

CHAPTER 1

The Creator

I. The Creator Was Never Created!

"In the beginning _____" (Genesis 1:1).
 "In the beginning was _____"
 (John 1:1; compare verse 14 for the identify of "the Word")

If you could go back all the way to the **beginning**, GOD WOULD BE THERE. God has always existed! There has **never** been a time when God was not. Before there was anything else, **God was**.

God never had a beginning. In the beginning HE already WAS (John 1:1; 1 John 1:1). God never BEGAN, but you did! When was your BEGINNING? _____ (Write your birth date). MANKIND (the human race) had a BEGINNING: "Have ye not read, that He which [who] made them at the _____, made them male and female" (Matthew 19:4). The Lord's question, "Have you not read?" refers to a passage in the book of Genesis that the men He was speaking to (the Pharisees) should have known.. Can you find the verses in Genesis Chapter 1 which describe the creation of the first parents of the human race? Genesis 1: _____

The **UNIVERSE** (the heavens and the earth) also had a BEGINNING (see Genesis 1:1). There was a time (before Genesis 1:1) when the universe did not exist, but there was never a time when the CREATOR did not exist. The CREATOR inhabits _____ (Isaiah 57:15)!

Read carefully Exodus 20:11. **Before** these six days of creation there was no H _____; there was no E _____, and there was no S _____. There was nothing in H _____ (the birds, the stars, etc.); and there was nothing in the E _____ (man, animals, plants, etc.); and there was nothing in the S _____ (fish, whales, etc.) because before these six days the H _____ and the E _____ and the S _____ did not exist! All these things had a **BEGINNING!**

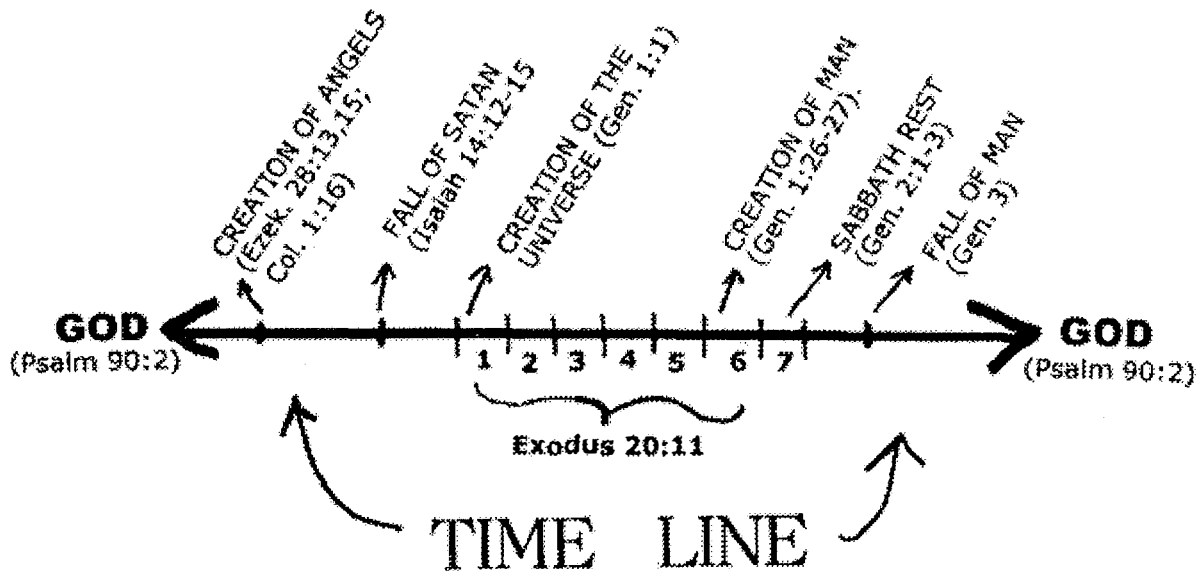
Even the DEVIL had a BEGINNING: "He was a murderer from the _____" (John 8:44). "The devil sinneth from the _____" (1 John 3:8). Before Satan FELL (see Isaiah 14:12-15) and began his MURDEROUS and SINFUL career, he was an ANGEL called L _____ (Isaiah 14:12). We know that Lucifer had a BEGINNING because the Bible says that on a certain day he was created: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from _____ that thou wast _____, until iniquity was found in thee" (Ezekiel 28:15; see also verse 13).

Other angels also had a beginning: "For by Him were _____ things _____, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and **invisible** (angels are invisible to us), whether they be **thrones, or dominions, or principalities or powers**" (Colossians 1:16). This verse is speaking of the creation of angels and angels normally are invisible. See also Romans 8:38; Ephesians 1:21; 3:10; 6:12; and Colossians 2:10,15). Colossians 1:16 says, "_____ things were _____ by Him." God the CREATOR, however, had no BEGINNING!

Please MATCH the following:

1. _____	The beginning of God	A. EZEKIEL 28:13,15
2. _____	The beginning of Lucifer	B. GENESIS 1:1
3. _____	The beginning of angels	C. GENESIS 1:26-27
4. _____	The beginning of the universe	D. He had no beginning. He already WAS. JOHN 1:1
5. _____	The beginning of mankind	E. COLOSSIANS 1:16

NOTE: The book of GENESIS is the book of BEGINNINGS. In this book we are told about the beginning of the universe (Gen. 1:1), the beginning of man (Gen. 1:26), the beginning of sin and death (Gen. 2:17; 3:6), and the beginning of marriage (Gen. 2:24). Can you think of other BEGINNINGS that we are told about in the book of Genesis?




BEFORE anything was ever created, GOD was already there: "and He is _____ all things" (Colossians 1:17). He is "the _____ of the creation of God" (Revelation 3:14; compare Colossians 1:15). If you could go back all the way to the beginning before anything was created, you would find that the CREATOR was already there! In Psalm 90:2 Moses, the man of God, wrote these words: "**BEFORE** the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even FROM _____ TO _____, THOU ART _____."

GOD'S ETERNAL LIFE
(Psalm 90:2)



MAN'S FLEETING LIFE (Psalm 90:10)

In Psalm 90:10 Moses says that the average **life span** (the number of years a person lives) is **THREESCORE YEARS AND TEN**. A **score** = 20 years; therefore, a man's average life span is $3 \times 20 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} + 10 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ years. Do all men live this long? Also in verse 10, Moses says that some people even live to be years ($4 \times 20 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ years). How many people do you know who are as old as 70 or older? How old was Moses when he died (Deuteronomy 34:7)? years. Notice the great **DIFFERENCE** between man's short life and God's unending life:

		
The average man	70	Men are born, they live so many years, and then they die (see Genesis 5). Go to any cemetery and read what is written on the tombstones (gravestones) and you will learn that every man has a birth-date and a death-date, whether he lives many years or few. Death is inevitable
An old man	80	
Moses	120	
Genesis 5:27	969	
What about you?	?	


Think of a birthday cake. When the candles are lighted, they are immediately blown out and you see smoke for a time. How long does the smoke last? This illustration demonstrates the length of your life compared to eternity. Read James 4: 14. Compare Isaiah 40:6-8 and 1 Peter 1:24,25.

GOD'S ETERNAL AND UNENDING LIFE is quite different! Consider these verses:

1) Isaiah 44:6; Revelation 1:17 (Revelation 1:11).

F _____  _____ **L** _____

2) Revelation 1:8, 21:6; 22:13.

B _____  _____ **E** _____

3) Revelation 1:8,11; 21:6; 22:13.



ALPHA (Α) is the first letter of the Greek **Alphabet**. Compare the English letter **A**.

OMEGA (Ω) is the last letter of the Greek Alphabet. Compare the English letter **Z**.

God the Creator is the **FIRST** and the **LAST**, the **BEGINNING** and the **END**, the **ALPHA** and the **OMEGA**. He was never created. He was never made. He was never born. He never came into existence. He never had a beginning. **HE ALWAYS WAS**. He is the God "which [who] _____ and which [who] _____, and who _____" (Revelation 1:4,8; see Exodus 3:14 and John 8:58). **THE CREATOR WAS NEVER CREATED!** "In the beginning **GOD...**"

II. The Creator is the Triune (Three in One) God.

"In the beginning _____ **CREATED**" (Genesis 1:1). According to this verse, **WHO** is the **CREATOR**? _____ This name for "God" is the Hebrew word "ELOHIM" (el-ō-heem). The ending of this word ["...**IM**"] is a **PLURAL ENDING** ("plural" means more than one). In the English language "S" is a **PLURAL ENDING**. Can you make the following words **PLURAL**?

1) **DOG**__

4) **GRANDMOTHER**__

2) **PENCIL**__

5) **GOD**__

3) **WATERMELON**__

6) **BUMBLEBEE**__

Very good! Can you make the following **HEBREW** words plural? [Use the Hebrew plural **IM**]

1. **CHERUB** ____ (Exodus 25:18-20)

2. **SERAPH** ____ (Isaiah 6:2,6)

3. **TERAPH** ____ (Judges 17: 5) "Teraphim" were household gods or idols.

The Hebrew word **ELOHIM** is a **PLURAL** word. Many times it is used in the Bible to describe **gods** (false gods):

"Thou shalt have no other _____ [ELOHIM] before Me" (Exodus 20:3).

"And make no mention of the name of other _____ [ELOHIM]" (Exodus 23:13).

". . .then will they turn unto other _____ [ELOHIM]" (Deuteronomy 31:20; see also verse 18).

"God forbid that we should forsake the **LORD**, to serve other _____ [ELOHIM]" (Joshua 24:16; see verse 2).

When ELOHIM is used to describe the TRUE GOD (as in Genesis 1:1) the word is translated "God," but it is a PLURAL word. Should not Genesis 1:1 say, "IN THE BEGINNING GODS CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH"? How many true GODS are there (Mark 12:29-30; 1 Corinthians 8:5-6; Deuteronomy 4:39; Isaiah 44:6-8; 45:5-6)? _____ Did three GODS create the universe? _____

In Genesis 1:1 the verb "CREATED" is a SINGULAR verb so it could be translated "HE CREATED." Two answers may be given to the question, "WHO CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH":

1. **HE DID (SINGULAR)** because the verb means "HE CREATED." Elohim does **not** mean "THEY CREATED."
2. **GOD DID (PLURAL)** because the word ELOHIM is a plural word!

So, the ONE who created the universe is both SINGULAR and PLURAL. HE is ONE, but HE IS MORE THAN ONE. HE is a PLURAL UNITY. Deuteronomy 6:4 says: "Hear, O Israel: The _____ [singular] our _____ [ELOHIM-plural] is _____ (a PLURAL UNITY)." Because our God is ONE LORD, how can we love Him (Deuteronomy 6:5)?

If there were two GODS, do you think we would be able to love both of them in this way (compare Luke 16:13)? _____

In Genesis 1:26-27 we again discover that God is a PLURAL UNITY. Verse 26 shows us that GOD is plural. Verse 27 shows us that GOD is singular (a unity).

Genesis 1:26 (Plural)

"And _____ [ELOHIM] said, Let _____ make man in _____ image, after _____ likeness." See also Genesis 3:22; 11:7; and Isaiah 6:8.

Genesis 1:27 (Singular)

"So God _____ [HE CREATED = singular verb] man in _____ own image, in the image of God _____ him; male and female _____ them."

How can the CREATOR be both PLURAL and SINGULAR? How can the CREATOR be a PLURAL UNITY? The answer is found in the New Testament where we find that this ONE GOD appears in THREE PERSONS:

