

**HOPE OF
ISRAEL
MINISTRIES**

BIBLE

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE



The Hubble Space Telescope

How Do You *Know* YEHOVAH God Exists?

Lesson 31

An Open Letter from the Staff...

WE LIVE in an age of SKEPTICISM -- an age of doubt and disbelief! And no wonder.

Modern education has put a premium on MATERIALISM. The mere mention of "God" in the classroom provokes LAUGHTER and RIDICULE. Morality has been thrown to the wind!

IS YEHOVAH God a myth? An invention of an ignorant, superstitious past? This question still haunts many a mind. Let's understand the TRUTH!

Today theologians and ministers, who claim to be "Christian," are promulgating the idea that YEHOVAH God is DEAD -- or that He simply NEVER WAS!

It's time that "Christian Atheism" was exposed for the fraud that it is. Why do men want to believe YEHOVAH God is dead?

The answer is simple. Men do not want to admit the AUTHORITY of YEHOVAH God over their lives. They refuse to accept the Bible as YEHOVAH's authoritative revelation to mankind!

With a convenient theology where YEHOVAH NO LONGER EXISTS, obviously there would be no need to OBEY Him. Each man can do what is right in his own eyes. Each man can establish his OWN moral principles -- set up his OWN "set of rules" to live by. Each man thus becomes an authority unto himself! YEHOVAH is totally LEFT OUT of the picture!

Most of the world is IGNORANT of the REALITY OF YEHOVAH GOD! All creation stands as a WITNESS to the existence of a great Supreme CREATOR! That Creator is YEHOVAH GOD ALMIGHTY!

And that YEHOVAH INSPIRED the writing of the Bible -- His Instruction Book for mankind. There is no reason for ANYONE to remain in ignorance of God's existence today!

This lesson documents the REALITY of YEHOVAH God and His Creation!



HOPE OF ISRAEL MINISTRIES BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE LESSON 31

Published at Arcadia, California by Hope of Israel Ministries (Ecclesia of YEHOVAH).

EDITOR AND DIRECTOR
John D. Keyser

TECHNICAL ADVISOR
Sean C. Keyser

YOUR ENROLLMENT has been paid by others. Bulk copies for distribution not given or sold.

ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS to the Editor at the following address:

Hope of Israel Ministries, P.O. Box 2186,
Temple City, California 91780, U.S.A.

About Our Cover...

The Hubble Space Telescope in operation. In this fantastic atomic and space age, man's scientific genius is virtually exploding in every direction! Yet scientists have not "discovered" the GOD who originally made, and set in motion, the physical laws governing their scientific achievements. There is a reason WHY!

E-Mail: kiwihope@gmail.com

US: <http://hope-of-israel.org>

NZ: hope-of-israel.org.nz

UK: church-of-yehovah.org

Visit the Hope of Israel Websites at:

How Do You *Know* YEHOVAH God Exists?

Why YEHOVAH God Must Reveal Himself YEHOVAH God Challenges the Doubters!

YEHOVAH God is INVISIBLE SPIRIT. But man -- limited by his PHYSICAL senses and instruments -- cannot DETECT spirit. Therefore, YEHOVAH must SPECIALLY REVEAL Himself to mortal mankind.

Because man is aware of only the physical world around him, many have carelessly ASSUMED that spirit beings do not exist. What folly!

YEHOVAH GOD REALLY DOES EXIST -- as we are soon going to see! Actually, spirit beings have existed longer, have far superior minds, and are incomparably more powerful than man!

Indeed man in his present form is as nothing. YEHOVAH God says so! "All nations before Him are as nothing; and they are counted to Him LESS THAN NOTHING, and vanity" (Isaiah 40:17). And they would remain so if YEHOVAH didn't have marvelous PLANS for mankind!



The research chemist cannot isolate YEHOVAH God in a test tube. Yet the very existence of God-created chemicals and their reaction are witness to His existence!

Listen to what YEHOVAH God Almighty says to those who DOUBT His existence: "The FOOL hath said in his heart, 'There is no God' " (Psalm 14:1).

Is YEHOVAH God unreasonable? Does He expect you to accept and believe in that which is unprovable and unreasonable?

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

YEHOVAH says, "Come now, and let us REASON together" (Isaiah 1:18). He WANTS us to have basic PROOFS. He exhorts us to "PROVE all things" (I Thessalonians 5:21). He knows we will not really be satisfied any other way.

The fact that YEHOVAH God COMMANDS us to prove His existence shows that He has made ample provision to satisfy the sound and unprejudiced mind.

Yes, YEHOVAH has made available the MEANS by which you can KNOW HE DOES EXIST! This fact should stand SUPREME above all other knowledge in our minds.

The Time to KNOW YEHOVAH God!

We are at the virtual END of an age -- the 6000-year period in which YEHOVAH God has allowed man to be his own master and the mold of his own destiny.

We're now at the very THRESHOLD of the "Day of the Lord" -- the Day of YEHOVAH's WRATH upon rebellious mankind!

It's TIME WE WAKE UP to the realities that confront us! For YEHOVAH God Almighty is soon going to intervene in world affairs by great PHYSICAL signs and wonders which men will actually SEE and FEEL!

YEHOVAH God is already beginning to uproot the "little world" we have created for ourselves! DISRUPTIONS on the earth are ALREADY BEGINNING TO OCCUR! And

the prophesied “signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars” (**Luke 21:25**) will SOON be seen -- signaling the appearance of the Messiah!

YEHOVAH GOD IS BEGINNING TO INTERVENE PERSONALLY!!

Here is your opportunity to KNOW THE ETERNAL GOD BEFORE THE FULL FURY OF HIS WRATH IS UNLEASHED when He returns right behind the Messiah!

Yes, YEHOVAH God is going to take a very definite and ACTIVE part in your life from here on out! And when men SEE and FEEL the awesome power of YEHOVAH God in action, they will finally be convinced that YEHOVAH GOD DOES EXIST!

Answers to Questions

Just WHO, or WHAT, is YEHOVAH God? When and how did He originate? Or has He existed forever? Where is He? What does He look like? What are His surroundings like? Does YEHOVAH think as we do? What great powers and wonderful attributes does He possess?

What is the HOLY SPIRIT? What is YEHOVAH’s relationship to the holy spirit? And what is the Messiah’s relationship to YEHOVAH God?

Did YEHOVAH create the heavens and the earth and all we see therein? Did He formulate laws by which the universe functions? Is YEHOVAH God sustainer and ruler of all things?

And is the Bible really YEHOVAH’s INSPIRED Word -- can we DEPEND on it?

These, and many other questions, come to mind when the word “God” is mentioned. You will find the answers to all these questions in the following pages of this Bible Course.

YEHOVAH GOD IS ABOUT TO REVEAL HIMSELF in a real and TANGIBLE way that will simply astound you!

And once having revealed Himself, YEHOVAH will give you IRREFUTABLE PROOF that all He says in the Bible is TRUE!

This lesson, like all others, is extremely important to you. Have you PRAYED to YEHOVAH God for understanding? If not, go to a private place, kneel down, and ask Him for SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING and wisdom. Ask YEHOVAH to HELP you grasp and APPLY the knowledge this lesson will reveal to you in the Bible.

Don’t forget to WRITE OUT THE SCRIPTURES which answer the questions. This will help you greatly in REVIEWING and REMEMBERING what you have learned.

Now to begin the lesson itself!

Lesson 31 WHO-WHAT Is God?

There are a number of “Christian” churches in this world that teach YEHOVAH God has been a kingdom, or family -- composed of MORE than one divine person from the very beginning!

1. They base this idea on **Genesis 1:26** which, they claim, reveals God to be a PLURALITY of persons. Notice, they say, the words, “GOD said, let US...”

COMMENT: “God” in the Old Testament is the Hebrew word *Elohim* which is the plural form of *El*. *Elohim* is a plural word that can refer to ONE, two or many gods. However, *Elohim* is used in the SINGULAR FORM in virtually every verse where it appears in the Old Testament and it is CLEAR that each use of *Elohim* refers to ONE Being, and not two or more. The only exceptions to this are found in **Genesis 1:26, Genesis 3:22 and Genesis 11:5-7**. Notes *The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* --

“The plural ending is usually described as a PLURAL OF MAJESTY and NOT intended as a true plural when used of God. This is seen in the fact that the noun ‘*elohim*’ is CONSISTENTLY used with SINGULAR verb forms and with adjectives and pronouns in the SINGULAR.”

In discussing **Genesis 1:26-27** *The*



Summertime view of the Milky Way. “In the beginning [YEHOVAH] GOD created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). Shown here is a small segment of our own galaxy, the Milky Way, which contains approximately 100 BILLION suns!

Pentateuch and Haftorahs, edited by J.H. Hertz, gives us the following explanation --

“*Elohim* is a plural form, which is often used in Hebrew to denote PLENITUDE OF MIGHT. Here it indicated that God comprehends and unifies all the forces of eternity and infinity.

