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Text: Eph.4:4-6 Series: A Healthy Church File: D191006 audio video

The Universality of the Christian Church (Doctrine of One God and Father)

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A mini-series the Universality of the Christian Church

Doctrine of One Body

Doctrine of One Spirit (Part #1) – (Part #2) – (Part #3) – (Part #4) – (Part #5)

Doctrine of One Hope of Calling (Part #1) – (Part #2)

Doctrine of One Lord Doctrine of One Faith

Doctrine of One Baptism (Part #1) - (Part #2) - (Part #3)

Doctrine of One God and Father

We are currently studying Paul's list of seven doctrines that separate the Christian church from the religions of the world. In this study we will discuss the third of seven doctrines listed in Eph. 4:4-6,

(Eph.4:4-6) "There is one body and one Spirit - just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call - one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all".

This is our final lesson on our seventh doctrine listed in Eph.4:4-6, **One God and Father**.

This lesson will study four aspects of ONE GOD AND FATHER'S total commitment to His relationship with every church age believer

(1 Cor.15:1-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9)

1. The moment you believe the grace gospel of Jesus Christ, you become a son of God and He becomes your Abba, Father.

Notice that all the past adjectives (all) are **plural**, but the 'God and Father' and 'who' are **singular**.

Notice that in Gal.4:6, sons and Spirit are applied at the moment of salvation (Gal.3:2-3, 26-28).

(Gal.4:6) "Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying Abba Father!" (Gal.4:7; Rom.8:15-17)

At point of grace salvation, God is revealed as your personal Abba Father by the Holy Spirit.

2. In eternity past, the son of God was chosen to be the center piece of the plan of God in the angelic conflict. (Ezk.28:11-19; Isa.14:12-15; Rev.12).

It was before the creation of planet Earth (Eph.1:4-5) (adoption, election, predestination).

Lucifer (angelic name of satan) led an unsuccessful angelic revolt against this plan of God and became the god of this world (satan, devil, evil one became his names in the angelic conflict) (1 John 5:19; John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11).

(2 Cor.4:3-4) "And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing (John 3:16), in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

3. Ever since the Garden of Eden, the human race, and the fall of Adam, there has been a satanic war against the worship of the One God and Father through His Son, The Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gen.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." (Matt.25:41: Rev.20:10-15) (satan attacking truth of categorical bible doctrine with lies)

WHY? Answer (Matt.25:41; Rev.20:10-15)

During the days of King Saul, satan sent out his best, Goliath, to defy and taunt the living God of Israel by the dead gods of Philistines (1 Sam.17:43-44). God sent out a young teen-ager rookie, David, to feed the vultures a banquet feast (1 Sam.17:45-47; Matt.6:26). Goliath lost his head in a lot of different ways in this spiritual conflict.

Doctrinal principle: Spiritual warfare has been satan's strategy since his fall in eternity past.

(2 Cor.2:11) "So that <u>no advantage</u> would be taken of us by satan, for <u>we are not ignorant</u> of his schemes. (2 Cor.11:3-4, 13-15).

4. The issue for Christianity is that No One can have a Father- Son relationship with God apart from faith in the grace gospel of Jesus Christ.

It is true that it is the **narrow way** while for religion, its ways are the wide path (Matt.7:13-14).

(Matt.7:14) "For the gate is small (faith) (Eph.2:8-9) and <u>the way</u> (person and work of Jesus) (John 14:6) is <u>narrow</u> that leads to life, and there is few who find it." (Matt.7:14; Luke 15:24, 32)

The **narrow way** of salvation must be considered in context of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ in order to offer grace salvation by faith (Heb.9:12; Eph.2:8-9).

Narrow Way? Jesus was falsely charged by Jewish and Roman courts and was given the death penalty, beaten, and forced to carry His own cross to the place of crucifixion where He was nailed to that cross to suffer six hours for the sins of the entire human race. Then He spent three days and nights in Sheol before God, the Holy Spirit raised Him from the dead (Matt.12:38-40; Acts 2:23-24).

(John 1:29) "Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

(1 Pet.3:18) "For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit." (2 Cor.5:21)