One God In Three Persons

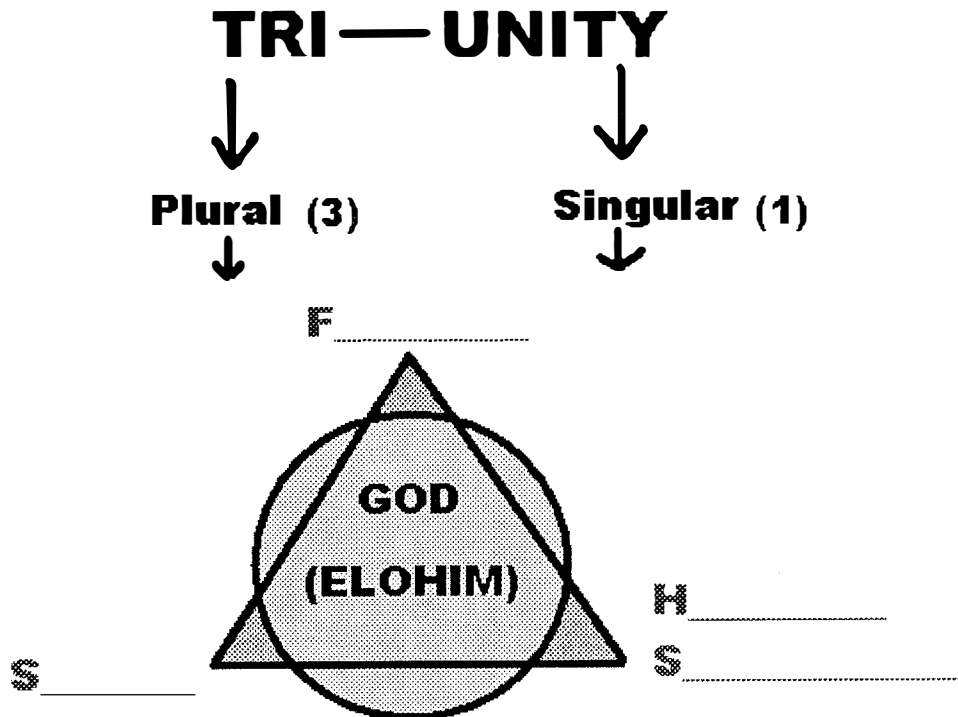
MATTHEW 28:19

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

We call this the TRINITY or the TRIUNITY OF GOD:

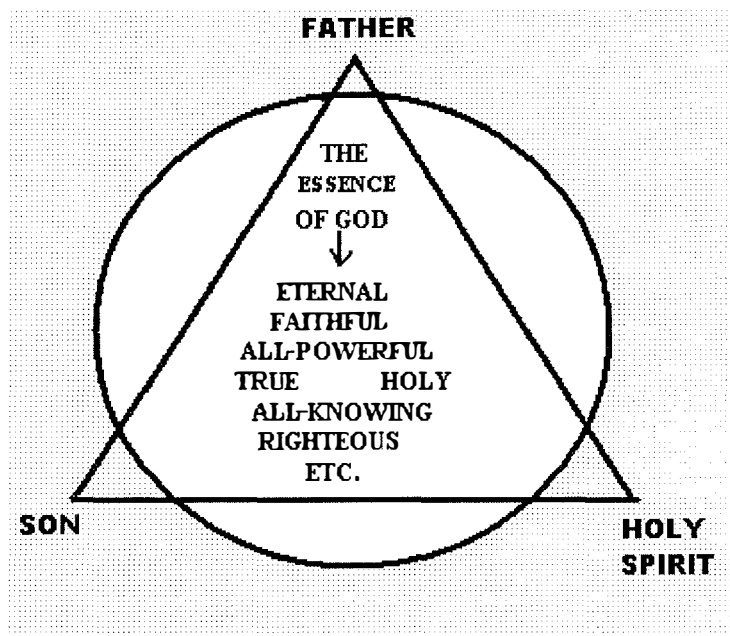
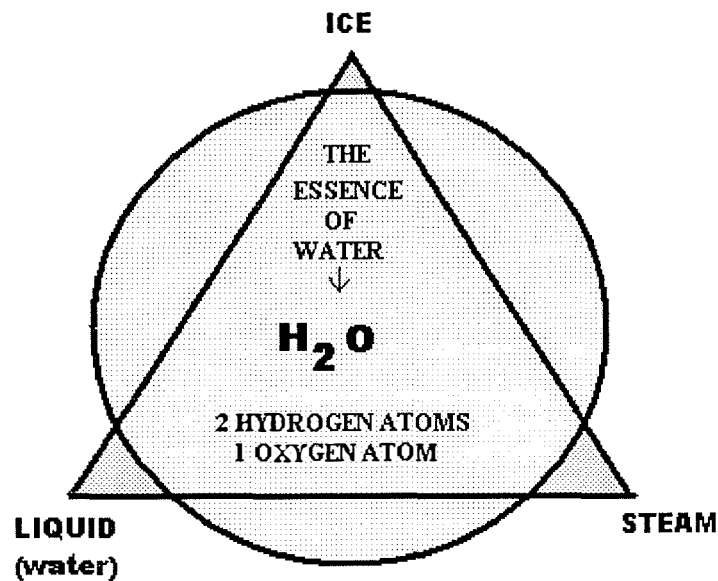


