thyself, Father, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was."

THE RESURRECTION

Who raised Jesus from the dead? The answer is God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit all raised Jesus from the dead.

1 Corinthians 6:14 "Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power."

(See also Acts 2:24, Acts 13:30, Romans 6:4.)

John 2:19-21: "Jesus answered and said to them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews therefore said, 'It took forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?' But He was speaking of the temple of His body."

(See also John 10:17-18.)

Romans 8:11: "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you."

(See also 1 Peter 3:18.)

What about claims that the Trinity doctrine originated in the 3rd or 4th century?

One well-known organization that teaches this misconception is the Watchtower Organization, commonly referred to as the Jehovah Witnesses. It is easy to show that the doctrine known as the Trinity was not derived from the 3rd or 4th century. To illustrate, we will cite an individual from an earlier time-period.

Tertullian was a Christian theologian who lived 155-220 AD. The following quote by him can be found in Roberts, Alexander and Donaldson, James, Ante-Nicene Fathers: Volume III, Tertullian Against Praxeas, chapter 25

"What follows Philip's question, and the Lord's whole treatment of it, to the end of John's Gospel, continues to furnish us with statements of the same kind, distinguishing the Father and the Son, with the properties of each. Then there is the Paraclete or Comforter, also, which He promises to pray for to the Father, and to send from heaven after He had ascended to the Father. He is called 'another Comforter', indeed; but in what way He is another we have already shown, 'He shall receive of mine', says Christ, just as Christ Himself received of the Father's. **Thus the connection of the Father in the Son, and of the Son in the Paraclete, produces three coherent Persons, who are yet distinct One from Another. These Three are one essence**, not one Person, as it is said, 'I and my Father are One', in respect of unity of substance, not singularity of number." (Vol. 3 PDF pg. 1133-1134)

The following definition of "**Paraclete**" is by **Webster's Collegiate Dictionary 10th Edition**

Par.a.clete n [ME Paraclyte, fr. LL Paracletus, Paraclitus, fr. Gk Parakletos, lit., advocate, intercessor, fr. parakalein to invoke, fr. para- + kalein to call-more at low] (15c): **holy spirit**

Tertullian here is referring to John 14:9-16 where Jesus said He would ask of the Father and He would send the Holy Spirit, also referred to as “another Comforter” in the King James Version of the Bible. In this text, Tertullian identifies the Paraclete as the Holy Spirit. Notice he stated that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were three persons that were distinct from one another. He further stated that these three persons were one in essence. Tertullian just defined the- Trinity; and remember, he lived 155-220 AD.

Compare what Tertullian said to the following from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary

“TRINITY: The coexistence of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the unity of the Godhead (divine nature or essence). The doctrine of the trinity means that within the being and activity of the one God there are three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.”

We can go back even earlier than this. Ignatius was a disciple of the Apostle John who wrote the Gospel of John; 1, 2, and 3 John; and the book of Revelation in the New Testament. Ignatius had the distinct advantage that he could ask John questions, to clarify what he meant in his writings. We find that Ignatius also taught the Trinity (and the Apostle John personally taught Ignatius).

From Ante-Nicene Fathers: Volume I, The Epistle of Ignatius to the Philippians, Chapter I — “Reason for Writing the Epistle”

“BEING mindful of your love and of your zeal in Christ, which ye have manifested towards us, we thought it fitting to write to you, who display such a godly and spiritual love to the brethren, to put you in remembrance of your Christian course, ‘that ye all speak the same thing, being of one mind, thinking the same thing, and walking by the same rule of faith,’ as Paul admonished you.

For if there is one God of the universe, the Father of Christ, ‘of whom are all things;’ and one Lord Jesus Christ, our [Lord], ‘by whom are all things;’ and also one Holy Spirit, who wrought in Moses, and in the prophets and apostles; and also one baptism, which is administered that we should have fellowship with the death of the Lord; and also one elect Church; there ought likewise to be but one faith in respect to Christ. For ‘there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is through all, and in all.’”

Chapter II.— “Unity of the Three Divine Persons”:

“There is then one God and Father, and not two or three; One who is; and there is no other besides Him, the only true [God]. For ‘the Lord thy God,’ saith [the Scripture], ‘is one Lord.’ And again, ‘Hath not one God created us? Have we not all one Father?’ And there is also one Son, God the Word. For ‘the only-begotten Son,’ saith [the Scripture], who is in the bosom of the Father.’ And again, ‘One Lord Jesus Christ.’ And in another place, ‘What is His name, or what His Son’s name, that we may know?’ And there is also one Paraclete. For ‘there is also,’ saith [the Scripture], one Spirit,’ since ‘we have been called in one hope of our calling.’ And again, ‘We have drunk of one Spirit,’ with what follows. And it is manifest that all these gifts [possessed by believers] worketh one and the self-same Spirit.’ There are not then either three Fathers, or three Sons, or three Paracletes, but one Father, and one Son, and one Paraclete. Wherefore also the Lord, when He sent forth the apostles to make disciples of all nations, commanded them to ‘baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,’ not unto one [person] having three names, nor into three [persons] who became incarnate, but into three possessed of equal honour.”