“*created*. The Hebrew word is in the SINGULAR, thus PRECLUDING any idea that its subject, *Elohim*, is to be understood in a plural sense. The term *bara* is used exclusively of Divine activity” (Second Edition, Soncino Press, London, 1981, pp. 2).

COMMENT: Even though *Elohim* is a

plural word, its usage DOES NOT mean there are two or more God Beings in the Old Testament since *Elohim* is used in the SINGULAR FORM virtually every time it is used. *Elohim* is merely a TITLE for the God of the Old Testament whose name is YEHOVAH (YHVH). And *YEHOVAH* is almost always used in the SINGULAR throughout the Old Testament.

In fact, the word *Elohim* REPLACED the Name of YEHOVAH in the Scriptures, incorporating the PAGAN tendency to employ plural forms, which the Hebrew unfortunately adopted.

2. Are there any other verses in the Old Testament that show YEHOVAH God was ALONE at the beginning? **Deuteronomy 4:35.**

COMMENT: This verse is very clear -- “...there is NONE other besides Him.”

3. Read, now, **Deuteronomy 4:39.**

4. What about **Deuteronomy 6:4-5?**

5. Does the prophet Isaiah also CLEARLY show there is ONE God? **Isaiah 43:10.**

6. Also, read **Isaiah 44:6.**

7. Doesn't YEHOVAH God CLEARLY proclaim that “there is NO God besides Me” in **Isaiah 45:5?**

COMMENT: There are literally dozens of other verses in the Old Testament that leave NO DOUBT YEHOVAH God was the ONLY Divine Being up to the time Yeshua the Messiah ascended into heaven to sit at YEHOVAH's right hand *following his resurrection* from the dead in 31 A.D. Here are some of them: **Isaiah 44:8, Isaiah 45:18, Isaiah 45:21, Isaiah 45:22, Psalm 72:18.**

8. What about the New Testament? Does the same concept of a SINGULAR God follow through into the New Testament writings? **Mark 12:28-30.**

9. Is Mark consistent in showing there is only ONE God? **Mark 12:32-34.**

10. What about the apostle John -- does he also back up the Old Testament scriptures? **John 17:1, 3.**

11. What about James? **James 2:19, 4:12.**

12. Does Jude also follow suit in proclaiming the ONE-ness of YEHOVAH God? **Jude 4 and 25.**

13. Many think that the apostle Paul was in conflict with the other apostles over doctrine -- what was his view of the Godhead? **Ephesians 4:4-6.**

COMMENT: Clearly, Paul is at ONE with the other apostles and the Old Testament scriptures.

14. What does Paul say in **I Corinthians 8:4 and 8:6?**

15. What about **I Timothy 1:17** and **2:5.?**

COMMENT: This God of the Old Testament, this God whose Name is YEHOVAH (YHVH), is the ONE later known in the New Testament as "God the Father." There is ONE GOD in both the Old and New Testaments, and He is known as YEHOVAH or "God the Father" -- a specific individual Being, the Creator God who has always existed, and who will never cease to exist and Who cannot die.

What About the "Word"?

There are many who believe that the "Word" mentioned in **John 1:1** was, in fact, Yeshua the Messiah in his pre-existent form. Could this be true?

1. Was the "word" with YEHOVAH God when YEHOVAH God created the universe? **John 1:1.** Is the word also "God"? **Same verse.** Did the word do the ACTUAL WORK of creating all things? **Verse 3.**

COMMENT: Notice that the word, "Word," is CAPITALIZED in this scripture in order to make it appear as though this were speaking about a being or a person. In this case the translators of the King James Version actually INTENDED for you to believe that the "Word" was "God" and that "He" was "in the beginning WITH God" -- that "He" was PRE-EXISTENT and that "He" was "EQUAL with

God." The "He," of course, was erroneously taught to be Yeshua the Messiah!

2. Now we come to a verse that was grossly MISTRANSLATED by the translators in order to bolster the early Catholic Church's claim that the Messiah pre-existed. **John 1:14.**

COMMENT: When correctly translated this verse should read as follows: "By means of this word flesh was created; and dwelling among us, *who are flesh*, and we beholding His glory, was the glory of the ONLY BEGOTTEN of the Father, full of honor and TRUTH." At this point we need to digress and study the concept of the Shekinah Glory.

YEHOVAH's Shekinah Glory

While the word *Shekinah* (*shknh*) is not found in the Old Testament in its noun form, it describes a concept that is totally Biblical. The concept of a PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION of YEHOVAH God dwelling on this planet is found throughout the Old Testament and in Jewish tradition.



The Shekinah Glory hovering over the Mercy Seat.

In the *Encyclopedia Judaica* the Shekinah is defined as "the Divine Presence, the luminous immanence of God in the world,...a revelation of the holy in the midst of the profane...." (Volume 14, pp. 1349-1351).

The *Encyclopedia* goes on to say -- "One of the more prominent images associated with the *Shekhinah* is that of LIGHT.

Thus on the verse, "...the earth did shine with His glory" (Ezekiel 43:2), the rabbis remark, "This is the face of the Shekhinah" (Avot diRabbi Natan [18b-19a]; see also Chullin 59b-60a). Both the angels in heaven and the righteous in *olam ha-ba* ("the world to come") are SUSTAINED BY THE RADIANCE OF THE SHEKINAH (Exodus Rabbah 32:4, B'rakhot 17a; cf. Exodus 34:29-35)...

"According to Saadiah Gaon [882-942 C.E.], the Shekhinah is identical with *kevod ha-Shem* ("the glory of God"), which served as an INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN GOD AND MAN during the prophetic experience. He suggests that the "glory of God" is the Biblical term, and *Shekhinah* the Talmudic term for the CREATED splendor of light which ACTS AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN GOD AND MAN, and which sometimes TAKES ON HUMAN FORM. Thus when Moses asked to see the glory of God, HE WAS SHOWN THE SHEKHINAH, and when the prophets in their visions saw God in HUMAN LIKENESS, what they actually saw **WAS NOT GOD HIMSELF BUT THE SHEKHINAH** (see Saadiah's interpretation of Ezekiel 1:26, I Kings 22:19, and Daniel 7:9 in *Book of Beliefs and Opinions* 2:10)."

During the time of Moses, the added PHYSICAL "Shekinah" presence was evidence of the REAL which is omnipresent and unseen. The presence was NOT YEHOVAH (YHVH) -- it was a PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION of the actual presence of YEHOVAH among His people.

1. The "Shekinah" was first evident when the Israelites set out from Succoth in their escape from Egypt. There it appeared as a cloudy pillar in the day and a fiery pillar by night. **Exodus 13:20.**

2. Was the physical "Shekinah" also evident at the crossing of the Red Sea? **Exodus 14:24-25.**

COMMENT: The Israelites were led by the "Shekinah" for forty years, after which the "holy presence" of the omniscient God inhabited

the Tabernacle and the land of Israel.

3. Was the "Shekinah" always physically manifested? **Numbers 35:34.**

COMMENT: YEHOVAH's physical presence amongst His people was conditional on them not defiling the land.

4. Did YEHOVAH's Shekinah Glory fill the Tabernacle after it was erected? **Exodus 40:33-38.**

5. Was YEHOVAH's Shekinah appearance frightening to those who experienced it? **Exodus 20:18-21.**

6. At the time of the setting up of the Tabernacle YEHOVAH spoke to Moses out of the cloud and, at that time, Moses realized that the "Shekinah" was a VEHICLE and NOT YEHOVAH God -- and YEHOVAH allowed him to see A LARGER PORTION of His PHYSICAL "Shekinah" presence. Notice **Exodus 33:18-23.**

The Shekinah Glory in the Book of John

Now that we have some idea of the concept of YEHOVAH's Shekinah Glory, we can take another look at the first chapter of the Book of John in the New Testament.

In the **first verses of John 1** we can find confirmation that the "word" is, in fact, the Shekinah Glory of YEHOVAH God. Since the publication of the King James Version of the Bible in 1611 this, and almost all versions that have stemmed from it, have attached the **masculine gender** to the Greek concept of the "logos" to explain the presence of the Shekinah Glory at the Creation. Unfortunately, due to this **gender change**, and the modern Christian's lack of understanding of the logos concept in the environment of 1st. Century Greek philosophy, most have BLINDLY taken the "word" to mean a pre-existence of the Messiah! Nothing could be further from the truth!

Any one of the eight English translations of the Bible prior to 1611 -- the *Tyndale Bible* (1535), the *Matthew Bible* (1535), the *Taverner Bible* (1539), the *Great (Cranmer's) Bible*

(1539), the *Whittingham Bible* (1557), the *Geneva Bible* (1560) and the *Bishop's Bible* (1568) -- assign NO GENDER whatsoever to the "word" and simply call it "IT," such as in **John 1:3**: "By IT all things were made. Without IT nothing was made." The *Coverdale Bible* (1550) has "THE SAME" rather than "it."

This seems like a strange way of referring to Yeshua the Messiah!

This is further reinforced by the Aramaic version of the New Testament -- where the first verses of the gospel of John leave little doubt that the "word" refers to YEHOVAH God's Shekinah Glory. Notice!

1. John 1:1. "In the beginning [of creation] there was the MANIFESTATION; and that MANIFESTATION was with God [YEHOVAH]; and God [YEHOVAH] was [the embodiment of] that MANIFESTATION."

2. John 1:2. "This [the MANIFESTATION] was in the beginning with God [YEHOVAH]."

3. John 1:3. "Everything was within his [correctly, ITS] power, [otherwise] nothing would ever exist."

4. John 1:4. "Through him [IT, the MANIFESTATION] was life and life became the spark of humanity."

5. John 1:5. "And that [ensuing] fire [the MANIFESTATION] lights the darkness and darkness does not overshadow it [the MANIFESTATION]."

COMMENT: If we replace the word "manifestation" with the words "Shekinah Glory" -- which is what the "manifestation" actually was -- we will clearly see that the "word" or "logos" of **John 1** is none other than YEHOVAH God's Shekinah Glory -- NOT Yeshua the Messiah as some have blindly assumed!

6. John 1:1. "In the beginning [of creation] there was the SHEKINAH GLORY; and that SHEKINAH GLORY was with God [YEHOVAH]; and God [YEHOVAH] was [the embodiment of] that SHEKINAH GLORY."

7. John 1:2. "This [the SHEKINAH

GLORY] was in the beginning with God [YEHOVAH]."

8. John 1:3. "Everything was within his [its] [the SHEKINAH GLORY'S] power, [otherwise] nothing would ever exist."

9. John 1:4. "Through him [it] [the SHEKINAH GLORY] was life and life became the spark of humanity."

10. John 1:5. "And that [ensuing] fire [the SHEKINAH GLORY] lights the darkness and darkness does not overshadow it [the SHEKINAH GLORY]."

COMMENT: Most people don't understand the idiom of John's day and get all confused with the Greek concept of the *logos* that John used to get his point across. John NOWHERE indicates that this "word" or "logos" is anything but the Shekinah Glory of YEHOVAH God.

11. Does the Bible plainly tell us that YEHOVAH God created ALL the material universe -- including this earth and mankind? **Ephesians 3:9** and **Colossians 1:16-17**.

COMMENT: Many people take these verses at face value not realizing that there are major problems with them that have crept into the New Testament as we have it today.

By just reading **Ephesians 3:9** one would think that YEHOVAH God gave the orders to create all things and that these orders were carried out by Yeshua the Messiah. Unfortunately for this hypothesis, the LAST THREE WORDS in the King James Version of the Bible were ADDED to this scripture by the translators! These last three words were NOT in the original manuscripts -- as pointed out by *The Emphatic Diaglott*, *The Interlinear Greek-English New Testament* by Marshall and *Clarke's Commentary* by Adam Clarke. This verse is correctly translated in the Revised Standard Version which says: "...and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in *God who created all things*;..."

If we look into **Colossians 1:16-17** we find that this time the translators incorrectly translated TWO KEY words that completely

change the meaning of these two verses. In **verse 16** the second word “by” -- “in” in some versions -- should have been translated “BEFORE”! *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* shows that “before” is one of the meanings of the Greek word mistranslated “by” or “in.” This is verified by *A Critical Lexicon and Concordance To the English and Greek New Testament* by Ethelbert W. Bullinger. Therefore, BEFORE the Messiah was born into this world all things were CREATED BY YEHOVAH God -- which is exactly what **Psalm 104:24** says!

The second incorrectly translated word in **Colossians 1:16** is the Greek word “*dia*” -- translated “BY” in the King James Version, intimating that “all things were created ‘by’ the Messiah.” However, the *Critical Lexicon* by Bullinger (p. 799) shows this word “*dia*” to mean “on account of,” “because of,” “for the sake of.” This is verified by both *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon* (p. 134) and *The Emphatic Diaglott* which render “*dia*” as “on account of,” “because of” and “on account of him and for him.”

So, all things were made or created by YEHOVAH God FOR -- “on account of” Yeshua the Messiah who is the firstborn of many brothers; the firstborn of the Family of YEHOVAH God.

YEHOVAH God did not create this vast universe only for Himself -- He created it for His eventual Family, which He planned to do from the very beginning. YEHOVAH is going to share it with us! That is WHAT the apostle Paul was speaking of when he was inspired to write these words in **Colossians 1:15-17**.

Going now to **Colossians 1:17**, we find further evidence of scriptural corruption by the translators. The word translated “BEFORE” in this verse is word #4253 in *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* and in *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon*. This word should have been translated “over” -- as in PRE-EMINENCE and SUPERIORITY.

The next incorrectly applied word has been translated as “IN,” and should have been

translated “UNDER” as the *Critical Lexicon* by Bullinger shows on page 947.

The last word that needs to be corrected is “CONSISTED” -- which means “to put together (i.e. unite parts into one whole,” see word #4921 in *Thayer’s Lexicon*.

Putting all this together, **Colossians 1:16-17** should read: “Because BEFORE him [the Messiah] all things were created that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or rulerships, or principalities, or powers; all things were created ON ACCOUNT OF him, and FOR him. And he [the Messiah] is OVER [has been placed over] all things, and all things have been PLACED TOGETHER UNDER him.”

12. Does the “word” of **John 1:1**, then, OBVIOUSLY refer to YEHOVAH God’s Shekinah Glory?

13. Does **I Corinthians 8:6** prove a pre-existent Messiah?

COMMENT: Once again, faulty translation comes into play. This verse should be correctly rendered: “...yet for us there is ONE GOD, the Father, from whom all things come and ON ACCOUNT OF whom we exist; and one Lord, Yeshua the Messiah, FOR whom were created all things and ON ACCOUNT OF whom we have our being.”

COMMENT: John 1:1 and Genesis 1:1 are two accounts of the SAME event -- the original creation of the universe. They both reveal ONE Supreme Being -- YEHOVAH God the Father -- planning and creating ALL things. As Yeshua the Messiah said in **Mark 12:32** -- “...for there is ONE GOD, and there is NO OTHER but He.”

The Greek word which is translated into English as “word,” in **John 1:1**, is LOGOS. It literally means SPOKESMAN, or one who SPEAKS. And so everything was MADE by the spokesman or MANIFESTATION -- THE SHEKINAH GLORY -- the Logos which was the vehicle of the person of YEHOVAH God in the three dimensional world.

It was the Logos or Shekinah Glory of

YEHOVAH God that said correctly -- "I will make man in My image, according to My likeness" (**Genesis 1:26**), thus executing His awesome office as the ONE GOD and LAW-GIVER (**James 2:19, 4:12**) -- "the ONLY WISE GOD" (**Jude 25**). At the time of the Creation YEHOVAH God was ALONE and "there [was] NONE ELSE beside Him" (**Deuteronomy 4:35**).

A "Father-Son" Relationship

After Yeshua the Messiah was resurrected from the dead in 31 A.D. he became the FIRST-BORN son of YEHOVAH God. Therefore, at the present time, the Kingdom, or FAMILY of YEHOVAH God, consists of TWO members. Now we need to understand how the "Father"-and-"Son" relationship developed between YEHOVAH God and the Messiah.

1. Was the Messiah born of human parents -- Joseph and Mary? **Luke 2:27, Luke 2:41.**

COMMENT: Notice that the word "parents" is in the PLURAL in both of these passages.

2. Does the Bible actually mention that the Messiah had a HUMAN father? **Luke 2:48, John 6:42.**

3. Does the Bible actually give the NAME of the Messiah's HUMAN father? **Luke 2:16, Luke 2:33, Luke 2:43, John 6:42 and John 1:45.**

COMMENT: All mankind has sinned (**Romans 3:22**) -- EXCEPT the Messiah, who led a perfect, SINLESS life. Because of the Messiah's sinless life he became the perfect sacrifice for those of us who have sinned and face ETERNAL death! (**Romans 6:23**). The Messiah was CHOSEN by YEHOVAH God from among the human race (i.e., a human being born of human parents) to be the means by which SINFUL man could be redeemed and have a chance to become members of the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God.

4. Did the Messiah become the Son of

YEHOVAH God at birth, as some believe? **Matthew 1:20-21.**

COMMENT: While this passage tends to indicate YEHOVAH God became the Father of the Messiah by "impregnating" Mary through the agency of the holy spirit -- there are a number of problems with this understanding.

There is much evidence to show that the EARLIEST versions of the gospels of Matthew and Luke DID NOT CONTAIN THE FIRST TWO CHAPTERS we see in the versions extant today. The first two chapters were regarded as LATE ADDITIONS to the original text which began, as the Gospel of Mark did, with the baptism of the Messiah.

Epiphanius (315?-403 A.D.) records that the Gospel of Matthew used by the early Christian Ecclesia (known as "Ebionites") was LACKING the first two chapters. He also wrote about Cerinthus (a Christian author of the early second century) who had taught that "at the baptism God caused a real divine force...to descend upon Jesus of Nazareth, THE SON OF JOSEPH AND MARY."