The following is an analogy to help you understand the idea of the Trinity, though we recognize that any illustration is inadequate to explain the true nature of God:

WATER appears in three different forms: **1. ICE 2. LIQUID 3. STEAM.** Each of these forms is WATER and is made up of the same SUBSTANCE (H₂O). Likewise, God is in three different PERSONS (1. F _____ 2. S _____ 3. H _____ S _____) but each of these PERSONS is GOD, and each is made up of the same substance or ESSENCE. GOD'S ESSENCE IS EVERYTHING THAT GOD IS!

<h2>God's Essence</h2>		
<h3>God is...</h3>		
All-Powerful	All-Knowing	Wise
Everywhere Present	Unchangeable	Faithful
True	Eternal	Love
Holy	Righteous	Sovereign

AND, GOD is MUCH MORE than ALL OF these qualities or attributes!



As we study CREATION, we learn that all three of the PERSONS of the Trinity were involved in the work of CREATION:

1. God the Father Was Involved in Creating.

Ephesians 3:9 says, "God [God the Father], who _____
 _____" (see also Hebrews 1:2).

2. God the Son Was Involved in Creating.

God the Son was the MAIN ACTOR in creation. He actually did the work of creating. JESUS CHRIST is the CREATOR! God the Father created all things through Him.

Colossians 1:16 says, "For by _____ [GOD'S SON, see verse 13]; were _____
 _____ that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and
 invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or power--all things were
 _____ and for Him."

John 1:3 says, "_____ were _____ by _____ ("him" refers to "the
 Word" of verse 1. See verse 14 which identifies "the Word" as Jesus Christ), and without Him
 was not anything made that was made." Apart from God the Son, how much was made or
 created? _____"

Hebrews 1:2 says, "(God the Father) hath in these last days spoken unto us by His _____,
 whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he _____ the worlds [ages]."

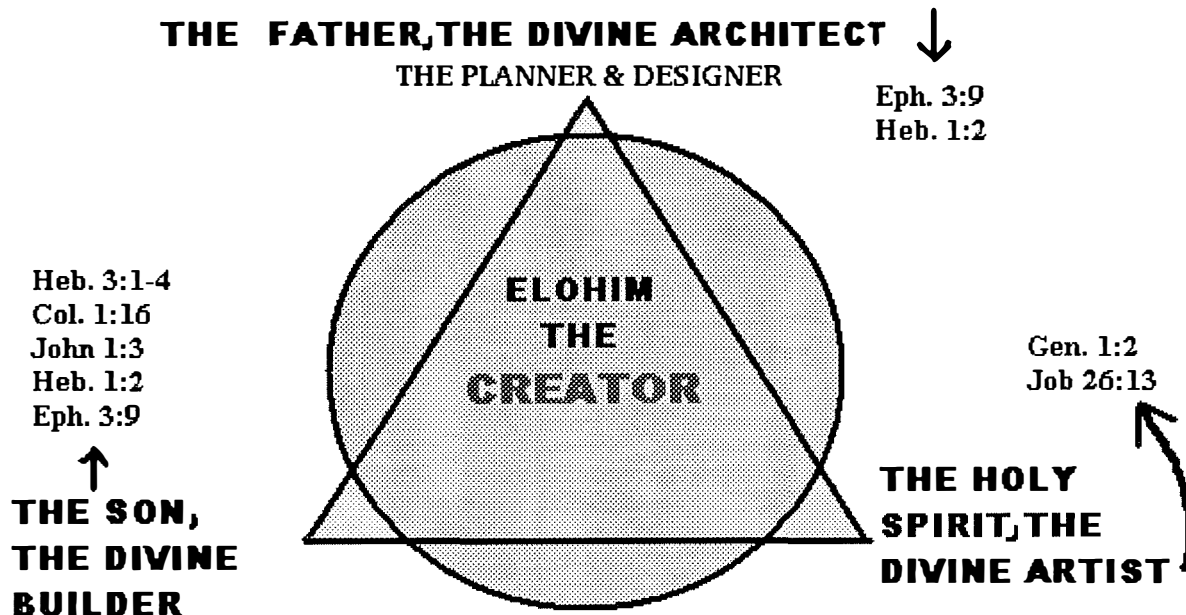
Ephesians 3:9 says, "God the Father, who created all things by _____"

3. God the Holy Spirit Was Involved in Creating.

Genesis 1:2 says, "And the _____ moved upon the face of the
 waters."

