

## Are There Many Gods?

**1 John 4:1 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."**

### **How should we go about testing the spirits to see if they are from God or not?**

Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

*Think of the most deceitful, tricky bad guy you've ever seen or heard of. This could even be a politician or a cartoon character. God's Word tells us that your heart is more deceitful than that person. And your feelings come from your heart! So we clearly can't trust our feelings when searching for the truth.*

Proverbs 28:26 "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered."

*Again, God's Word tells us how foolish it is to trust our heart and our feelings.*

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### **If we can't trust our feelings to find truth, how can we possibly find truth???**

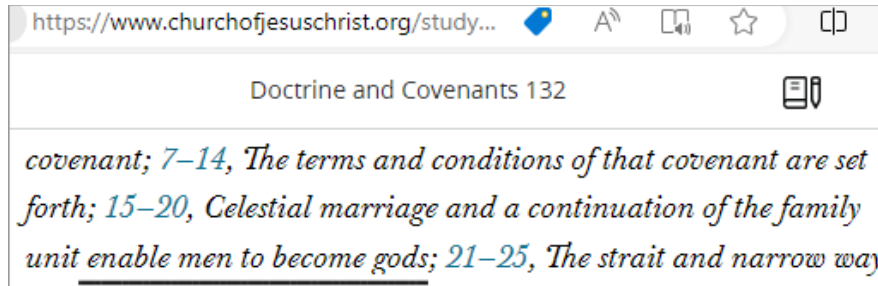
John 17:17 "Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth.**"

*We have the Bible. The Bible is the Word of God and God's Word is truth. Anytime anyone comes along and says something about God, Jesus or salvation, we need to go to the Bible and test it to see if it is of God or not. This even goes for any kind of spiritual experience that we might have had.*

*The question we need to ask is: how do I know if my spiritual experience is of God or of something else? As previously stated, we can't figure this out by going off of our feelings. If anything we hear or experience confirms God's Word/the Bible, that's great and we should accept it as truth! But if anything we hear or experience conflicts with God's Word, we throw it out because it is not true and therefore not of God.*

*We need to test everyone and be very cautious and wise about what we choose to believe. In 1820, Joseph Smith came on the scene and spoke about having revelations about God, the Bible and of Jesus. We need to test Joseph Smith and all the LDS prophets to see if what they claimed matches up with God's Word in order to examine if what they taught was true and of God.*

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### What Does God's Word Say?

*Isaiah 43:10 "Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: **before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.**"*

*Isaiah 44:6-8 "This is what the Lord says - Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: **I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God...**Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. **Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.**"*

*Psalms 90:2 "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even **from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.**"*

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When reading God's Word, we see 3 clear teachings:

1. God is the only God who has ever existed. No Gods have ever been formed before Him, and no Gods will ever be formed after Him.
2. God doesn't even know of any other Gods. If Jesus and heavenly Father truly were two separate Gods...how is it that Jesus doesn't even know about His own dad or any other Gods for that matter?
3. From eternal past to eternal future, God has always has been God and he has never been anything less. He was never a sinful man like us who eventually became a God over time.

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*Psalms 82:6 "I said, 'You are **"gods"**; you are all sons of the Most High.'*

- Do you hope to one day become a god like the ones that are mentioned in Psalm 82? Let's study this chapter together to learn more:

*Psalms 82:1 "God presides in the great assembly; he renders judgment among the "gods"*

- God is judging the gods. That doesn't sound like a good thing.

*Psalms 82:2 "How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?"*

- These gods are apparently showing partiality and favoritism to the wicked.

*Psalm 82:5 "The 'gods' know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness;"*

- I know that I wouldn't want to be like these "gods," knowing nothing, walking about in darkness, showing favoritism to the wicked, and being judged by the one true God. Then who exactly are these "gods?"

*Psalm 82:7 "But you will die like mere mortals; you will fall like every **other ruler**."*

- These gods are not creator gods. They are wicked rulers and kings.
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*1 Corinthians 8:5 "For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords")."*

- What is the context? What is Paul talking about in this chapter?

*1 Corinthians 8:4 "So then, about eating food sacrificed to **idols**: We know that "**An idol** is nothing at all in the world" and that "**There is no God but one**."*

- Paul is talking about idols and false gods...not creator Gods. There is only one of those.
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*Romans 8:17 "And if children, then heirs — heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if so it be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together."*

- True believers of Jesus are joint heirs in the sense that they will have a glorified body in the same way that Jesus did after he rose from the dead. They will get to share in his glory in the sense that they will be in glorious presence of God. But this is not in any way saying that we will become creator God's like Jesus.
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**According to God's Word, how many creator Gods are there?**

**Does God's Word teach that you can become a creator God one day in the same way that Jesus is a creator God?**