That the EARLIEST edition of Luke did NOT contain the Immaculate Conception/Virgin Birth story is now admitted by most commentators. The Gospel according to Luke, which Marcion (about 110-about 165 A.D.) used began -- like Mark's -- with the BAPTISM of the Messiah. It did NOT contain anything about the birth of the Messiah.

If we take the Canonical Gospels as a guide to the time when the Virgin Birth story was FIRST INTRODUCED into the history of the Messiah, and the evidence of the "Fathers of the Church," who first mention them, for the dates of these gospels, we are justified in stating that *the Immaculate Conception/Virgin Birth doctrine was certainly UNKNOWN until the middle of the first half of the second century at the very earliest*, and probably until considerably LATER than that.

The second problem with the Immaculate Conception hypothesis is that by "impregnating" Mary by means of the holy spirit

YEHOVAH God would have BROKEN HIS OWN LAW!! If we would only look at YEHOVAH's character in the Old Testament, we would clearly see the IMPOSSIBILITY of the Immaculate Conception fable: 1. YEHOVAH cannot lie, 2. YEHOVAH cannot sin, 3. YEHOVAH does not break His own laws and 4. YEHOVAH is pure, holy and righteous.

With that said, let us ask whether Mary was engaged or married at the time of her "impregnation" by the holy spirit. If she was married when YEHOVAH "impregnated" her, He would have committed ADULTERY -- which is a VIOLATION of the 8th Commandment. Conversely, if Mary was only engaged/betrothed when YEHOVAH "impregnated" her, then He would have committed FORNICATION! YEHOVAH God will definitely NOT commit adultery or fornication!!

YEHOVAH God NEVER does anything to His disciples, prophets, teachers, servants, etc. Without first asking them if they would do it -- how much more so in the case of "impregnating" someone? The New Testament CLEARLY states that the Messiah was "BORN UNDER THE LAW." This is an obvious indication that the Messiah was NOT conceived through fornication or adultery.

Yeshua the Messiah was NOT conceived by the holy spirit -- nor did he receive the holy spirit at birth. Therefore, he was NOT a "Son of God" at birth and the Father-Son relationship did not exist at that time.

5. When did the Messiah FIRST receive the holy spirit? **Mark 1:10-11, Matthew 3:16-17, Luke 3:21-22 and John 1:32-34.**

COMMENT: In the EARLIEST versions of Mark the episode of the baptism is worded differently from what we have today. Instead of the voice from heaven saying "Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased," it says "Thou art my Son; THIS DAY HAVE I BEGOTTEN THEE." That is to say, that by the descent of the "spirit like a dove" upon him he becomes the SPIRITUAL Son of YEHOVAH God; that he was NOT *born* the Son of

YEHOVAH God but only became so METAPHORICALLY on "this day" when the spirit of YEHOVAH God descended upon him. If the Messiah was already the "Son of God" why would he AGAIN receive the holy spirit at his baptism? Yeshua was a **MAN born like other men**, but imbued, at his baptism, with the divine spirit.

6. When did Yeshua the Messiah ACTUALLY become the LITERAL Son of YEHOVAH God? **Acts 13:33.**

COMMENT: Here the resurrection of the Messiah is plainly spoken of as a FULFILLMENT of YEHOVAH's promise to Israel -- a promise expressed in **Psalms 2:7**. It should be noted that the SIGNIFICANT feature of this verse is that it uses the language of "BEGGETTING" and specifies a particular BIRTH-DAY -- a day on which someone (the king, the Messiah) BECOMES YEHOVAH God's SON. According to Acts 13:33 and the earliest Christians, that day was the RESURRECTION of Yeshua the Messiah.

Writes James Dunn: "In other words, primitive [early] Christian preaching seems to have regarded Jesus' RESURRECTION as the day of his appointment to DIVINE SONSHIP, as *the event* by which he becomes God's son" (*Christology In the Making*, p. 36).

7. Does **Romans 1:3-4** say the same thing as **Acts 13:33**?

COMMENT: This passage CLEARLY shows that the one sent as YEHOVAH's Son was one "born of a woman," simply a MAN -- NOT a divine being metamorphosed into or appearing as a human being. The early Christians simply thought of the Messiah as the ONE COMMISSIONED BY YEHOVAH GOD, as one who shared *wholly* in man's frailty, bondage and sin, and whose DEATH AND RESURRECTION achieved YEHOVAH God's liberating and transforming purpose for mankind.

The Messiah now bears the UNIQUE DESIGNATION as the "only-begotten Son" of YEHOVAH God as a result of the resurrection.

This now signifies him as being YEHOVAH's LITERAL Son (**John 3:16**).

8. After his resurrection from the dead, did the Messiah assume great power and glory as the Son of YEHOVAH God? **Revelation 3:21**. Then is the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God plainly the ruling Family of YEHOVAH God -- composed AT PRESENT of the Father and the FIRST-BORN Son -- to which YEHOVAH's Family is in the process of adding MANY OTHER Sons of YEHOVAH God? **Romans 8:29**. Notice the words, "FIRSTBORN among MANY brethren."

COMMENT: The "Father"-and-"Son" relationship in YEHOVAH's Kingdom clearly began when the Messiah was resurrected from the dead and ascended to heaven to sit at YEHOVAH's right hand (**Matthew 26:64**).

YEHOVAH --"LORD GOD" of the Old Testament

1. Did the One who later became the Father take an ACTIVE, DIRECT part in the affairs of this world in Old Testament times? **Genesis 18:1** and **Exodus 19:16-20**.

COMMENT: There are some who point to **John 1:18** and **5:37** in an attempt to show that YEHOVAH God was some cold, distant Being who avoided contact with human kind. They fail to understand that YEHOVAH cannot appear to man in some forms without causing the death of the one(s) He is appearing before! The ONLY form that YEHOVAH can appear safely to man in is His Shekinah Glory form. This is the form He appeared to Abraham in in **Genesis 18:1** and the Children of Israel in **Exodus 19** and MANY OTHER places in the Old Testament.

2. But what about **I Corinthians 10:4** -- doesn't this show Yeshua the Messiah to have been the God of the Old Testament?

COMMENT: Did a Rock really follow the Israelites? Did a Rock follow them? The answer is NO -- "them" does not appear in the Greek, and therefore should not be in our English versions. This **added word** changes the

intended meaning.

Just to read **I Corinthians 10:4** one might believe that Yeshua was "following" right along behind the children of Israel. However, we need to understand that YEHOVAH's Shekinah Glory, **LED** the Children of Israel -- it did not "FOLLOW" them! (**Exodus 13:21-22**). *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon* shows us that the word "followed" properly means "to walk the SAME ROAD; to follow one who PRECEDES -- to FOLLOW ONE IN TIME"!

Yeshua the Messiah followed the Children of Israel in HISTORY -- hundreds of years LATER -- at his first appearance!

The Messiah DID NOT follow Israel around in the wilderness. Instead of following them, he would had LED them. The intended meaning is that Yeshua came LATER IN TIME (followed) after Israel's wilderness experience. Yeshua was not back there in Moses' time! Notice **Galatians 4:4**.

The angel of YEHOVAH, who also accompanied Israel, did not follow them after Mount Sinai but "*went before them*" (**Exodus 23:20, 32:34, 33:2**).

3. Read **II Samuel 22:2-3**.

COMMENT: While the Messiah is called a "rock" a few times in the Bible, in the vast majority of times this refers to YEHOVAH God (YHVH). Wherever the word "LORD" appears in CAPITAL letters it is translated from the Hebrew word YHVH.

4. Did David speak of this SAME Rock or LORD as his "god"? **Psalms 18:1-2**.

COMMENT: The word "God" actually has two meanings -- the God Kingdom, or Family of God; AND the PERSONS presently composing that Kingdom, or Family. But the LORD -- YEHOVAH (YHVH) -- was the ONLY active One GUIDING Old Testament Israel. He appeared in His Shekinah Glory form -- the SPOKESMAN or "Word" of YEHOVAH God. It was NOT until Yeshua the Messiah ascended to heaven after his resurrection that YEHOVAH became the "Father." Before the Messiah's resurrection YEHOVAH was ab-

solutely ALONE (with the exception of angels, etc.) in heaven.

It was YEHOVAH (YHVH) who spoke to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. The "LORD" who SPOKE and was SEEN of men was always YEHOVAH (YHVH) in His Shekinah Glory form. To appear in any other form would have resulted in death to those He appeared to (**Exodus 33:20**). That is why John said that no one has ever seen the Father (**John 1:18** and **5:37**).

5. Who did YHVH tell Israel He was? **Isaiah 48:17**. Is the term "LORD your God" used here? This was the WORD -- the SHEKINAH GLORY -- not the omniscient, eternal presence of YEHOVAH -- who spoke. What did He tell Israel He had done, and what He would BE to them in the future? **Isaiah 43:15**. Note the word "KING."

6. Was it ALSO the Word -- the Shekinah Glory -- that GAVE the TEN COMMANDMENTS? **Exodus 20:1-2**. Also read **verses 3 through 17**.

COMMENT: The Hebrew word for LORD in **Exodus 20** is YEHOVAH. So here again it was the logos -- Shekinah Glory -- that was doing the ACTUAL WORK of giving the Ten Commandments.

7. Did this same "LORD God" prophesy that in the future -- in the Millennium -- He would ACTIVELY gather Israel out of the nations where they had been scattered? **Ezekiel 11:17**. And when He, as the Word or Shekinah Glory of the Father, has subdued all things, what will He do? **I Corinthians 15:28**.

COMMENT: How plain it is that the "Word" or Shekinah Glory of the ONE true God (YEHOVAH, YHVH) in Old Testament times was the ACTIVE "LORD GOD" we have just read about. The "Word," Shekinah Glory, or Logos was the FORCE or POWER REPRESENTING and ACTING on behalf of the One who became the Father at the Messiah's resurrection!

Where Is YEHOVAH?

1. To whom did the Messiah tell us to address our prayers? **Matthew 6:9**. WHERE is the One whom we address? **Same verse**. Did the Messiah make a direct statement that the Father is IN HEAVEN? **Matthew 7:21**.

2. Is there MORE than one heaven? **Genesis 2:1**. Was Paul, IN VISION, taken to the "THIRD heaven" of YEHOVAH's throne? **II Corinthians 12:1-2**, 4. Did the Messiah go to the heaven of the Father's throne after his resurrection? **Revelation 3:21**, **Daniel 7:13-14**. Is he still there? **Revelation 3:21**. And is the Father still there? **Same verse**.

3. How do we know the Father is NOT in one of the "heavens" close to this earth? **John 3:13**. Notice the words "no MAN."

COMMENT: The Bible clearly shows there are THREE "heavens." The first consists of the atmosphere surrounding this earth in which the clouds form. The second consists of the vast reaches of space beyond the earth's atmosphere.

Today's modern jet aircraft soar high above the earth in the first heaven. And manned spacecraft have but barely penetrated the second heaven. But YEHOVAH God the Father is located far beyond the second heaven, for "no MAN has ascended" (with the exception of the Messiah) to YEHOVAH's throne in the THIRD HEAVEN!

Notice **Hebrews 4:14** in the King James Version. The expression, "into the heavens," should be properly translated from the original inspired Greek: "Having therefore a great high priest, who passed THROUGH the heavens" The Messiah passed THROUGH the visible first and second heavens to reach the heaven of YEHOVAH's throne -- THE THIRD HEAVEN.

4. Is YEHOVAH God associated with "Mount Zion" and the "HEAVENLY Jerusalem"? **Hebrews 12:22**. Does **Galatians 4:26** also verify the fact that this city is the HEAVENLY Jerusalem?

COMMENT: The heavenly Jerusalem

and YEHOVAH God the Father will finally come down to this earth after it is purified. **Revelation 21 and 22** describe this wonderful event. A discussion of this marvelous occurrence will be taken up in later lessons.

5. Does YEHOVAH God dwell in a TEMPLE on spiritual Mount Zion? **Psalm 11:4**. And upon what does He sit? **Same verse**.

COMMENT: Did you know that YEHOVAH's Plan is DUAL? In the third heaven exists the heavenly City of Jerusalem. Also the HEAVENLY Mount Zion, the mount on which the temple of the "Jerusalem above" is located.



View of Gemini 7 spacecraft as seen from Gemini 6 during historic rendezvous in the edge of the "second heaven." Clouds below are in atmosphere of the "first heaven."

Now in Palestine today exists the EARTHLY city of Jerusalem. And there has been, and is to be, an EARTHLY "Mount Zion" -- the southeast ridge of the earthly city of Jerusalem on which the millennial temple of



Distant view of Jerusalem from Mount of Olives. City is a physical reminder of the "heavenly Jerusalem" located in the "third heaven" of YEHOVAH's throne.

YEHOVAH God will stand (**Micah 4:1-2**).

The EARTHLY, temporal city and mount are plainly physical TYPES of the heavenly mount and city which are SPIRITUAL. These physical types are but a few of the many earthly REMINDERS of heavenly things so important for us to be aware of!

6. Will we be able to SEE spiritual objects when we are BORN of YEHOVAH God -- transformed at the resurrection into spirit beings? **I John 3:2**.

What Does YEHOVAH God Look Like?

Most people think it is impossible to know what YEHOVAH really looks like. But YEHOVAH HAS made it possible. And the description is contained in your Bible!

The Father will now become more REAL and PERSONAL to you than ever before! Here are the details:

1. Has any human being ever SEEN the Father's shape (aside from His Shekinah Glory)?

How Do You Know YEHOVAH God Exists?

John 5:37.

2. Did the Messiah reveal the Father to us? **John 1:18**. Who did the Messiah say the Father looks like? **John 14:9**. Was the Messiah a mortal man when he made this statement? Does the Father therefore appear like a MAN?

COMMENT: Yeshua clearly indicated that the Father has the general FORM and STATURE of a mortal man!

3. What did YEHOVAH God say at creation which further verifies the fact that He has the FORM of a man? **Genesis 1:26**.

COMMENT: If the word "Elohim" had not replaced YEHOVAH (YHVH), this verse would have CORRECTLY read as follows: "Then YEHOVAH said, I will make man in My image, according to My likeness..."

4. Did He declare that the INVISIBLE things -- including YEHOVAH God -- can be clearly understood by the VISIBLE CREATION -- including mortal man -- which YEHOVAH made? **Romans 1:20**.

5. But there is more to YEHOVAH's appearance than just His form and size. What did the Messiah ask the Father to do just before he was taken to be crucified? **John 17:5**.

COMMENT: This is another example of the Greek text being TWISTED and CORRUPTED to fit prevailing PAGAN ideas! The word translated "I had" should have been translated "I AM TO HAVE." This GLORY that Yeshua is to have, is to be BEFORE the world TO COME. The word translated "before" actually means "PREVIOUSLY" -- that is, "PREVIOUS" to the world TO COME. Correctly translated, this scripture should read: "And now, O Father, YOU GLORIFY ME beside Your OWN SELF, with the glory which I AM TO HAVE with You BEFORE the world to come."

Yeshua was looking forward to being GLORIFIED just like YEHOVAH God.

6. How do the Messiah's and the Father's powerful, GLORIFIED spirit bodies appear? **Revelation 1:13-16**. Remember that the "Son of man" specifically mentioned here is the Messiah

(**Daniel 7:13-14**).

COMMENT: To be "glorified" means to have GREAT POWER and GLORY! The power which the Father and the Messiah have IS SO GREAT that it makes their human-appearing spirit bodies SHINE AS BRIGHT AS THE SUN IN FULL STRENGTH!

Has YEHOVAH God ETERNALLY Existed?

In the Bible YEHOVAH God reveals Himself as the CREATOR of all there is -- this vast material universe, angelic beings, light, life (**Revelation 4:11**). Now since YEHOVAH created all these, then He certainly existed BEFORE they did. His time goes back BEFORE all of them.

"But WHO created God?" someone is certain to ask. This question does naturally enter our minds. Let's learn the simple answer from the Bible.

1. How long has YEHOVAH God existed? **Psalms 90:2**. Will He CONTINUE to exist forever? **Same verse** and **Revelation 4:8-10**.

2. Does YEHOVAH God (through the Messiah) promise to give ETERNAL life to the dead in the Messiah at the resurrection? **John 5:25**. Could YEHOVAH impart eternal life if He were NOT eternal Himself? **Verse 26**.

COMMENT: YEHOVAH God is ETERNAL. YEHOVAH GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN! Do you need a creator for a being that has always existed? Of course not!

The difficulty in understanding ETERNITY lies in our human minds. We deal in FINITE things -- dollars and cents, years, miles, acres, gallons, pounds. We measure, count and estimate in units, always arriving at a DEFINITE quantity.

But eternity is WITHOUT beginning. It is WITHOUT END! Eternity cannot be limited to a definite number of years. Even as numbers can go on forever, so does YEHOVAH's life into BOTH the past and the future.

Those things which have not always existed require a creator. But things which have always existed need no creator.

The material universe was created at a DEFINITE TIME in the past. Both science and scripture are firm on this point. Therefore the creation is temporal and had a creator. SINCE ALL IN EXISTENCE EXCEPT THE CREATOR IS TEMPORAL, THEN HE MUST BE ETERNAL! He could not have had a beginning of days!

YEHOVAH GOD ALONE IS ETERNAL!

YEHOVAH God Is Spirit

1. YEHOVAH God has already shown us that He has a body (**Revelation 1:13-16**). But what does YEHOVAH say He is COMPOSED of? **John 4:24**.

COMMENT: Now we see one of the great DIFFERENCES between YEHOVAH God and man. YEHOVAH is composed of invisible spirit. Man is but mortal flesh and blood -- composed of the earth (**I Corinthians 15:47**)

Let's notice another great difference between YEHOVAH God and man.

2. What is YEHOVAH's characteristic ATTITUDE? **Psalms 99:9**.

COMMENT: The word "holy" means PURE OF HEART or free from sin. Since YEHOVAH is composed of SPIRIT and has this holy attitude, it is correct to call YEHOVAH a "Holy Spirit." YEHOVAH God is the very PERSONIFICATION of THE holy spirit.

3. Is there anyone who is as Holy as YEHOVAH God? **I Samuel 2:2**.

COMMENT: Since BOTH the Father and the Messiah constitute the Family of God -- both INDIVIDUALLY have the holy spirit. The HOLY SPIRIT is the ONE harmonious, perfect HOLY ATTITUDE OF MIND which is shared by both Father and Son. This spirit or attitude of mind is called the holy spirit! There is but ONE PERFECT spirit! (**Ephesians 4:4**.)

YEHOVAH God Is CREATOR and SUSTAINER

1. Is YEHOVAH's spirit also the spirit of GREAT POWER? **Genesis 1:1-3** and **Jeremiah 32:17**.

COMMENT: It was by the spirit of YEHOVAH God that YEHOVAH originally created and later RE-fashioned our earth, as shown in the first chapter of Genesis.

The holy spirit is the very POWER of YEHOVAH God! It EXPRESSES the unified creative will of the God Family. It TRANSFORMED spirit energy from YEHOVAH God into the material world we see about us (**Hebrews 11:3**).

The holy spirit OF YEHOVAH God may be compared to a TOOL or MACHINE. A tool serves man in making things. The holy spirit serves this same purpose for YEHOVAH God. But spirit is capable of infinite work -- never running down because of dissipation or friction. And YEHOVAH's divine spirit fills the universe. (**Psalms 139:7; Jeremiah 23:24**). How clear it is that the holy spirit is NOT a THIRD PERSON of the Godhead as taught by the pagan "trinity" idea!

When we speak of the holy spirit, many cannot understand what it is because spiritual qualities and entities seem so unreal to most people. And no wonder. Spiritual things are INVISIBLE, not discerned by the physical senses. They must be REVEALED in writing in the BIBLE!

Only the Bible makes clear the nature of the holy spirit. Man is matter. YEHOVAH God is invisible spirit. And spirit, unlike mortal man, is ETERNAL (**I Corinthians 15:53**).

2. How did YEHOVAH God utilize His spirit of power to fashion His various creations? **Psalms 148:5**. Notice the word "commanded." Read also **verses 1-4; Psalms 33:8-9** and **Genesis 1:2-3**.

Hope of Israel Ministries -- Taking the Lead in the Search for Truth!

COMMENT: YEHOVAH God the Father "SPOKE AND IT WAS DONE." He is the One who said, "Let there be light" -- and the spirit of YEHOVAH God, moving over the face of the waters PERFORMED the command, and "there was light" -- INSTANTLY! The holy spirit is a miracle-working power!

3. Is this method still being used in New Testament times -- HOW did the Messiah "make" enough bread and fish out of "five loaves and two fishes" to feed five thousand people? **Matthew 14:15-21**. Did he merely SPEAK WORDS to YEHOVAH God? **Verse 19**. What does YEHOVAH say to those who do not think He can create things this way? **Isaiah 55:8-9**.

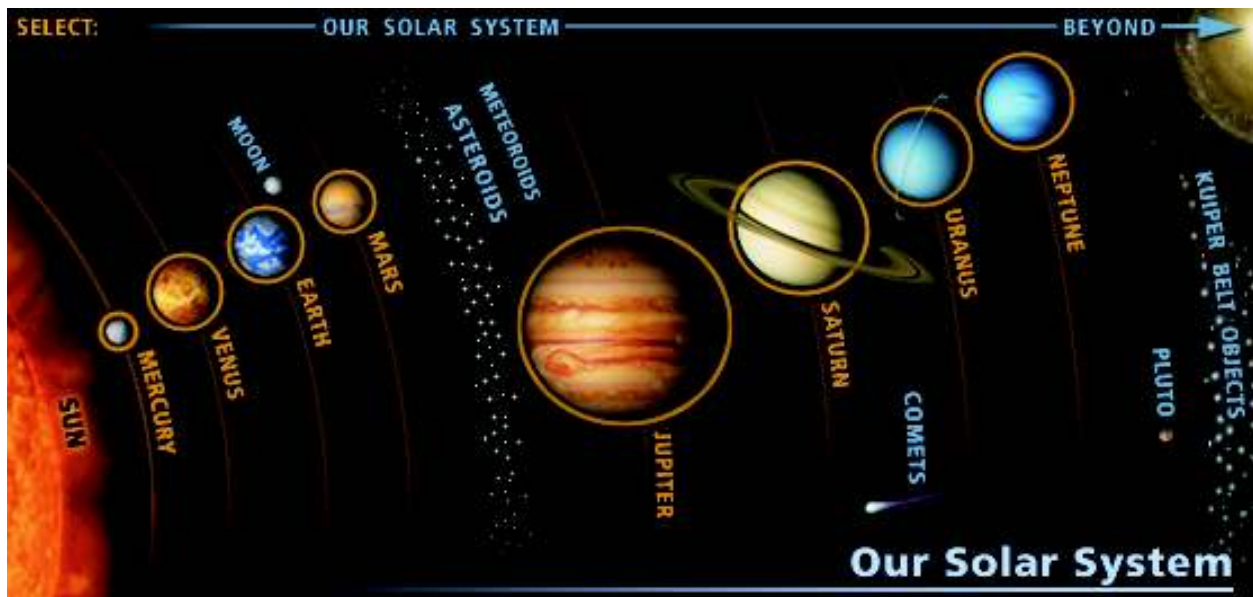
COMMENT: When YEHOVAH God originally created the earth and the heavens, NO MATTER existed. He willed that spirit ENERGY from Himself be TRANSFORMED into physical energy and matter.

ALREADY EXISTING food material into ADDITIONAL bread and fish. On another occasion, Yeshua was also able to still the waves of a roaring sea by the spirit energy which the Father supplied (**Matthew 8:23-27**).

YEHOVAH God WILLS and SPEAKS His will, and HIS SPIRIT ACTS on any and all things He has created. All nature obeys His will! We do not understand, and YEHOVAH does not reveal, the exact mechanism. But He does reveal enough of the GENERAL PROCESS. And we do have historical and scientific PROOF that all nature is obedient to Him. The Messiah's miracles are also PROOF of this.

4. Does YEHOVAH also use His spirit of power to SUSTAIN and RULE His vast heavenly and earthly creation? **Nehemiah 9:6**; **Hebrews 1:2-3** and **Psalms 66:7**.

COMMENT: YEHOVAH sits at the controls of the entire universe -- He rules and sustains everything by the POWER of His holy



Planets are held in orbit around the sun by inexorable laws of gravitational attraction and inertia. Disruption of delicate balance between these laws would pull them into the sun, or shoot them out into interstellar space!

But when the Messiah spoke, the Father could have produced the food in two ways: either by transforming spirit ENERGY into NEW bread and fish, or by transforming the

spirit!
5. Exactly what does YEHOVAH God sustain by His power -- did He set in motion specific PHYSICAL LAWS by which the

material creation functions? **Jeremiah 33:25**. Does the sun figuratively OBEY YEHOVAH God? **Job 38:12** and **Psalms 104:19**. How does the earth APPEAR to be suspended? **Job 26:7**.

COMMENT: The dictionary defines the word “sustain” as “to hold suspended, to support, to keep alive, to keep from ruin.”

YEHOVAH’s creation would literally “fly apart,” were it not for the LAWS He set in motion to govern its functioning. And YEHOVAH God SUSTAINS the laws governing His creation -- whether on earth or in the heavens above, whether living or lifeless -- by the POWER of HIS SPIRIT!

Thus you might say the creation functions AUTOMATICALLY -- much like a modern space age computer which has been PRE-programmed to perform specific operations. YEHOVAH’s spirit is the ENERGIZING force which keeps the laws of the universe operating, just as electrical current energizes and operates a computer.

This little analogy points up the fact that YEHOVAH God is a God of law and order (**I Corinthians 14:33**). He very CAREFULLY PLANNED and calculated His creation to operate smoothly and efficiently -- according to His INEXORABLE “laws of physics”!

Notice, too, that the assignment of YEHOVAH’s energy to the task of maintaining the physical laws of the universe is a LONG TERM assignment, in contrast to most of the SHORT TERM assignments of performing the Messiah’s miracles.

And so YEHOVAH directs His holy spirit in attaining His purpose. It FLOWS OUT from Him and back again -- much like current in an electrical circuit -- and is felt EVERYWHERE in good works (**Psalms 139:7-11**).

