

Though Deuteronomy 6:4 says that God is one, the Hebrew term translated *one* indicates a compound unity. Therefore, the one God must be a multiple in some sense, that being revealed by other passages of Scripture as a Trinity.

Response: The language in which this was originally written was the native tongue of the Jews, yet they do not have, and have never had, the concept of either a multiple or triune God. So, what was their understanding of the *one* God? The God of Israel was not like the gods of the surrounding nations. They had a god for this and a god for that; but Israel had one God for everything. In this sense we might say He is many gods in One; and only in this sense might we say that He is a compound unity and still be congruent with historic Jewish beliefs. Notice what Jesus said to the Samaritan woman, “*You [Samaritans] worship what you do not know; we [Jews] worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.*” If God were triune when the Jews held no such concept, wouldn’t that have made Jesus’ statement to the Samaritan woman inaccurate? -- John 4:22

Jesus himself clearly identified who the *one God* is. In John 17:1-3 Christ is recorded as praying, “*Father,... this is eternal life, that they know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*” In Greek the pronoun *you* has both singular and plural forms. Here the singular form is used. Jesus addressed this prayer to his Father, used the singular form of the pronoun, and described this singular “You” as “*the only true God.*” Thus, according to Jesus, the Father alone is God.

Trinitarians argue that the Father was the only *true* God at this time because Jesus had divested himself of certain divine attributes upon his incarnation; even so, he did not divest himself of his identity as God. So was he or was he not God when he said this? If Jesus was not *truly* God when he said this, he was not *truly* God a few hours later when he died.

Doesn’t the fact that almost all Christians accept the doctrine of the trinity prove that it is true? Consider, two thousand years ago the vast majority of the Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah; did this prove that he was not the Messiah? No, it did not. What is important is what the Bible does --or does not-- say, not what the majority choose to believe. The Bible explicitly states that the Father is the one God; and Jesus explicitly identified his Father as our Father and his God as our God.¹ He also explicitly said that the Father is the “*only true God.*” Nowhere does the Bible explicitly say that God is a trinity. -- 1 Corinthians 8:6, Ephesians 4:6, John 20:17, 17:1-3

¹ 1 Corinthians 8:6, “...yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist...” / Ephesians 4:4-6, “There is... one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all.” / John 20:17, “Jesus said to her, ‘...go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” [Proposition # 1]