Job 26:13 says, "By His Spirit He hath **garnished** the heavens." The word "garnish" means "to
 decorate, to make beautiful." The Holy Spirit is the **Divine Artist** in creation! When the earth
 was "without form and void" (unformed and unfilled), the Spirit of God moved and began to
 form and shape and beautify and give life to the young earth (Genesis 1:2).

The Work of the Triune God in Creation

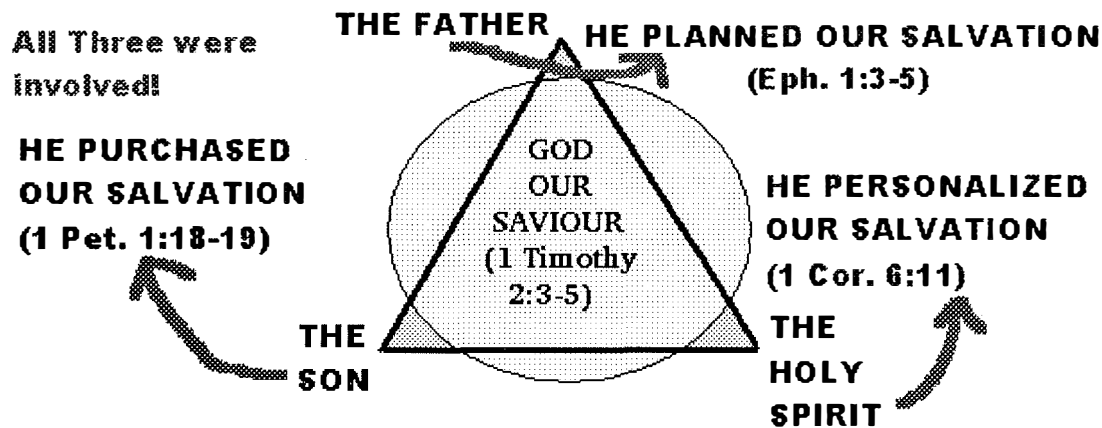


Not only was the TRIUNE GOD involved in the work of CREATION, but the TRIUNE GOD was also involved in the work of the NEW CREATION (2 Corinthians 5:17), that is, the work of SALVATION.

THE TRIUNE GOD AND OUR SALVATION:

<p>1. THE FATHER</p>	<p>He planned our salvation (Rom. 8:28-31). He sent His Son (1 John 4:9-10). He gave His Son (John 3:16; Rom.8:32).</p>
<p>2. THE SON</p>	<p>He did the actual WORK of salvation (John 17:4;19:30). He was the Great Saviour (Titus 2:13-14). He died to provide salvation (1 Tim. 2:6).</p>
<p>3. THE HOLY SPIRIT</p>	<p>He gives the saved person a NEW LIFE (2 Cor. 3:6). He gives the saved person a NEW BIRTH (John 3:5; Tit. 3:5). He garnishes and makes the sinner beautiful by placing him IN CHRIST (2 Cor. 5:17), and thus He provides him with the beautiful garments of redemption, sanctification and justification (1 Cor. 6:11, and see 1 Cor. 1:30).</p>

The Work Of The Triune God In The New Creation



Compare John 3:16 and John 3:5. The Father is the GIVER, the Son is the GIFT, and the Holy Spirit makes sure that the believing sinner GETS THE GIFT!

III. The Creator Alone is Worthy of Worship.

Only God the CREATOR deserves to be worshipped: "... W _____ Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" (Revelation 14:7). "Get thee hence [be gone], Satan; for it is written, Thou shalt _____ the Lord, thy God, and Him _____ shalt thou serve" (Matthew 4:10).

The Creator is a _____ God (Exodus 20:5); even His NAME is _____ (Exodus 34:14). Consider the following:

Jolly John is madly in love with Sweetheart Susan. One day he discovers that Susan is taking an interest in Rival Richard, and in fact, she even walked home from school with him! Jolly John suddenly becomes Jealous John! He wants Susan to take an interest only in him, and not in anyone else!