Attributes of the God Family

1. Was King Solomon the wisest man who ever lived because YEHOVAH GOD gave him wisdom? **I Kings 3:11-12; 10:24**. Then is the God Kingdom ALL-wise -- the SOURCE of



The Messiah walked on water by means of the energy of the spirit of YEHOVAH God!

all true wisdom? **Daniel 2:20; I Timothy 1:17** and **James 1:5**.

2. Does the God Family have PERFECT knowledge? **Job 37:14,16**.

COMMENT: Since the Father and Son together presently constitute the ONE Kingdom of YEHOVAH God, BOTH possess the same characteristics, or attributes. Remember, the Messiah said, “I and my Father are ONE” (**John 10:30**).

3. Does YEHOVAH God know the SECRET of existence without dependence upon anything -- needing no food, shelter or other necessities so needful for man’s existence? What is He called? **Isaiah 40:28**.

COMMENT: The Hebrew word translated “Lord” here can also mean “The Self-Existent One.”

4. Does YEHOVAH also know the secret of ETERNAL LIFE -- life WITHOUT END? **John 5:26**. Is He tireless? **Isaiah 40:28**.

5. Is there any way by which we mortals may, OF OURSELVES, learn the secrets of YEHOVAH God? **Same verse**. Also **Romans 11:33** and **Psalms 145:3**. To WHOM does YEHOVAH God reveal certain secrets? **Daniel 2:22; Proverbs 3:32** and **Psalms 25:14**. Does He

even reveal the FUTURE to His called ministers? **Amos 3:7**.

6. Is there any limit to YEHOVAH's understanding? **Psalms 147:5**.

7. And has YEHOVAH God UNLIMITED POWER? **Psalms 62:11** and **Matthew 19:26**. Does the fact that He created our earth prove this? **Genesis 1:1**. Did He also create all of the heavenly bodies -- the sun, moon and stars? **Psalms 8:3; 104:2**. Can feeble, mortal man COUNT their number? **Jeremiah 33:22**. But does YEHOVAH KNOW their number -- EVEN THEIR NAMES? **Psalms 147:4**.

COMMENT: Our earth is but a tiny SPECK OF DUST compared to other gigantic heavenly bodies. Take for example our sun. It is a relatively SMALL star within our "Milky Way" galaxy. Yet, its total volume is 1,300,000 TIMES THAT OF OUR EARTH!

As for the NUMBER of stars in the universe, YEHOVAH says man is UTTERLY INCAPABLE of counting all of them! Using the huge 200-inch Hale telescope on Mt. Palomar in California, and the Hubbell Space Telescope in orbit, astronomers have been ABLE to count over 600,000 stars in the Constellation of Orion alone! But the following figures vividly illustrate man's LIMITATIONS.

In a past issue of the *Scientific American* magazine, was a special number devoted entirely to man's knowledge of the universe. One article stated that present day telescopes have "shown the Milky Way system to be a lens-shaped collection of some ONE HUNDRED BILLION stars, with the sun out toward the rim."

This same issue pointed out that BILLIONS OF GALAXIES are visible beyond our own -- each with about as many stars in it as the Milky Way! Radio telescopes have penetrated even further. But you can plainly see that the number of galaxies BEYOND the range

of man's limited instruments would be a VERY POOR EDUCATED GUESS!

8. Can YEHOVAH God FORETELL future events? **Daniel 2:28**. Why? **Verses 20-21**. Then can YEHOVAH God foretell the future because He has the POWER TO MAKE what He says come to pass? **Matthew 19:26**.

9. Does YEHOVAH have a perfect memory? **Psalms 147:4; Amos 8:7** and **Hosea 7:2**. Does He also have perfect control over His memory -- can He COMPLETELY FORGET if He so wills? **Jeremiah 31:34**.

10. Is YEHOVAH TRUTHFUL? **Titus 1:2**. LOVING? **I John 4:8**. JUST? **Deuteronomy 32:4**. MERCIFUL? **Psalms 136:4**.



The twin Keck telescopes on Mauna Kea, Hawaii. These gigantic 394" telescopes inside dome-shaped buildings reveal but a FRACTION of YEHOVAH's infinite power and glory!

11. Is YEHOVAH God capable of INSTANT COMMUNICATIONS -- can He know what is going on EVERYWHERE at all times? **Jeremiah 23:23**. What does YEHOVAH say He fills? **Verse 24**. How could YEHOVAH be everywhere at one time? **Psalms 139:7-8**. Can YEHOVAH God, in heaven, even know what a person is thinking here on earth? **Verse 2**.

COMMENT: Mortal man is limited by time and space. For example, radio contact

between Mariner IV (which took history-making photographs of planet Mars) and earth was limited by the fact that radio waves travel at the “slow” speed of light -- 186,000 miles per second. This meant that radio commands transmitted to the space probe took approximately 12 minutes traveling time to reach it as it swung past Mars -- 134,000,000 miles from earth! And telemetric data from Mariner IV took another 12 minutes to reach earth -- a 24-MINUTE ROUND TRIP!

But because the spirit of YEHOVAH God Almighty is not limited by time and space, YEHOVAH is able to INSTANTLY KNOW what is taking place here on earth, or anywhere else in the universe! By His spirit, YEHOVAH is able to even READ our very thoughts from heaven above!

Below is the starry splendor of Andromeda Galaxy, nearest large system of stars comparable to our galaxy.



12. And by His spirit, is YEHOVAH able to “see” what anyone is doing from His throne in heaven -- untold millions or billions of miles away? **Proverbs 5:21**. Does He give thought to the actions of men? **Same verse**. Also notice **II Chronicles 16:9** and **Jeremiah 32:19**.

13. Does YEHOVAH God KNOW your general ATTITUDE? **I Kings 8:39**.

14. Does He HEAR the groans of His people? **Psalms 38:9**. How? **Romans 8:23, 26-27**.

15. Does YEHOVAH know the number of STEPS you take? **Job 14:16** and **31:4**.

16. Does YEHOVAH know the number of HAIRS on your head? **Matthew 10:30**. Does He even take note of a bird when it FALLS to the ground? **Matthew 10:29**. Do you think these things are impossible? What does YEHOVAH God say? **Matthew 19:26**. And what did Job say of YEHOVAH God? **Job 42:2**.

17. Is Yeshua the Messiah now capable of lightning-like travel? **Matthew 24:27**. Then will the Messiah circle the earth with the SPEED OF LIGHT at his second coming so all the world can see him? **Luke 17:24**.

COMMENT: At the Messiah’s coming, he will circle the earth with the speed of light and the righteous, now made spirit, will rise to meet him in the air (**I Thessalonians 4:16-17**).

18. After his resurrection, did the Messiah explicitly forbid Mary to TOUCH Him because He had not yet ascended to the Father in heaven? **John 20:17**. But later that SAME DAY, did the Messiah allow his disciples to touch his feet? **Matthew 28:9**. Then did the Messiah travel the enormous distance to the Father’s throne and back to earth in LESS THAN ONE DAY?

COMMENT: This account clearly shows that Yeshua, like YEHOVAH God, is now capable of traveling through space INCOMPARABLY FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF LIGHT!

19. Let’s notice a few other miraculous qualities of the God Family. After the Messiah was resurrected and in his spirit body, did he SUDDENLY APPEAR to his disciples? **John 20:19**. Then is YEHOVAH, like the Messiah, capable of passing through solids such as doors and walls? **Same verse**. (Notice that the doors were LOCKED!) What was their reaction? **Luke 24:36-37**. Did the Messiah also manifest himself in a PHYSICAL BODY of flesh and bone that could be FELT? **Verse 39**. Can YEHOVAH also do this? **Genesis 18:1-2**.

20. Does the Almighty, Eternal, Creator God -- who is rightly able to evaluate -- consider that He is INCOMPREHENSIBLY FAR ABOVE man's PUNY capabilities and accomplishments? **Isaiah 40:17-18.**

Should we be thankful that YEHOVAH God even considers us at all? **Psalms 8:3-4.**

Just how does man, in his present form, really stand in COMPARISON to YEHOVAH God Almighty? **Daniel 4:35.**

YEHOVAH Imparts His Attributes to US!

Incredible as it may sound, YEHOVAH God will actually IMPART His spiritual attributes to YOU and ME!

YEHOVAH's great and wonderful PURPOSE for our existence is revealed in the Bible. YEHOVAH's plan is to create perfect SPIRITUAL CHARACTERS out of mortal mankind -- literal BORN Sons of YEHOVAH's Family!

Man's creation in the Garden of Eden was complete only in the PHYSICAL sense. He was created a perfect physical specimen -- but NOT a perfect SPIRITUAL creation! He was created WITHOUT the divine SPIRITUAL POWER which YEHOVAH God has made available to all mankind -- the power to ACCOMPLISH His purpose in us!

Here's a glimpse of the spiritual creation YEHOVAH wants to produce in you. And here's how you CAN RECEIVE the very attributes and power of YEHOVAH God!

