

The Biblical Unitarian Podcast - by Dustin Smith, PhD

Episode 353—"Paul Was a Unitarian"

"The podcast that aims to start conversations about the oneness and unity of God and about the humanity of Jesus."

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Introduction

This week we are moving on from our study of logical fallacies, as the final two that I wanted to explore really didn't have enough content to justify an entire episode for each of them. If you wanted to look up the Composition/Division fallacy and the Loaded Question fallacy, you are welcome to do so. But we are moving back to biblical exegesis.

This week's episode will examine an overlooked argument that demonstrates that Paul believed that God is one person, the Father alone. It doesn't require complex theories about God, it is not dependent upon one particular English translation, and it can be comprehended by a 5th grader.

How does Paul's grammar for describing the one true God demonstrate his ongoing unitary monotheism? Did Paul ever define God as three distinct persons? If not, what evidence do we have that Paul, upon converting to what we call Christianity, maintained his unitarian understanding of God that was so fundamental to Judaism?

Let's find out on this week's episode of the Biblical Unitarian Podcast!

1. Paul's Masculine Singular Pronouns that Defined God

- Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son (**Rom 1:1-3**)
- For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son (**Rom 1:9**)
- For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. (**Rom 5:10**)
- And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren (**Rom 8:28-29**)
- God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (**1 Cor 1:9**)
- But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood (**Gal 1:15-16**)
- But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law (**Gal 4:4**)
- Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" (**Gal 4:6**)
 - a. And He was saying, "Abba! Father! All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will." (**Mark 14:36**)

2. Paul Taught Unitarianism to His Gentile Converts

1. For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come. (**1 Thes 1:9-10**)

Thanks for listening to this week's episode!

Join us next week as we examine the doctrine of the two natures of Christ and ask if it is coherent.

Please look forward to our next episode.

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