(Vol. 1 PDF pg. 98)

Some cults, such as the Mormons, will take verses out of context to try and show there is more than one God. Jehovah Witnesses and others will also try to argue against the Trinity. Not only is the Trinity a Biblical doctrine, but it is also the historical teaching of the church

NO OTHER GODS

Mormons try to use the Bible to support the belief in more than one God, as well as the idea that man can become a God.

Mormons teach that there are three separate God's that make up the godhead that we call the Trinity. Therefore, I included this section as well to show there are no other Gods. This section will focus on some text Mormons use as proof text to show there are other gods as well as the Christian response against this false teaching.

Genesis 3:5

"For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

The speaker here is Satan; this is what he said to Eve, when he was tempting her to eat what God had already expressly forbidden. The following verse shows what Jesus said about Satan and should explain why I do not consider Satan's words a credible source upon which to build a doctrine.

John 8:44

"You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies."

Corinthians 8:1-6

- “1) **Now concerning things sacrificed to idols**, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.
- 2) If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know;
- 3) but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him.
- 4) Therefore, concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that there is no such thing as an idol in the world, and that **there is no God but one**.
- 5) For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords,
- 6) yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.”

Most Mormons I have talked to start reading this text right in the middle of verse 5. The context of this entire chapter concerns eating food that has been sacrificed to idols, as you can see in verse 1 here. In verse 4, Paul said there is no God but one. Then he goes on to talk about the idols, and calls them “so-called gods”, in verse 5, because the people considered these idols gods.

When Paul said there are many gods and many lords, he is still talking about the idols. There indeed were many idols that people considered a “god”, or a “lord”. But they were only idols, which amounts to nothing. There are many so-called gods today; “so-called” or false gods being the point. Paul says for us, there is but one God, the Father, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, because the Christian is not supposed to have anything to do with idols.

Satan is also called “god of this world” in 2 Corinthians 4:4, but he is no real God at all. He does not have any of God's attributes. He cannot create, nor does he possess the knowledge or power that God does. Satan’s title in this respect shows his authority or rule over this planet. He is even worshipped as God by some, but he is a false god who will end in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).

DOES JOHN 10 SHOW THAT THERE ARE OTHER GODS?

John 10:29-39

“ 29) ‘My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.

30) I and the Father are one.’

31) The Jews took up stones again to stone Him.

32) Jesus answered them, ‘I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?’

33) The Jews answered Him, ‘For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God.’

34) Jesus answered them. ‘Has it not been written in your Law, “I said, you are gods”?’

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”?

37) If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

38) but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.’

39) Therefore they were seeking again to seize Him, and He eluded their grasp.”

This text shows that Jesus claimed to be God in verse 30 by saying, “I and the Father are one”.

Verse 33 shows that this is how his enemies also interpreted His statement. Jesus then used Psalm 82:6 for his own defense. Let's look at that passage.

Psalm 82:1-8 (NAS)

- 1) "God takes His stand in His own congregation; He judges in the midst of the rulers.
- 2) How long will you judge unjustly, and show partiality to the wicked? Selah.
- 3) Vindicate the weak and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and destitute.
- 4) Recue the weak and needy; deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.
- 5) They do not know nor do they understand; they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6) I said, 'You are the gods, and all of you are the sons of the Most High.
- 7) Nevertheless you will die like men, and fall like any one of the princes.'
- 8) Arise, O God, judge the earth! For it is Thou who dost possess all the nations."

In the text that Jesus quoted from, we see that these men who were given the title of "gods" were, in fact, unjust judges. The title of "gods" was referring to their positions of authority as judges. See that in verse 1, God judges in the midst of the rulers. Who are these rulers? They are the ones who are judging unjustly (verse 2). They are then exhorted to act, as they should in their positions of authority (verses 3-5). These judges are reminded that they are called "gods". Also, they are sons of the Most High. We see in verse 7 that despite this position, they will die like men. Does this text sound like it is speaking of actual Gods, or judges? Not only does the context speak of actual judges, but also the Hebrew word that is translated as "gods" here is also translated as "judges" in Exodus 21:6 and 22:8-9.

The word “judges” below is the same Hebrew word translated as “gods” in Psalm 82:6.

You can verify this using the back of Strong’s Concordance.

Exodus 22:8

"If the thief is not caught, then the owner of the house shall appear before the judges, to determine whether he laid his hands on his neighbor's property."

Following are two definitions of this Hebrew word.

Strong’s

“430 'elohiym (el-o-heem');

plural of 433; gods in the ordinary sense; but specifically used (in the plural thus, especially with the article) of the supreme God; occasionally applied by way of deference to magistrates; and sometimes as a superlative:

KJV-- angels, X exceeding, God (gods)- dess, -ly), X (very) great, judges, X mighty.”