This story shows the negative side of jealousy. Here Jolly John is selfish and possessive of this girl for his own gain. In contrast, God is jealous of our love because He knows that He is the only One who can truly satisfy us and meet our deepest needs. God IS the highest and best, and He wants us to have Him who is the highest and best.

GOD the CREATOR is JEALOUS with a **HOLY JEALOUSY!** He wants men to worship Him and no one else! He does not want us to love anyone else or anything else more than we love Him. He does not want His children to have less than the best, and He knows that He is the BEST that we can have. He wants us to give Him **first place** in our lives:

"Thou shalt have no _____ before Me" (Exodus 20:3). He wants to be our **first love**:

"Thou shalt love the LORD thy God with _____ thine heart" (Deuteronomy 6:5; see also Matthew 10:37 and Revelation 2:4).

There is a great and infinite **difference** between the **CREATOR** (the God who created all things) and the **CREATURE** (the angel, person, animal, plant or thing which has been created).

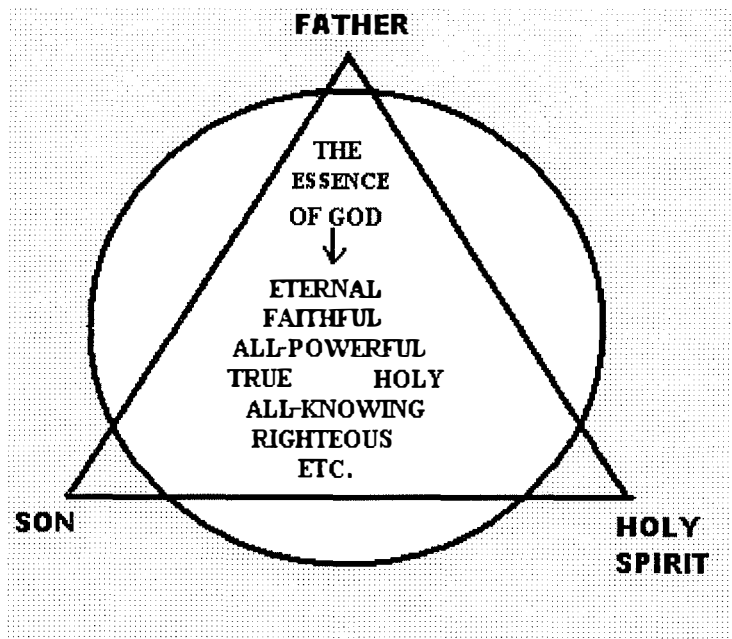
Can you list 10 **CREATURES** which begin with the letter "S"?
 (Three have already done for you!):

1. Snakes	6. S _____
2. Satan	7. S _____
3. Skunks	8. S _____
4. S _____	9. S _____
5. S _____	10. S _____

The **CREATOR** is far **GREATER** than any **CREATURE**:

THE CREATOR

There is a great difference between the **CREATOR** and the **CREATURE**. The **CREATOR** is far **GREATER** than any **CREATURE**!



THE CREATURES

- ↓
- Satan (1 John 4:4) and Demons
 - Good Angels (Michael, Gabriel, etc.)
 - Sun
 - Moon
 - Stars
 - Man (Psalm 8:4)
 - Animals (Psalm 8:7-8)
 - [Fish, Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, etc.]

The cult of Jehovah's Witnesses wrongly teaches that Jesus Christ was **CREATED** by God. They believe that there was once a time when the Son of God did not exist. According to their teaching, He was created by God [the first creature that God created], and this means that there must have been a time prior to His creation when He did not exist. This false teaching makes the Lord Jesus a **CREATURE** instead of the **CREATOR**! They also teach that Jesus Christ is not God. Refer to the MBC study on The Deity of Christ for further information on this false teaching.

Contrary to this erroneous teaching, the Bible clearly states that the SON (Jesus Christ) is G _____ (Hebrews 1:8) and the CREATOR (Hebrews 1:10) and God the Father tells all the angels to _____ Him (Hebrews 1:6). How terrible it is to call the CREATOR a CREATURE! We must never make God less than what He really is.