1. Is YEHOVAH still in the PROCESS of forming and molding man as a potter works with clay? **Isaiah 64:8.**

2. Did Job realize YEHOVAH was forming a SPECIAL CREATION in his life? **Job 14:14-15.**

COMMENT: Notice especially the latter part of **Job 14:15:** "THOU WILT HAVE A DESIRE TO THE WORK OF THINE HANDS." The "work" was JOB! Job knew he was merely a piece of divine WORKMANSHIP in the hands of the active Creator. Merely a piece

of PLIABLE CLAY in the hands of the Master Potter!

3. Are spirit-led Christians being fashioned by YEHOVAH God for a SPECIFIC purpose? **Isaiah 43:7** and **Ephesians 2:10.**

COMMENT: The word "WE" in New Testament language refers to spirit-directed CHRISTIANS. WE, then -- if we are YEHOVAH's children -- are YEHOVAH's WORKMANSHIP. Yes, we are "created" -- NOW BEING CREATED -- UNTO GOOD WORKS -- unto a perfect SPIRITUAL CHARACTER which can perform wonderful good works.

So what YEHOVAH God is actually creating in spirit directed humans is the SUPREME MASTERPIECE of all His works of creation! He is in the process of creating millions -- yes, BILLIONS -- of what will become PERFECT, SPIRIT-BORN SONS OF YEHOVAH GOD'S FAMILY!

4. How readily will YEHOVAH GIVE us His holy spirit today? **Luke 11:10-13.** But are there PRIOR CONDITIONS to receiving it? **Acts 2:38** and **5:32.** These CONDITIONS are EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER!

COMMENT: YEHOVAH is creating His supreme masterpiece by two distinct steps: man, the clay material creation (**Genesis 1**), is only the FIRST phase of what is to become YEHOVAH's finished SPIRITUAL creation. For man, the CLAY MODEL, has to be fashioned and molded by EXPERIENCE and with the AID of YEHOVAH'S HOLY SPIRIT, into the finished SPIRITUAL masterpiece of all YEHOVAH's creation!

But before the second phase of man's creation -- his spiritual growth -- begins, YEHOVAH God the Father must FIRST BEGET us by placing His holy spirit WITHIN us. We are then IMPREGNATED, so to speak, by the "seed" or germ of ETERNAL life (**1 Peter 1:23**). It is the BEGETTAL of the life of YEHOVAH God within our minds! We then may be compared to a newly begotten fetus in its mother's womb which BEGINS TO GROW!

5. Do we become the literal “SONS” of YEHOVAH God the Father when He BEGETS us by His spirit? **I John 3:1** and **Romans 8:14-17**.

COMMENT: SPIRIT-begotten Christians literally become the UNborn CHILDREN of YEHOVAH God, the Father, just as an UNborn human fetus is the child of its human parents.

6. Do we PARTAKE OF THE DIVINE NATURE AND CHARACTERISTICS of YEHOVAH when spiritually begotten? **II Peter 1:3-4**.

7. What are some of the CHARACTERISTICS, or “fruits” that are made manifest in our lives IF we possess YEHOVAH’s spirit? **Galatians 5:22-23**.

8. Which is the GREATEST attribute or characteristic YEHOVAH God transmits to us by His holy spirit? Is it LOVE -- “charity”? **I Corinthians 13:13** and **John 4:16**. Is this the SAME love that will enable us to “fulfill” -- to OBEY -- YEHOVAH’s spiritual laws? **Romans 13:10** and **5:5**.

9. What SPECIAL “gifts” are bestowed by the holy spirit? **I Corinthians 12:1,4-11**.

COMMENT: Just imagine! These are some of the ADDITIONAL spiritual abilities YEHOVAH gives to those who surrender their lives to Him so they may receive His holy spirit! YEHOVAH divides these special gifts among certain ones in His Ecclesia as He wills, and for SPECIFIC purposes.

10. Does the Father promise to raise spirit begotten Christians to immortality, just as He resurrected the Messiah? **Romans 8:11** and **I Corinthians 6:14**.

11. If we are begotten by YEHOVAH’s spirit and grow spiritually, will we -- at the resurrection -- become as Yeshua the Messiah is today? **Psalms 17:15; Philippians 3:20-21** and **I John 3:2**. What TYPE of body was the Messiah changed into at his resurrection? **I Corinthians 15:44-45**.

COMMENT: If we become the spirit-begotten children of YEHOVAH God, we will

be LIKE Him when BORN of His spirit into His divine Family! We will be given a SPIRIT body just like the Messiah’s!

The outstanding difference between the body we now have and the one we will be given is that while the one we now have is a “natural” or MORTAL body, the one we shall receive will be a SPIRITUAL body -- COMPOSED OF SPIRIT!

12. Once made spirit, will we live FOREVER? **Luke 20:35-36**.

13. Will YEHOVAH God GLORIFY us at the resurrection by giving us the same great POWER and GLORY of the God Family? **Romans 8:17** and **Colossians 3:4**.

14. Did Yeshua give us a fleeting glimpse of this FUTURE GLORIFIED CONDITION when he was “transfigured”? **Matthew 17:1-2**. Notice that this was a VISION they saw concerning the future (**verse 9**).

COMMENT: The spiritual power and glory we shall receive at the resurrection will be SO GREAT, it will make our spirit bodies shine as the sun and make our raiment DAZZLING WHITE!

YEHOVAH’S INFINITE POWER AND GLORY WILL SOON BE OURS -- IF WE HAVE HIS HOLY SPIRIT WORKING WITHIN US NOW!

YEHOVAH Has Revealed Himself!

YEHOVAH God has REVEALED Himself to you in a real and tangible way. No longer does YEHOVAH seem like an ethereal figment of the imagination -- a mythological invention of an ignorant, superstitious past!

Through His INSPIRED Word, YEHOVAH God told you where He resides, what He looks like, and how long He has existed. He revealed that He CREATED and RULES the entire universe! You learned what part YEHOVAH has taken in world affairs since creation.

YEHOVAH also illustrated some of His awesome, but wonderful powers over His material creation. And He has even RE-

VEALED THE GREAT PURPOSE FOR YOUR VERY EXISTENCE!

Yes, you have seen YEHOVAH God as He REALLY IS! You don't have to GUESS any longer!

Now we need to study the IRREFUTABLE proofs of YEHOVAH's existence and the veracity of His inspired Word. In the lessons which will immediately follow, YEHOVAH will give you these proofs in the form of tangible, MATERIAL EVIDENCE that is absolutely astounding! He wants you to be THOROUGHLY CONVINCED of His existence! He WILL LEAVE NO ROOM FOR DOUBT in the sane, fair and logical mind!

In your next lesson, you will learn that our earth could NOT have "ACCIDENTALLY happened into existence."

These and MANY OTHER WONDERFUL AND EXCITING PROOFS of YEHOVAH's existence are in store for you in coming lessons!

Additional Reading...

YEHOVAH's Shekinah Glory

The Case of the "Royal We" and the Pagan "Elohim"!

Just *Who* Is -- "The Alpha and the Omega"?

Answers to Questions in Lesson 30:

1. Because of our rejection and transgression of YEHOVAH's spiritual laws.
2. Because he knew it was sin. 3. Yes.
4. Yes. 5. Suffering, sorrow and death.
6. No 7. To Adam by direct teaching in the Garden of Eden. 8. The violation of the 10 Commandments. 9. Absolutely NOT! 10. Eternal life. 11. Yes. 12. By murdering his brother, Abel. 13. Yes.
14. No 15. The Law. 16. Yes.

NOTES:

Check Your Progress...

Question 1: The plural name “Elohim” is in the _____ in virtually every verse where it appears in the Old Testament.

Question 2: Deuteronomy 4:35 indicates that YEHOVAH God was _____ at the beginning.

Question 3: The Shekinah Glory was a _____ of the actual presence of YEHOVAH God among His people.

Question 4: In the Aramaic version of the New Testament verse of John 1:1, what was with YEHOVAH God “in the beginning”? _____

Question 5: According to Ephesians 3:9 and Colossians 1:16-17, did Yeshua the Messiah create all things at his Father’s command? _____

Question 6: What were the EARLIEST versions of the gospels of Matthew and Luke missing? _____

Question 7: If YEHOVAH God had “impregnated” Mary He would have been guilty of what? _____

Question 8: Is the earthly Jerusalem a TYPE of the heavenly Jerusalem? _____

Question 9: YEHOVAH God’s throne is located in the _____ heaven.

Question 10: The “Kingdom of YEHOVAH God” presently comprises of _____

Question 11: Does YEHOVAH God know the billions of stars by name? _____

Question 12: The Immaculate Conception/Virgin Birth doctrine was UNKNOWN until when? _____

Question 13: How will those who qualify LOOK when they are finally glorified?

Question 14: What is the POWER that accomplishes YEHOVAH’s will throughout the universe? _____

Question 15: What is the very power and mind of YEHOVAH God that can become a PART of you? _____

Question 16: When will we be able to discern spiritual objects? _____