Brown-Driver-Briggs’

“430 'elohiym-

(plural) (a) rulers, judges (b) divine ones (c) angels (d) gods

(plural intensive -singular meaning) (a) God, a god, a goddess (b) god-like one

works or special possessions of God (d) the one true God (e) God”

Thus, the context of the 82nd Psalm is not only speaking of unjust judges, but the Hebrew word is sometimes translated as “judges”. These are merely men, not literal Gods.

Now back to our original text in John 10. Jesus claimed to be God by saying, “I and the Father are one” in verse 30. Even His enemies understood what He meant (verse 33). The Jews said they were going to stone Jesus because He, being a man, made Himself out to be God. Jesus then used the 82nd Psalm in His own defense. Jesus using this passage reminded His opponents that even mere men who were judges have been called gods in Scripture Certainly then; He who really was God had a right to the title. Jesus said they did not believe that He and the Father were one (i.e. God) by His own words. So, He challenged them to consider the works that He did, in order that they might know that “the Father is in me and I in the Father”. The Jews understood this again as a claim to be God; that is why they tried to seize Him (verse 39).

While the Book of Mormon is not the word of God, still I find it interesting that according to it, there are no other Gods.

Alma 11:21-29

“ 21) And this Zeezrom began to question Amulek, saying: Will ye answer me a few questions which I shall ask you? Now Zeezrom was a man who was expert in the devices of the devil, that he might destroy that which was good; therefore, he said unto Amulek: Will ye answer the questions which I shall put unto you? 22) And Amulek said unto him: **Yea, if it be according to the Spirit of the Lord, which is in me’ for I shall say nothing which is contrary to the Spirit of the Lord.** And Zeezrom said unto him: Behold, here are six onties of silver, and all these I will give thee if thou will deny the existence of a Supreme Being.

23) Now Amulek said: O thou child of hell, why tempt ye me? Knowest thou that the righteous yieldeth to no such temptations?

24) Believiest thou that there is no God? I say unto you, Nay, thou knowest that there is a God, but thou lovest that lucre more than him.

25) And now thou has lied before God unto me. Thou sadist unto me – Behold these six onties, which are of great worth, I will give unto thee – when thou hadst it in thy heart to retain them from me; and it was only thy desire that I should deny the true and living God, that thou mightiest have cause to destroy me. And now behold, for this great evil thou shalt have thy reward.

26) And Zeezrom said unto him: Thou sayest there is a true and living God?

27) And Amulek said: Yea, there is a true and living God.

28) **Now Zeezrom said: Is there more than one God?**

29) **And he answered, No.”**

HOW IS IT THAT GOD IS NOT AWARE OF ANY OTHER GODS, IF IN FACT THEY EXIST?

Isaiah 44:8

“Do not tremble and do not be afraid; have I not long since announced it to you and declared it? And you are My witnesses. Is there any God besides me, or is there any other Rock? I know of none.”

How can one become a "God", as the L.D.S. church teaches, if there was no God formed before Him and there will never be a God formed after Him?

Isaiah 43:10

“‘You are My witnesses,’” declares the LORD, ‘And My servant whom I have chosen, in order that you may know and believe me, and understand that I am He. Before me there was no God formed, and there will be none after me.’”

Deuteronomy 4:35

"To you it was shown that you might know that the LORD, He is God; there is no other besides Him."

Deuteronomy 4:39

"Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other."

Deuteronomy 32:39

"See now that I, I am He, and there is no god besides me; it is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded, and it is I who heal; and there is no one who can deliver from My hand."

Samuel 2:2

"There is no one holy like the LORD, indeed, there is no one besides Thee, nor is there any rock like our God."

Samuel 22:32

"For who is God, besides the LORD? And who is a rock, besides our God?"

Isaiah 44:6

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: `I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides me.'"

Isaiah 45:5-6

"I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known me; That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that there is no one besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other"

Isaiah 45:14

"Thus says the LORD, 'The products of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush And the Sabeans, men of stature, will come over to you and will be yours; they will walk behind you, they will come over in chains and will bow down to you; they will make supplication to you: Surely, God is with you, and there is none else, no other God.'"

Isaiah 45:21

"Declare and set forth your case; indeed, let them consult together. Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none except me."

Isaiah 46:9

"Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like me,"

Psalms 18:31

"For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God,"

Nehemiah 9:6

"Thou alone art the LORD. Thou hast made the heavens, the heaven of heavens with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. Thou dost give life to all of them and the heavenly host bows down before Thee."

James 2:19

"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." (KJV)

Psalms 96:5

"For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens."

The Mormon "First Article of Faith" (believing that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are three separate Gods) falls apart if there is only one God!

The Bible is very clear that there is only one God not three God's

As far as the Jehovah Witness this also shows that their idea of Jesus being a mighty god while Jehovah is the only Almighty God is false. All other gods are false gods and not really god at all.