To worship the CREATURE rather than the CREATOR is also a terrible sin. Romans 1:25 describes how men in their sinfulness " _____ and served the _____ more than the _____" (see also verses 20-24).

The Terrible Sin of Creature Worship

Please Match:

1. _____	Satan worship	A. Jeremiah 1:16; Isaiah 2:8
2. _____	Angel worship	B. Colossians 2:18
3. _____	Beast (Antichrist) worship	C. Deuteronomy 4:19
4. _____	Idol worship (gods that men have made with their own hands)	D. 2 Kings 17:16; 21:3
5. _____	Star worship	E. Revelation 14:7
6. _____	Sun worship	F. Revelation 13:8,12; 14:9; and compare 2 Thessalonians 2:4
7. _____	Sun, moon and star worship	G. Matthew 4:9; Rev.13:4a
8. _____	Golden calf worship	H. Exodus 32:8; Psalm 106:19
9. _____	CREATOR WORSHIP--the only kind of worship that pleases God	I. Ezekiel 8:16

The Wrongness of Creature Worship

1. Acts 10:25-26

Who did Cornelius worship (verse 25)? _____ This act of worship was wrong because Peter was only a _____ (verse 26)!

2. Acts 14:11-15

Who did the people worship (verse 12)? _____ This worship was wrong because Barnabas and Paul were mere _____ (verse 15). Instead of

worshipping them they should have worshipped the _____ God (the CREATOR) "who _____ heaven, and earth and the sea, and all things" that are in them (compare verse 15).

Should men worship the virgin Mary? Should men worship "the saints"? Should men worship the Pope? Should any **man** be worshipped?

3. Revelation 19:10

Did John worship the Creator or the creature? _____ This was wrong because the creature told John to _____.

4. Revelation 22:8-9

Who did John worship (verse 8)? _____ Who is the only Person worthy of worship (verse 9)? _____

Did the Lord Jesus Christ allow men to worship Him (see Matthew 14:33; 15:25; 28:9; 28:17; John 9:38; 20:28-29)? _____ When a man worships the Lord Jesus Christ, is he worshipping a creature or is he worshipping the CREATOR? _____

The Wrongness of Idol Worship

1. Psalm 115:5 -- Idols have mouths, but they _____ not. What about the Creator? Read Isaiah 40:5; 45:23; 55:11.
2. Psalm 115:5 -- Idols have eyes, but they _____ not. What about the Creator? Read 2 Chronicles 16:9; Hebrews 4:13 and 1 Peter 3:12.
3. Psalm 115:6 -- Idols have ears, but they _____ not. What about the Creator? Read Psalm 34:15; 130:2; James 5:4.
4. Psalm 115:6 -- Idols have noses, but they _____ not. What about the Creator? Read 2 Samuel 22:9,16; Genesis 8:21; Ephesians 5:2.
5. Psalm 115:7 -- Idols have hands, but they _____ not. What about the Creator? Read Psalm 8:3,6; Hebrews 1:10.
6. Psalm 115:7 -- Idols have feet, but they _____ not. What about the Creator? Read Genesis 3:8; Deut. 23:14; Revelation 2:1.

Note: See Psalm 115:8. Those who make idols are just as dumb as the idols!! They made their idols after their own likeness. [The idols are "dumb" in the sense that they cannot speak; the idol worshipers are "dumb" in the sense that they are foolish and stupid].

7. Jeremiah 10:5 -- Idols must be carried, they do not get around by themselves very well! What about the Creator? Read Psalm 139:7-10; Acts 17:27.
8. Jeremiah 10:5 -- Idols are harmless. Do not fear them! What about the Creator? Read Revelation 14:7; Deut. 6:13,24.

- 9. Jeremiah 10: 5 -- Idols cannot do _____, neither can they do _____; in fact, they can't do anything! What about the Creator? Read Matthew 19:26; Genesis 18:14.
- 10. 1 Kings 18:27 -- Idols act as if they were asleep!! What about the Creator? Read Psalm 121:3-4; Isaiah 40:28.

* * * *

CONCLUSION

WORSHIP THE CREATOR (Acts 14:15; Rev. 14:7) AND KEEP YOURSELVES FROM _____ (1 JOHN 5:21).

