

THE NORTH JERSEY UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

JESUS ONLY?

Answering a Common
Misunderstanding About
Oneness Pentecostals



“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.”

Deuteronomy 6:4 (KJV)



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JESUS ONLY? – NOT REALLY...

Answering a Common Misunderstanding About Oneness Pentecostals

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What Do People Mean by "Jesus Only"?

The expression "**Jesus Only**" has been used in two very different ways, and confusing the two has led to many misunderstandings.

First, it has often been used as a **pejorative label** against Oneness Pentecostals, suggesting that we deny the existence of the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Second, the phrase was used during the early twentieth-century Pentecostal movement as a slogan emphasizing **baptism in the name of Jesus Christ**. While that historical expression has become associated with the Oneness movement, it does not fully describe what we believe.

Modern Oneness Pentecostals do **not** deny the Father or the Holy Spirit. We believe everything the Bible teaches about the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The question is **not whether they exist**, but **how the one true God has revealed Himself**.

We believe exactly what the Scriptures teach:

- There is **one God** (*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD*. Deuteronomy 6:4).
- The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are biblical revelations of the one true God—not three separate Gods.

Jesus Christ is **God manifested in the flesh** *16*
And without controversy great is the mystery of
godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified
in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the
Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into
glory. 1 Timothy 3:16 KJV

For this reason, the label "**Jesus Only**" does not accurately describe our doctrine. A more accurate description is **Biblical Monotheism** or **the Oneness of God**.

This booklet is not written to attack those who believe differently. Its purpose is simply to explain what Oneness Pentecostals actually believe and to allow Scripture to speak for itself.

1. We Believe in the Father

Jesus repeatedly spoke of the Father.

John 5:37

"And the Father himself... hath borne witness of me."

We believe the Father is real.

The Father is God in His eternal deity.

The Father is not a separate God from Jesus.

The Father is the eternal, invisible, immortal Spirit (John 4:24; 1 Timothy 1:17). His presence fills heaven and earth (Jeremiah 23:24). Jesus is not another God beside the Father, but the visible manifestation of the invisible God.

Jesus said of the Father:

John 10:30

"I and my Father are one."

2. We Believe in the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is not merely an influence.
The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God working in the lives of believers.

Acts 5:3-4 identifies lying to the Holy Spirit as lying to God.

Romans 8:9 even uses the expressions:

Spirit of God

Spirit of Christ

interchangeably.

The Holy Spirit is God's own Spirit.

3. We Believe the Fullness of God Dwells in Jesus Christ

Colossians 2:9

"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

According to **Colossians 2:9**, Jesus is not in the Godhead—the Godhead is in Jesus.

Jesus is not one-third of God.

He is not the second person of a divine committee.

He is literally God revealed in human flesh.

4. "Jesus Only" Is Not Our Name

Historically, the label "Jesus Only" arose as a criticism.

It does not accurately describe our doctrine.

We gladly preach:

the Father

the Son

the Holy Spirit

We simply understand them according to Scripture.

The biblical name most accurately describing our

belief is **Oneness of God**.

5. Jesus Is the Image of the Invisible God

Colossians 1:15

"Who is the image of the invisible God..."

God is invisible.

Jesus is the visible revelation of the invisible God.

When we see Jesus, we see the Father revealed.

John 14:9

"He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

6. The Bible never explicitly describes God as three co-equal, co-eternal divine persons sharing one essence.

But the Scriptures DOES repeatedly emphasize:

One God

One Lord

One Spirit

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians 4:4-6 KJV

The word **Trinity** never appears in Scripture.

Neither does the Bible ever define God as three co-equal, co-eternal persons.

The term God the son is not in the Bible, but the term the Son of God is.

Our doctrine comes from biblical language rather than later theological terminology.

7. We Baptize in the Name of Jesus Because the Apostles Did

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost Matthew 28:19 KJV

What's the NAME?

Matthew 28:19 commands baptism in the **name** (singular).

Every recorded baptism in Acts was performed in the name of Jesus Christ.

Examples:

Acts 2:38

Acts 8:16

Acts 10:48

Acts 19:5

This is not because we ignore the Father and Holy Spirit.

It is because Jesus is the revealed saving name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Name Jesus Literally Declares Who He Is

One reason Oneness believers place great emphasis on the name of Jesus is because His very name reveals His identity and mission.

The English name **Jesus** comes from the Greek **Iēsous** (Ἰησοῦς), which is the Greek form of the Hebrew name **Yehoshua** (Joshua) or its shortened form **Yeshua**.

The Hebrew name is formed from two elements:

- **Yeho** — (יהו) a shortened form of the divine name **YHWH** (**Jehovah** or **Yahweh**).

Yasha — (ישע) meaning *to save, to deliver, or salvation*.

Thus the name means:

- **"Yahweh is salvation."**

- **"The LORD saves."**

"Jehovah has become our salvation."

This explains why the angel instructed Joseph concerning Mary's child:

Matthew 1:21

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."

The angel did not choose the name at random. The name itself proclaimed His mission. Jesus would save His people because **He is the LORD who has come to save.**

Isaiah had foretold this centuries earlier:

Isaiah 12:2

"Behold, God is my salvation..."

The Hebrew word translated **salvation** is closely related to the name **Yeshua (Jesus).**

Likewise, Isaiah declared:

Isaiah 43:11

"I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour."

The Old Testament says **Jehovah is the only Savior.**

The New Testament says **Jesus is the Savior.**

The only conclusion is that **Jesus is Jehovah manifested in the flesh.**

As Paul wrote:

Colossians 2:9

"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

The name Jesus is therefore much more than a personal name. It is a declaration that **God Himself has come to save His people.**

Isaiah 45:22-23

*"Look unto me, and be ye saved... For I am God...
Unto me every knee shall bow..."*

Then quote

Philippians 2:10-11

*"That at the name of Jesus every knee should
bow..."*

Paul applies to Jesus what Jehovah said about
Himself.

8. Jesus Prayed Because He Was Truly Human

Some claim that Jesus praying proves two divine
persons.

It proves something else.

Jesus possessed:

full deity

genuine humanity

As a man, He prayed.

As God, He answered prayer.

His prayers reveal the relationship between His
humanity and His deity—not conversations be-
tween two Gods.

Hebrews 5:7 tells us:

"Who in the days of his flesh..."

That phrase alone explains why Jesus prayed.

It wasn't because He was one divine person pray-
ing to another divine person.

It was **because He truly became man.**

9. We Worship One God Revealed in Jesus Christ

*6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is
given: and the government shall be upon his shoul-*

der: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 KJV

Isaiah 9:6 calls the coming Messiah:

Wonderful
Counselor
Mighty God
Everlasting Father

John 20:28

Thomas declared:

"My Lord and my God."

Jesus accepted that worship.

10. Our Message Is Not "Jesus Only"

Our message is:

There is **only one God**.

That one God was manifested in flesh as Jesus Christ.

Through Jesus Christ we:

- know the Father (John 14:9)
- receive the Holy Spirit (John 20:22)
- obtain salvation (Acts 4:12)

We are not "Jesus Only."

We are **Bible believers who proclaim the absolute oneness of God revealed in Jesus Christ.**

Conclusion

Labels often create more confusion than clarity.

Rather than asking whether someone is "Jesus Only," ask:

What does the Bible teach about God?

Who is Jesus?

How did the apostles preach Him?
Our desire is not to defend a denomination.
Our desire is to believe, preach, and obey the
whole counsel of God.

As Peter declared:

Acts 4:12

*"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there
is none other name under heaven given among
men, whereby we must be saved."*

The issue is not a slogan.

The issue is faithfully proclaiming the one true
God revealed in Jesus Christ.