

Our Father in Heaven

The Scriptures teach that we have a Father in Heaven who is the Father of our Spirits. They also teach that Jesus is his son and not that they are the same being. Incorrect teachings came about from the Council of Nicea by force and threat of death from Roman Emperors:

Romans 8:16-17 (We are God's Children)

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that **we are the children of God**:

17 And if **children**, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Acts 17:28-29 (We are God's Offspring)

28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For **we are also his offspring**.

29 Forasmuch then as **we are the offspring of God**, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

Hebrew 12: 9 (There is a Father of our Spirits)

9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto **the Father of spirits**, and live?

Ephesians 3:14-15 (We are part of a Heavenly Family)

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom **the whole family in heaven and earth** is named,

Malachi 2:10 (There is one Father of us all)

10 **Have we not all one father?** hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

Ecclesiastes 12:7 (Our spirits will return to God where they came from)

7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and **the spirit shall return unto God** who gave it.

Jeremiah 1:5 (God taught Jeremiah the Prophet he knew him before he was conceived)

5 **Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee**; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Matthew 6:9 (We should pray to Our Father who is in Heaven)

9 **After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven**, Hallowed be thy name.

Jesus and Heavenly Father can't be the same being as these scriptures show:

John 14:28 (Jesus taught our Father in Heaven was greater)

28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for **my Father is greater than I**.

Mark 13:32 (Jesus taught only our Father knows when the 2nd coming of Jesus is)

32 ¶ But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Acts 7:55-56 (Stephen at his death saw Jesus standing on the right hand of the Father)

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,
56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

Matthew 27:46 (At Jesus' crucifixion, he asks the Father why he had forsaken him)

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

John 12:28 (Jesus asks the Father to glorify his name. The Father's voice is heard from heaven)

28 Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.

Matthew 3:16-17 (At the baptism of Jesus were 3 separate beings; the Father's voice is heard from heaven, and he saw the Holy Ghost)

16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Genesis 1: 26-27 (At the creation God said let US make man in our image/likeness)

26 ¶ And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

John 20:16-17 (On the third day after Jesus' death, He appeared to Mary and said he had not yet ascended to our Father and our God)

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.
17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

These next verses and the Greek translation of the English word “one” from the verses and information below show that the Greek translation would be better translated as Jesus was saying that he and the Father were in agreement or likeminded rather than the two of them were one physical being :

ἐν [hen](https://biblehub.com/text/john/17-21.htm) (<https://biblehub.com/text/john/17-21.htm>)

Root Word: (1520) heis: one; Original Word: εἷς, μία, ἓν

Defintion: Agreement (<https://biblehub.com/greek/1520.htm>)

John 17:21-22 (The Greek above shows that the word one in these verses should be translated as agreed. Jesus also prayed that he and his apostles might be also likeminded or in agreement)

21 That they [the Apostles] all may be one [agreed/likeminded] as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they [the Apostles] also may be one [agreed/likeminded] in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they [the Apostles] may be one [agreed/likeminded], even as we are one [agreed/likeminded].

Philippians 2:2 (We are commanded to be likeminded [one])

2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

The Trinity belief came about because of the Council of Nicea and Constantine the Emperor's decision to side with the belief that the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Ghost were one being. Constantine then used force and/or threats to make sure this was the established belief (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Council_of_Nicaea):

"Arius emphasized the supremacy and uniqueness of God the Father, meaning that the Father alone is almighty and infinite, and that therefore the Father's divinity must be greater than the Son's.

...The contra-Arian argument thus stated that the Logos was "eternally begotten", therefore with no beginning. Those in opposition to Arius believed that to follow the Arian view destroyed the unity of the Godhead, and made the Son unequal to the Father.

...The Emperor carried out his earlier statement: everybody who refused to endorse the Creed would be exiled. Arius, Theonas, and Secundus refused to adhere to the creed, and were thus exiled to Illyria, in addition to being excommunicated. The works of Arius were ordered to be confiscated and consigned to the flames, while his supporters considered as "enemies of Christianity."

The teaching of the Trinity went back and forth (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arianism>):

"Athanasius and other trinitarian Church leaders crusaded against the theology, and Arius was again anathemised [excommunicated] and pronounced a heretic.

...In 355 Constantius became the sole Emperor and extended his pro-Arian policy toward the western provinces, frequently using force to push through his creed, even exiling Pope Liberius and installing Antipope Felix II.

...Constantine's son Constantius II, who had become Emperor of the eastern part of the Empire, actually encouraged the Arians and set out to reverse the Nicene Creed.

...It was not until the co-reigns of Gratian and Theodosius that Arianism was effectively wiped out among the ruling class and elite of the Eastern Empire. Theodosius' wife St Flacilla was instrumental in his campaign to end Arianism. Valens died in the Battle of Adrianople in 378 and

was succeeded by Theodosius I, who adhered to the Nicene Creed. This allowed for settling the dispute.”

In an *Outline History of the Church by Centuries (from St. Peter to Pius XII)*, by Joseph McSorley (<https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.89253/page/n137>), he wrote, “**Constantine made heresy a criminal offense and Theodosius 1 in 382 classified it as a capital crime**” (pp. 94-95).

It was prophesied that false teachings would arise and a falling away from the truth would happen, but a restoration was also prophesied of:

2 Peter 2:1 (Peter prophesied there will be false teachers)

1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even **as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies**, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

Acts 20:29 (Paul Prophesied there will be wolves that will enter among the flock)

29 For I know this, that after my departing **shall grievous wolves enter in among you**, not sparing the flock.

2 Thessalonians 2:2-3 (Before the 2nd Coming of Jesus there will come a falling away from the truth)

2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that **the day of Christ** is at hand.

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: **for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first**, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Acts 3: 20-21 (Peter prophesied there will be a restoration of all things)

20 And **he shall send Jesus Christ**, which before was preached unto you:

21 Whom **the heaven must receive until the times of restitution [restoration] of all things**, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

There is a Father in Heaven who is a separate being from Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Jesus taught us we should pray to our Father in Jesus’ name (John 16:23 -24). We should worship God the Father through his Son, Jesus Christ. Our Father who is in Heaven loves us greatly and does not want us to be confused about his existence. Jesus, before his death, confirmed these teachings with this great truth:

John 16:27-28

27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.