Beth-El Baptist Church SS0357 07/19/2015 Pastor Greg Tomlinson

## How can we be sure that there is only one God?

When it comes to the existence of a supreme being (God), there are only three logical possibilities. Either there are zero supreme beings (atheism), there are many supreme beings (polytheism) or there is only one supreme being (monotheism). When speaking of God, we are referring to a supreme being who is by nature "God", not a being who is identified as being "god" or a "god" by his followers but a being who exists because He does and no imagination could create Him nor could any intellect result in Him ceasing to exist.

1. What would be the requirements for there being no god by nature?

Genesis **1:11-12** Proverbs 12:15; **21:2** 

Romans 4:15 Genesis **3:5** 

Hebrews 1:3

If there were no God then there would be not basis upon which to expect animals and plants to give rise to another generation that is like them. The offspring could be anything because there is no force or power ensuring consistency. Furthermore there would be no basis for any sort of law or rules. The concept of right and wrong would be based upon personal preference and subject to change on a whim. There would be no justification for anything to be reliable, consistent, or dependable. There would be no reason to believe that the sun would rise, that language has any meaning, that people would look tomorrow like they look today.

2. What would be the ramifications for there being no god by nature?

Judges **21:25** 1 Corinthians **15:**19

Ezekiel 8:12

Everyone would decide for themselves what is right and wrong and there would be no reason for any sort of self restraint. If one is able to take from his neighbor either his goods, his life, or his family, then it would be appropriate to do so since there really are no rules and the one who is best adept at taking is better equipped to survive. There would be no basis for any sort of self control and to exercise self control would be foolish behavior. There would be none to judge the actions of men and they would in reality get away with as much as they can in order to obtain for themselves as much as is possible.

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3. What would be the requirements of there being many gods by nature? Matthew **6:24** Isaiah **41:26**; **45:5-6** 

If there were multiple gods, it would be necessary in some fashion to please each one and give each one proper respect. If any two of these gods had opposing requirements to be satisfied, then there would be absolutely no way of adequately satisfying all of the gods. If there were multiple gods, then each should be able to communicate with the people to expose what will be happening in the future and it would have to be in a way that it would be clear which god is communicating the truth of a particular message. Each of the gods would out of necessity know of the others would would not be able to cross over into another god's arena of authority.

4. What would be the ramifications of there being many gods by nature? Isaiah 44:14-20 Acts 17:22-23

When identifying or making a god, how does a man know that he identified the right god and that he did not miss the real god that is there. It would be impossible to know if you have properly satisfied all of the gods and that by not paying proper respect to one, that god could bring great havoc on your life and there would be no way of knowing why.

5. What would be the requirements of there being only one God by nature?

Genesis 1:11-12, 20-22, **24-28** Deuteronomy **4:8** Ezekiel **18:30** Isaiah 45:7-8

Animals and plants would give rise to the next generation in an orderly and consistent fashion that could be depended upon. There would be just laws that make sense that reflect the nature and character of the God who decreed them. Everyone would be held accountable for their own actions before God and have to face Him for His judgment and evaluation.

6. What would be the ramifications of there being only one God by nature?

Deuteronomy 12:8 Exodus 34:7 Ezekiel 18:4 Acts 2:22-24

Every person would be held accountable to the laws and decrees that God has established. Each would have to face Him for His analysis and it would be impossible and unjust for any of the guilty to escape judgment and condemnation according to God's law. Each person will be held accountable before God for their own behavior and decisions. The only way to escape the eternal condemnation identified by the law would be to submit yourselves to the plan of escape that has been decreed by God. That plan of escape is faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ.